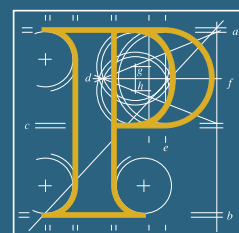


TO PLAY OUR PART AS AN INDEPENDENT BODY IN ENSURING THAT PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN IRELAND RESPECT THE PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ARE PLANNED IN AN EFFICIENT, FAIR AND OPEN MANNER. ÁR BPÁIRT A DHÉANAMH MAR CHOMHLACHT NEAMHSPLÉACH LENA CHINNTIÚ GO BHFUIL MEAS AG FORBAIRT FHISICEACH AGUS AG TIONSCADAIL BHONNEAGAIR MHÓRA IN ÉIRINN AR PHRIONSABAIL FHOIBARTHA INCHOTHAITHE AGUS GO NDÉANFAR PLEANÁIL I SLÍ ÉIFEACHTACH, CHOTHROM AGUS OSCAILTE.

[annual report 2007]

Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

An Bord Pleanála



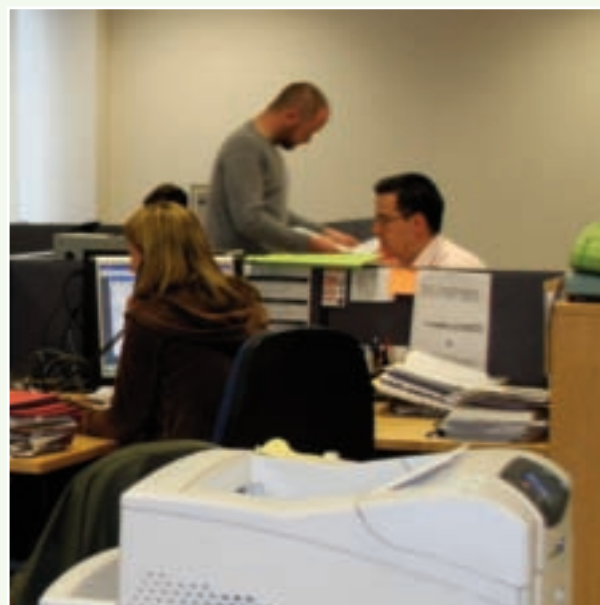
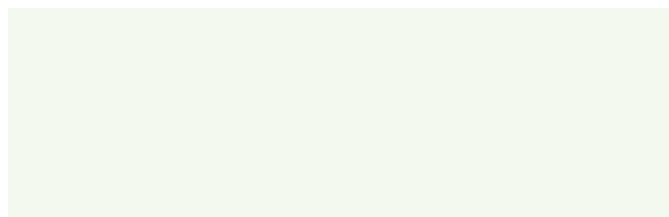
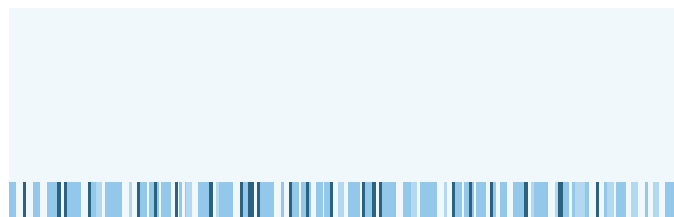


AN BORD PLEANÁLA

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

AN BORD PLEANÁLA

TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL 2007



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MISSION STATEMENT



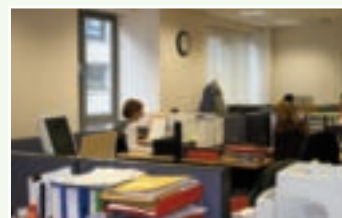
To play our part as an independent body in ensuring that physical development and major infrastructure projects in Ireland respect the principles of sustainable development and are planned in an efficient, fair and open manner.

Objectives

The objectives of the Board and our performance in 2007 in relation to these objectives are on our website.

The key performance indicators relating to appeals and cognate functions are contained in this Report.

RÁITEAS MISIN



Ár bpáirt a dhéanamh mar chomhlacht neamhspleách lena chinntiú go bhfuil meas ag forbairt fhisiceach agus ag tionscadail bhonneagair mhóra in Éirinn ar phrionsabail fhorbartha inchothaithe agus go ndéanfar pleanáil i slí éifeachtach, chothrom agus oscailte.

Cuspóirí

Tá cuspóirí an Bhoird agus ár bhfeidhmíocht i 2007 i dtaobh na cuspóirí seo ar fáil ar ár suíomh idirlín.

Tá mórtháscairí feidhmíochta maidir le hachomhairc agus le feidhmiú coibhneasta ar fáil sa Tuarascáil seo.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

COMHALTAÍ AN BHOIRD



1



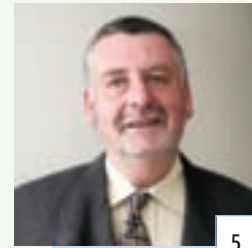
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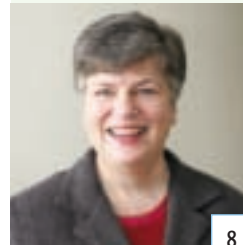
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10



11

* Members of the Management Committee
 * Comhaltaí den Choiste Bainistíochta.

1 Conall Boland appointed 1st January 2007

2 Tom O'Connor appointed 7th December 2007

- 1 John O'Connor *
Chairperson
Cathaoirleach
- 2 Brian Hunt*
Deputy Chairperson
Leas-Chathaoirleach
- 3 Jane Doyle
- 4 Angela Tunney
- 5 Brian Swift
- 6 Mary Bryan
- 7 Karl Kent
- 8 Margaret Byrne
- 9 Mary MacMahon
- 10 Conall Boland ¹
- 11 Tom O'Connor ²

CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT



2007 was the thirtieth anniversary of the Board's foundation and it is probably true to say that it was the most challenging of those 30 years. As well as coping with the record level of intake of planning appeals, we also had to take on the new functions in relation to the approval of major infrastructure projects assigned to the Board under the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. These functions brought significant changes to the scope and operations of the Board, in particular the conduct of pre-application consultations with the project sponsors.

Workload and Performance in 2007

The record level of activity experienced by the Board in 2005 and 2006 continued unabated in 2007 when the intake of cases of all kinds approached the 6,700. Notwithstanding a 10% increase in cases determined, this resulted in a significant rise in the workload on hands at year end and a further deterioration in the Board's performance in relation to the timeliness of its decision making.

The following gives an overview of the Board's workload and performance in 2007:

- intake of new cases 6,664 - up 12% on 2006.
- cases determined 6,163 - up 10%.
- workload on hands at year end 2,865 - up 21%.
- 18 week statutory objective met in 48% of cases, compared to 52% in 2006.
- average time to determine cases 19 weeks, compared to 18 weeks in 2006.

Other noteworthy features in 2007

The percentage of local authority planning decisions appealed to the Board showed a slight decrease to 6.7% (from 6.9% in 2006).

The rate of reversal of local planning authority decisions appealed showed a slight decrease - 32% in 2007 compared to 33% in 2006. The disparity between local authorities in the rate of reversal, apparent in previous years, was somewhat less pronounced in 2007.

Just under half of planning appeals lodged with the Board came from third parties, similar to 2006.

RÁITEAS AN CHATHAOIRLIGH

Ba é 2007 30ú comóradh bliana bhunú an Bhoird agus is dócha gur fíor a rá gurbh í an bhliain ba dhúshlánaí den tréimhse sin de 30 bliain. Chomh maith le déileáil leis an leibhéal thar na bearta d'achomhairc phleanála isteach, b'éigean dúinn freisin aghaidh a thabhairt ar na feidhmeanna nua maidir le faomhadh na mórthionscadal infrastruchtúir a sannadh ar an mBord faoin Acht um Phleanáil agus Fhorbairt (Infrastruchtúr Straitéiseach) 2006. Bhí athruithe suntasacha i gceist leis na feidhmeanna seo do scóip agus d'oibríochtaí an Bhoird, go háirithe seoladh comhairliúcháin réamhiarratais le hurraithe an tionscadail.

Ualach Oibre agus Feidhmíocht 2007

Lean an barrleibhéal gníomhaíochta a raibh ar an mBord aghaidh a thabhairt air i 2005 agus i 2006 ar aghaidh gan staonadh i 2007 nuair a bhí líon de chásanna isteach de gach cineál cóngarach do 6,700. In ainneoin méadú de 10% sna cásanna a cinneadh, méadaíodh go mór an t-ualach oibre ar láimh ag deireadh na bliana, agus chuaigh feidhmíocht an Bhoird in olcas tuilleadh i dtaca le tráthúlacht a chinnteoireachta.

Seo a leanas forbhreathnú d'ualach oibre agus d'fheidhmíocht an Bhoird i 2007:

- cásanna nua isteach 6,664 – méadú de 12% i dtaca le 2006.
- cásanna a cinneadh 6,163 – méadú de 10%.
- Ualach oibre ar láimh ag deireadh na bliana, 2,865 – méadú de 21%.
- baineadh an cuspóir reachtúil de 18 seachtaine amach i 48% de chásanna, le hais 52% i 2006.
- meántréimhse le cásanna a chinneadh, 19 seachtaine, le hais 18 seachtaine i 2006.

Gnéithe suntasacha eile i 2007

Bhí laghdú beag ann i gcéatadán na socruithe pleanála údaráis áitiúil a ndearnadh achomharc fúthu don Bhord, síos go 6.7% (ó 6.9% i 2006).

Bhí laghdú beag ann i ráta freaschuir socruithe de chuid na n-údarás pleanála áitiúil - 32% i 2007 le hais 33% i 2006. Bhí laghdú beag ann i 2007 san éagothroime idir údaráis áitiúla sa ráta freaschuir a bhí le sonrú le blianta beagánuas.

Tríú páirtithe a thaiscigh beagnach leath de na hachomhairc phleanála a taisceadh leis an mBord, ar an dul céanna le 2006.



Invalid appeals constituted 12.4% (14.8% in 2006) of all appeals determined, with late appeals (4.0%), invalid fee (3.7%) and third party appeals with no acknowledgement (3.5%) being the main reasons. Measures taken by the Board to help people avoid making invalid appeals appear to be having some success. Appeals withdrawn as a percentage of the intake decreased from 6.7% to 6.3%.

There were 189 applications for leave to appeal by third parties of which 17% succeeded. All of these applications were decided within the statutory 4 week period.

Current Trends and Outlook

The first five months of 2008 are showing a 15% decline in the total intake of cases. The number of cases disposed of is down by 8% due in the main to the Board's decision to concentrate on the oldest appeals. The volume of cases on hand has started to decline but remains very high and contains a substantial element of backlog. The Board is confident that with the continued fall in the intake of cases, the increased resources and other measures to improve productivity considerable progress will be made this year in moving back towards our strategic target of determining 90% of cases within the 18-week period. The Board regrets the delays that are occurring in the determination of appeals.

Infrastructure Projects

The Board has over recent years been prioritising major infrastructure projects (whether planning appeals or local authority sponsored projects) to ensure that they are as effective as possible in shortening the timescale for decisions.



B'achomhairc neamhbhailí iad 12.4% (14.8% i 2006) de na hachomhairc ar fad a míníodh; na príomhchúiseanna a bhí i gceist ná achomharc déanach (4.0%), táille neamhbhailí (3.7%) agus achomhairc tríú páirtí gan admháil (3.5%). Is cosúil go bhfuil ag éirí le bearta atá curtha i gcrích ag an mBord le cabhrú le daoine gan achomhairc neamhbhailí a dhéanamh. Laghdaíodh líon na nachomharc a aistarraingíodh ó 6.7% go 6.3%.

Cuireadh 189 iarratas isteach ar chhead pleanála ag tríú páirtithe, ar éirigh le 17% acu. Socraíodh na hiarratais seo uile laistigh den tréimhse reachtúil de 4 seachtaine.

Treochtaí Reatha agus Ionchas

Léiríonn an chéad chúig mhí de 2008 go bhfuil laghdú 15% le sonrú sa líon iomlán de chásanna isteach. Tá an líon cásanna a cuireadh de láimh laghdaithe faoi 8%, go príomha mar gheall ar shocrú an Bhoird bheith ag díriú ar na hachomhairc is faide ó shin a taisceadh. Tá laghdú tar éis tosú ar líon na gcásanna idir lámha, ach é fós an-ard i gcónaí agus tá roinnt mhaith riaráiste i gceist. Tá an Bord muiníneach go ndéanfar dul chun cinn suntasach i mbliana, leis an laghdú leanúnach sa líon de chásanna isteach, na hacmhainní méadaithe agus bearta eile le feabhas a chur ar tháirgiúlacht, dul chun cinn i dtaca le dul i dtreo ár sprice straitéisí de chinneadh a dhéanamh faoi 90% de chásanna laistigh den tréimhse 18 seachtaine. Cúis aiféala don Bhord é an mhoill atá ag tarlú maidir le cinneadh achomharc.

Tionscadail Infrastruchtúir

Le blianta beaga anuas bhí an Bord i mbun tosaíochtaí a shocrú i dtaca le mórtionscadail infrastruchtúir (cé acu achomhairc phleanála nó tionscadail a urraíonn údarais



In 2007 the Board received 57 and disposed of 55 planning appeals that were classed as major infrastructure developments, 13% being determined within 18 weeks (overall average 34 weeks).

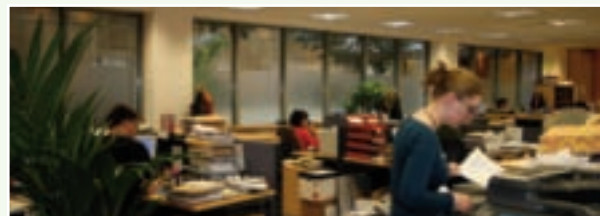
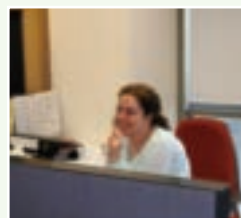
Of the 32 High Court judicial review proceedings instituted in 2007, one related to a major infrastructure case. This was subsequently withdrawn. It is noteworthy that the Board has not to date lost any legal case relating to a major infrastructure development and has, in fact, won a number of significant cases.

Strategic Infrastructure

The Board assumed the functions in relation to strategic infrastructure development assigned to it under the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 on 31st January 2007. A brief commentary on activity under this heading in 2007 is contained in this report at pages 21 and 22.

In the first five months of 2008, the Board received 14 new requests to enter into pre-application consultations and held 25 meetings. Thirteen pre-application consultations were finalised, leaving 42 on-going at the end of May 2008.

The Board has received 17 formal applications for strategic infrastructure developments in the first five months of 2008 (6 of which were local authority projects). At time of writing, determinations were issued in respect of 8 infrastructure developments in 2008. Three of these related to non-local authority projects and 3 such cases were determined within the statutory objective period of 18 weeks, following oral hearings.



áitiúla) le cinntiú go mbíonn siad chomh héifeachtach agus is féidir maidir leis an scála ama a ghearradh siar le haghaidh socruithe. I 2007 fuair an Bord 57 achomarc pleanála agus chuir sé de láimh 55 achomarc pleanála a aicmíodh mar mhórfhorbairtí infrastuchtúir; cinneadh 13% acu laistigh de 18 seachtaine (meánlíon iomlán, 34 seachtaine).

As na 32 imeachtaí athbhreithnithe bhreithiúnaigh Ardchúirte a tionscnaíodh i 2007, bhain 1 acu le cás mórinfrastuchtúir. Aistarraingíodh an ceann seo níos déanaí. Tá sé suntasach nár chaill an Bord aon chás dlíthiúil go dtí seo a bhaineann le mórfhorbairtí infrastuchtúir; os a choinne sin tá roinnt cásanna tábhachtacha buaite aige.

Infrastruchtúr Straitéiseach

Ghabh an Bord na feidhmeanna i leith forbairt bhonneagair straitéisigh dailte air faoin Acht um Phleanáil agus Fhorbairt (Infrastruchtúr Straitéiseach) 2006, ar 1 Eanáir 2007. Cuimsítear tráchtairacht ghearr ar ghníomhaíocht faoin gceannteideal seo i 2007 sa tuairisc seo ar leathanaigh 21 agus 22.

Sa chéad chúig mhí de 2008, fuair an Bord 14 iarratas nua chun tosú ar chomhairliúcháin réamhiarratais agus reáchtáil sé 25 cruinniú. Tugadh 13 comhairliúcháin réamhiarratais chun críche, ag fágáil 42 ag leanúint ar aghaidh ag deireadh Bealtaine 2008.

Fuair an Bord 17 iarratas foirmiúil i gcomhair forbraíochtaí infrastuchtúir straitéisigh sa chéad chúig mhí de 2008 (arbh iad 6 ó thionscadail údarais áitiúil). Ag am scríofa, eisíodh cinntí i leith 8 tionscadal infrastuchtúir i 2008. Bhain 3 dóibh siúd le tionscadail neamhúdarais áitiúil agus socraíodh 3 dá leithéid de chásanna laistigh den tréimhse chuspóra reachtúil de 18 seachtain, i ndiaidh éisteachtaí ó bhéal.

Resources

Approval was received in January 2007 from the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government for a considerable increase in the Board's staffing resources. In overall terms total authorised staffing has increased from 136 to 172 (26%) and Board membership from 10 to 11. This provides for a greatly strengthened management structure within the Board in line with the recommendations of the organisational review referred to in previous annual reports. The new Strategic Infrastructure Division of the Board will be supported by a separate staff Division within the organisation. The Board has largely been quite successful in recruiting the additional planning staff required.

Improving the Organisation

- To further augment our capacity to deal with the increasing workload a number of other measures were taken in addition to the increased staffing referred to above. These included increasing the panel of consultant inspectors from 76 to 96 and reintroducing a weekend overtime scheme for inspectorate staff.
- At the time of writing, the Board is engaged in discussions with the trade unions representing staff concerning the implementation of the Strategic Infrastructure Act.
- The Board is continuing its commitment to equality in the workplace by carrying out surveys in relation to areas identified in the Equality Initiative and Review Reports in order to measure progress arising from the implementation of policies, training etc.
- As mentioned in the 2006 Annual Report we participated in the National Disability Authority's Excellence Through Accessibility Award scheme and received a Quality Level Award. As stated last year, the Board's website was redeveloped arising from the Disability Act 2005 and was short-listed in the "Best Accessible Website" category of the E-Government Awards.
- The Board operates a policy designed to promote a workplace which is free from racial or other discrimination and harassment and which welcomes diversity in the workplace.
- It is our policy to foster relations with the local inner city community in which we are located and we have established contacts with local schools and offer employment experience to local young people.

Acmhainní

Fuarthas faomhadh in Eanáir 2007 ón Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil do mhéadú suntasach ar acmhainní foirnithe an Bhoird. San iomlán méadaíodh líon na foirne ó 136 go 172 (26%) agus ballraíocht an Bhoird ó 10 go 11. Déanann sin soláthar do struchtúr an-treisithe bainistithe laistigh den Bhoird de réir mholtaí an athbhreithnithe eagraíochtúil a ndéantar tagairt dó i dtuarascálacha bliantúla eile roimhe seo. Tacófar le Rannán nua Infrastruchtúir Straitéisigh an Bhoird ag Rannán ar leith san eagraíocht. D'éirigh go maith leis an mBord, san iomlán, maidir le hearcú na foirne breise pleanála a theastaíonn.

Ag Cur Feabhais ar an Eagraíocht

- Lenár gcumas a mhéadú tuilleadh plé leis an ualach oibre breise rinneadh roinnt beart eile chomh maith le cur leis an líon foirne a luadh thuas. Ar na bearta bhí méadú an phainéil de chigirí comhairleacha ó 76 go 96 agus ath-thabhairt isteach scéime ragoibre deireadh seachtaine do na cigirí.
- Agus seo á scríobh tá an Bord i mbun plé le ceardchumainn na foirne faoi chur i bhfeidhm an Achta um Infrastruchtúr Straitéiseach.
- Leanann an Bord ar aghaidh lena thiomantas do Chomhionannas laistigh den ionad oibre trí chur i gcrích suirbhéanna i dtaca le réimsí a aithníodh sna Tuairiscí Tionscnaimh agus Athbhreithnithe Comhionannais leis an dul chun cinn a thomhas a d'éascair as cur i bhfeidhm polasaithe, oiliúna, srl.
- Mar a luadh i tuarascáil bhliantúil 2006 ghlacamar páirt i scéim Dámhachtaine Fheabhas trí Inrochtaineacht an Údaráis Náisiúnta Mhíchumais agus fuaireamar Dámhachtain Leibhéal Ardchaighdeáin. Mar a dúradh anuraidh athfhorbraíodh suíomh gréasáin an Bhoird, á spreagadh ag an Acht um Mhíchumas, 2005, agus bhí sé ar an ngearrliosta sa chatagóir "Suíomh Gréasáin is Inrochtana" de Dhámhachtainí an E-Rialtais.
- Feidhmíonn an Bord polasaí ar cuspóir leis ionad oibre a chothú atá saor ó leatrom agus ó chiapadh ciníoch nó de chineál eile, agus a chuireann fáilte roimh an éagsúlacht san ionad oibre.
- Ár bpolasaí atá ann caidreamh a chothú le pobal áitiúil lár na cathrach ina bhfuilimid suite, agus tá teagmháil déanta againn le scoileanna áitiúla, agus tairiscimid taithí fhostaíochta don aos óg áitiúil.



- Performance Management and Development Systems are in place for Board Members and staff within the organisation, including a Forecasting and Appraisal Scheme for inspectors. It is proposed to further develop these systems so as to enhance the opportunities for, and potential of, each person to contribute to the overall mission and objectives in a customer focused manner.
- The Board welcomes the use of the Irish language by those doing business with us and encourages and supports staff to become fluent in the language. The Board has adopted a scheme under section 11 of the Official Languages Act 2004 detailing the services it proposed to provide through Irish.
- In 2007 the Board submitted Progress Reports in accordance with the national partnership agreement, "Towards 2016" to cover the periods up to March and December 2007. Those reports were accepted by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.
- The Board submitted a detailed response to the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government to the efficiency review of public sector organisations carried out at the behest of the Minister for Finance.

Public Confidence

The Board's three core principles of independence, impartiality and openness are embedded in our Mission Statement and objectives and underpinned by legislation. We are always mindful that public confidence depends on the integrity and quality of our decision-making and the professionalism with which we carry out our functions. There is a statutory code of conduct for all Board members, staff and consultants, which places stringent obligations on members and employees of the Board to declare interests and conduct themselves generally in a way that reinforces public confidence. It is the Board's policy to adopt the most open approach possible in its relations with the public and we operate a completely open file system once cases are determined.

As our decisions can relate to major developments, it is only natural that some of them give rise to public controversy. However, the Board considers it proper to maintain long established practice of not engaging in discussion on individual cases because of the quasi-judicial nature of our functions and to avoid the risk of prejudicing future cases.

- Tá Córais Bhainistithe agus Fhorbartha Feidhmíochta i bhfeidhm do Bhaill agus d'Fhoireann an Bhoird laistigh den eagraíocht, ar a n-áirítear Scéim Thuartha agus Mheasúnaithe do chigirí. Moltar go ndéanfaí tuilleadh forbartha ar na córais seo le feabhas a chur ar dheiseanna agus ar chumas gach duine cur leis an misean agus na cuspóirí iomlána, ar shlí a dhíríonn ar an gcustaiméir.
- Cuireann an Bord fáilte roimhe úsáid na Gaeilge ag na daoine sin a bhfuil gnó acu linn, agus spreagann sé agus tacaíonn sé leis na baill fhoirne sin atá ag baint líofachta amach sa teanga. Tá an Bord tar éis glacadh le scéim faoi alt 11 d'Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla, ina dtugtar sonraí faoi na seirbhísí a bhfuil sé beartaithe aige iad a chur ar fáil i nGaeilge.
- I 2007 chuir an Bord Tuairiscí Dul Chun Cinn isteach de réir an chomhaontaithe chomhpháirtíochta náisiúnta, "I dTreo 2016" leis na tréimhsí a chlúdach suas go Márta agus Nollaig 2007. Ghlac Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil leis na tuairiscí sin.
- Chuir an Bord freagra mionsonraithe faoi bhráid na Roinne Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil faoin athbhreithniú éifeachtúlachta d'eagraíochtaí eanála poiblí a cuireadh i gcrích de réir orduithe an Aire Airgeadais.

Muinín an Phobail

Tá trí bhunphrionsabail an Bhoird – neamhspleáchas, neamhchlaontacht agus oscailteacht – leabaithe inár Ráiteas Misin agus inár gcuid cuspóirí agus buntacaítear leo ag an reachtaíocht. Tuigimid i gcónaí go mbíonn muinín an phobail ag brath ar ionracas agus ar chaighdeán ár gcuid cinnteoireachta agus ar an ngairmiúlacht lena gcuirimid ár gcuid socruithe i bhfeidhm. Tá cód reachtúil iompair i bhfeidhm do gach ball Boid, ball foirne agus comhairleach, cód a chuireann dianiachall ar bhaill agus ar fhostaithe an Bhoird sainspéiseanna a fhógairt agus iompar a bheith ar siúl acu go ginearálta a threisióinn muinín an phobail. Is é polasaí an Bhoird glacadh leis an gcur chuige is oscailte is féidir ina chaidreamh leis an bpobal agus feidhmímid córas comhaid atá go hiomlán oscailte nuair a chinntear cásanna.

Ós rud é gur féidir go mbaineann ár gcuid socruithe le mórfhorbairtí, tá sé lánintuigthe go n-eascródh conspóid phoiblí mar gheall ar chuid acu. Dar leis an mBord, áfach, gur cuí cloí leis an gcleachtas seanbhunaithe gan plé a dhéanamh faoi chásanna aonair mar gheall ar nádúr garbhreithiúnach ár gcuid feidhmeanna, agus leis an mbaol a sheachaint go ndéanfaí dochar do chásanna eile sa todhchaí.



Complaints

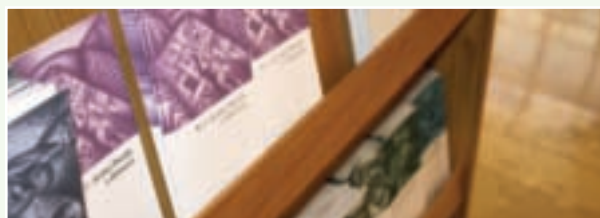
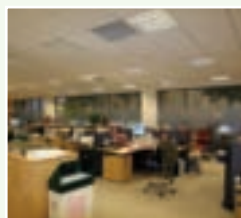
As part of our increased focus on customer service, the Board operates a system of considering complaints made in relation to cases determined. XX complaints were received in 2007 and there is a system of feedback at all levels within the organisation and learn from issues raised and improve procedures. However, many of the complaints relate to enforcement of decisions which is a matter entirely within the competence of the local planning authority and where the Board can do not more than pass on the correspondence to the relevant authority.

Accounts

Appendix 10 contains the Board's audited accounts for 2007.

Expenditure increased from €20.9 million in 2006 to €23.2 million in 2007. In 2007, fee income together with costs recouped from local authorities on infrastructure projects was €3.2 million which represented 14% of the total costs of the Board's operations (12% in 2006).

In 2007, income amounted to €23.5 million leaving a surplus for the year of €318,217. There was an incoming deficit of €133,639 which left a cumulative surplus of €184,578.



Gearáin

Mar chuid d'ár bhfócas méadaithe ar an tseirbhís chustaiméara feidhmíonn an Bord córas breithnithe gearán maidir le cásanna a cinneadh. Fuarthas XX gearán i 2007 agus tá córas aiseolais i bhfeidhm ag gach leibhéal san eagraíocht le foghlaim ó na ceisteanna sin a ardaítear agus le gnáthaimh a fheabhsú. Baineann a lán de na gearáin, áfach, le forfheidhmiú socrúithe, rud a bhaineann go hiomlán le hinniúlacht an údaráis áitiúil phleanála, agus sa chás sin ní féidir leis an mBord aon rud a dhéanamh seachas an comhfhreagras a chur ar aghaidh chuig an údarás ábhartha.

Cuntais

Tá le fáil in Aguisín 10 cuntais iniúchta an Bhoird do 2007.

Méadaíodh caiteachas ó €20.9 milliún i 2006 go €23 milliún i 2007. I 2007, ba é an t-ioncam táillí, in éineacht leis na costais a forchúitíodh ó údaráis áitiúla do thionscadail infrastuchtúir ná €3.2 milliún, sin 14% de chostais iomlána an Bhoird (12% i 2006).

I 2007, méadaíodh ioncam go €23.5 milliún rud a fhágann farasbarr don bhliain de €318,217. Bhí easnamh inteachta i gceist de €133,639, rud a d'fhág farasbarr carnach de €184,578.



Thanks

I wish to thank the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government John Gormley T.D. and his predecessor, Mr Dick Roche, T.D. and officials of the Department for their support for the Board, in particular, for the approval of the significant additional staffing resources to which I referred earlier. I wish to express my appreciation to the other members of the Board and staff at all levels for their ongoing commitment and co-operation and also to the consultants and fee-per-case inspectors. Thanks are also due to the management and officials of planning authorities for their co-operation and to the Board's legal advisors.

John O'Connor

John O'Connor
Chairperson

June 2008



Buíochas

Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil leis an Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil, John Gormley T.D. agus lena réamhtheachtaí, Dick Roche, T.D. agus le hoifigigh de chuid na Ranna as a dtacaíocht leis an mBord, go háirithe d'fhaomhadh acmhainní breise foirne, rud a ndearna mé tagairt dó níos luaithe. Is mian liom ómós a léiriú do bhaill eile an Bhoird agus don fhoireann ag gach leibhéal as a dtiomantas agus as a gcomhoibriú leanúnach, agus freisin do na comhairligh agus do na cigirí táille in aghaidh an cháis. Tá buíochas le gabháil freisin le lucht bainistithe agus le hoifigigh na n-údarás pleanála as a gcomhoibriú agus le comhairleoirí dlíthiúla an Bhoird.

Seán Ó Concheirín

John O'Connor
Cathaoirleach

Meitheamh 2008

ALL CASES

GACH CÁS

Figures 1 to 6 contain key performance indicators in relation to all casework received and disposed of by the Board in 2007 and compares with 2006 or ten-year trends. A breakdown of casework by reference to normal planning appeals, local authority projects and other cases is provided in the following tables.

Tá mórtháscairí feidhmíochta i bhfigiúir 1 go dtí 6 maidir le gach cás a faighte agus curtha de láimh ag an mBord i 2007 agus déantar comparáid le 2006 nó le claonta ar feadh tréimhse deich mbliana. Tugtar briseadh síos ar an gcásobair de réir tagartha do ghnáth achomhairc phleanála, tionscadail údarais áitiúla agus cásanna eile sna táblaí seo a leanas.

FIGURE 1: Summary All Cases	FIGIÚR 1: Achoimre Gach Cás			
		2007	2006	Méadú/(laghdú) % Increase/ (decrease) %
On hands at start	Idir lámha ag an tús	2,364	2,062	15%
Received	Faighte	6,664	5,930	12%
Disposed of	Curtha de láimh	6,163	5,628	10%
On hands at end	Idir lámha ag an deireadh	2,865	2,364	21%
Disposed of within statutory objective period	Curtha de láimh laistigh den sprioc thréimhse reachtúil	48%	52%	-
Average time taken (weeks)	Meán ama a tógadh (seachtainí)	19	18	6%

Main Trends

Received:	Highest level since Board was established. Intake was up 29% on the annual average over the period 1998 to 2006.
Disposed of:	Highest level. Disposals were up 22% on the annual average over the period 1998 to 2006.
On hands at end:	Highest since 1996, up 46% on the annual average over the period 1998 to 2006.
Disposed of within statutory objective period:	Lowest since 2002.
Average time taken:	Highest since 2002.

Príomh-chlaonadh

Faighte:	Is airde ó bhunaíodh an Bord. Bhí ardú de 29% ar an meán bliantúil thar an tréimhse ó 1998 go dtí 2006.
Curtha de láimh:	Is airde. Bhí líon na gcásanna a cuireadh de láimh ardaithe 22% ar an meán bliantúil thar an tréimhse ó 1998 go dtí 2006.
Idir lámha ag deireadh:	Is airde ó 1996 suas 46% ar an meán bliantúil thar an tréimhse 1998 go dtí 2006.
Curtha de láimh laistigh den sprioc thréimhse reachtúil:	An leibhéal is ísle ó 2002
Meán am a tógadh:	An leibhéal is airde ó 2002.

FIGURE 2
Trend in intake, disposal and cases on hands 1998 to 2007

FIGIÚR 2
Claonadh i gcásanna a fuarthas, a cuireadh de láimh agus a bhí idir lámha 1998 go dtí 2007

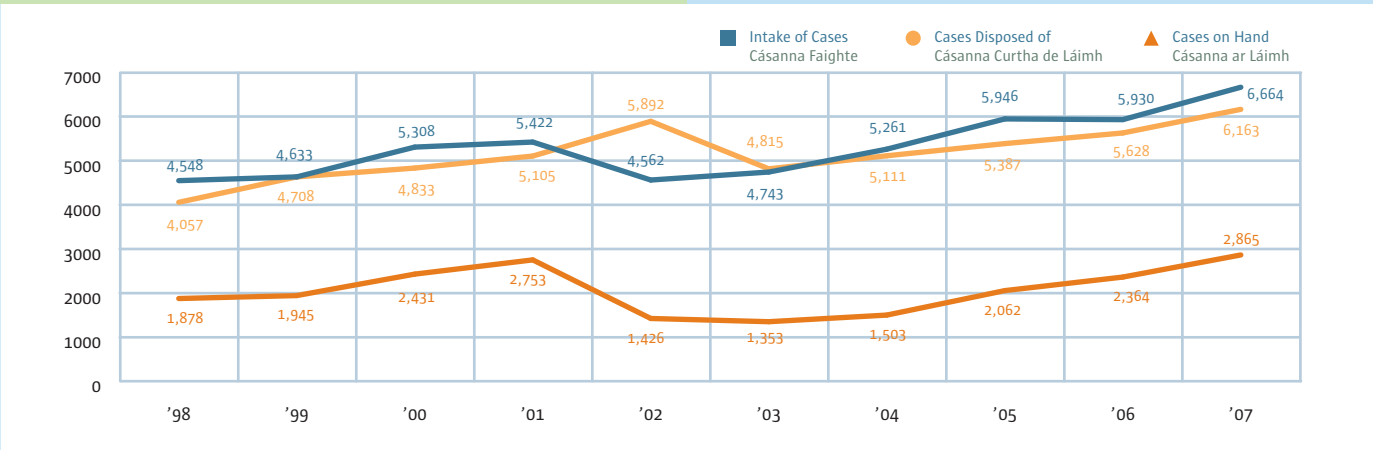


FIGURE 3 Analysis of cases on hands	FIGIÚR 3 Anailís ar chásanna idir lámha	Laistigh den sprioc thréimhse reachtúil Within statutory objective period		Thar an sprioc thréimhse reachtúil Over statutory objective period				Cásanna i nGéilleadh Cases in Abeyance
		<14 weeks	≥ 14 but <18	≥18 but <22	≥ 22 but <26	≥ 26 but <30	≥30	
Strategic Infrastructure Development	Forbairtí Bonneagair Straitéisigh	9	3	2	2	1	9	-
Major Infrastructure Appeals	Cásanna Móra Bhonneagair	17	6	0	2	1	9	-
All Priority	Gach Tosaíocht	199	68	65	44	17	179	1
All Cases (incl. non-priority)	Gach Cás (neamh-thosaíocht san áireamh)	1,285	520	346	228	108	377	1
		1,805		1,059				1
		2,865						

The number of cases on hand over the statutory objective period at end of year represented 37% of all cases on hands.

Statutory objective periods for determining cases

Provisions in the Planning, Building Control and Water Pollution Acts and Regulations made under these Acts set down as an objective of the Board a requirement to ensure that appeals and certain other matters are determined within specified periods of time.

Léiríonn líon na gcásanna idir lámha thar an sprioc thréimhse reachtúil, ag deireadh na bliana, 37% de gach cás a bhí idir lámha.

Sprioc thréimhsí reachtúla do chinntí a dhéanamh ar chásanna

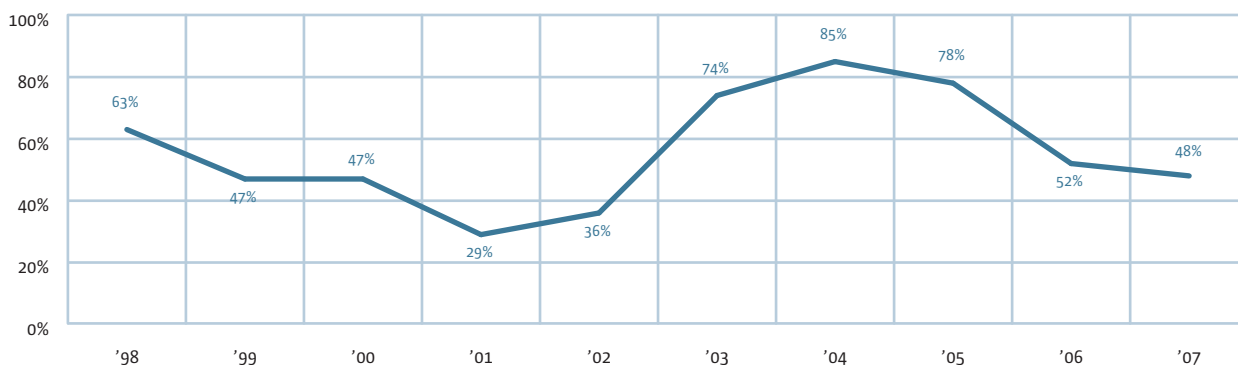
Leag na forálacha atá sna hAchtanna um Pleanail, Rialú Tógala agus Truailliú Uisce agus i Rialacháin déanta faoi na hAchtanna mar chuspóir ag an mBord riachtanas chun a chinntiú go dtabharfar cinneadh ar achomhairc agus ar ábhair eile laistigh de thréimhsí ama sonracha.

In most cases, this is 18 weeks; 4 months applies to some cases while in others no statutory objective time period applies. It is a strategic objective of the Board to determine 90% of all cases which come before it within eighteen weeks/four months regardless of whether or not a statutory objective period applies.

Is 18 seachtain atá i gceist i bhformhór na gcásanna, baineann 4 mí le roinnt cásanna cé i gcásanna eile níl aon sprioc thréimhse ama reachtúil ann. Is cuspóir straitéiseach é ag an mBord cinneadh a dhéanamh ar 90% de chásanna a thagann faoina bhráid laistigh d'ocht seachtain déag/cheithre mhí, bíodh sprioc thréimhse ama reachtúil i gceist nó nach mbíodh.

FIGURE 4
Percentage of cases determined within statutory objective period 1998 to 2007

FIGIÚR 4
Céatadán de chásanna a chinntíodh laistigh den sprioc thréimhse reachtúil 1998 go dtí 2007



During 2007, the Board complied with the statutory requirement that notice in writing be served on the parties to a case where it would not be possible or appropriate to determine the case within the statutory objective period. Figure 5 gives details of the number of weeks it took to decide cases from 1998 to 2007.

Le linn 2007, chlóigh an Bord leis an riachtanas reachtúil go dtabharfaí fógra i scríbhinn do na páirtithe i gcás áit nach féidir nó nach bhfuil sé oiriúnach cinneadh a dhéanamh laistigh den sprioc thréimhse reachtúil. Tugann Figiúr 5 sonraí faoi líon na seachtain a thóg sé cinneadh a dhéanamh i gcásanna ó 1998 go dtí 2007.

FIGURE 5
Average time taken to dispose of cases (weeks)

FIGIÚR 5
Meán ama a thóg sé cásanna a chur de láimh (seachtain)

Bliain	Gnáth Achomhairc Phleanála	Forbairtí Bonneagair Straitéisigh	Cásanna Eile	Iomlán
Year	Normal planning appeals	Strategic Infrastructure Development	Other cases	All
1998	18	-	14	18
1999	21	-	16	21
2000	21	-	21	21
2001	25	-	21	25
2002	23	-	20	23
2003	14	-	13	16
2004	14	-	9	14
2005	15	-	10	15
2006	18	-	14	18
2007	20	16	13	19

Oral hearings

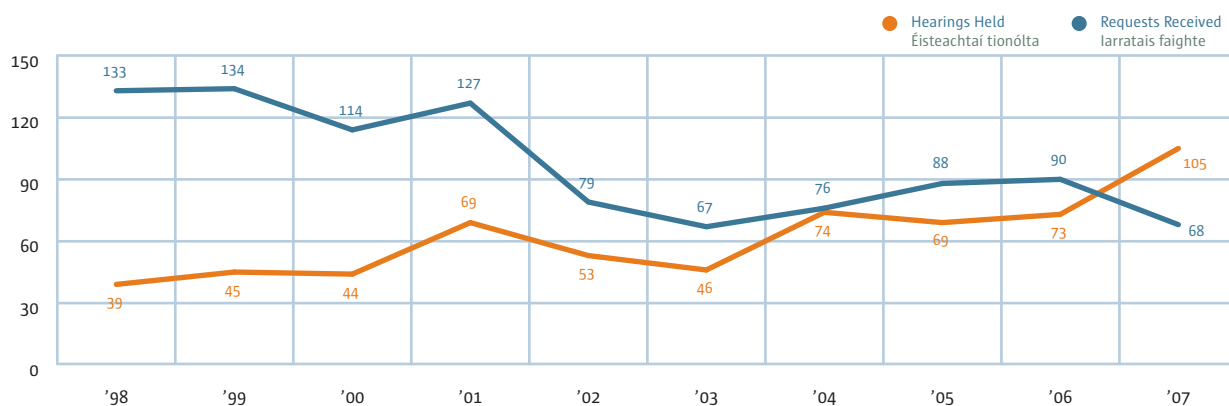
Appeals and referrals are generally dealt with on the basis of written submissions from the parties together with a site inspection by an inspector appointed by the Board. Oral hearings are generally held in relation to applications for Strategic Infrastructure Development. The Board has absolute discretion to hold an oral hearing of any case whether or not a hearing is requested.

Éisteachtaí Béil

Déantar déileáil le hachomharc agus le rudaí a cuirtear faoi bhráid an Bhoird ar bhonn aighneachtaí scríofa ó na páirtithe i dteannta le scrúdú ar an suíomh ag cigire arna cheapadh ag an mBord. Reáchtáiltear éisteachtaí ó bhéal de ghnáth i leith iarratas i gcomhair Forbairt Bonneagair Straitéiseach. Tá lánrogha absalóideach ag an mBord éisteacht ó bhéal de chuid cás ar bith a reáchtáil, cibé acu má iarrtar nó mura iarrtar i gcomhair éisteachta.

FIGURE 6
Oral hearings of all cases

FIGIÚR 6
Éisteachtaí béil maidir le gach cás



Note: Oral hearings from 2001 include oral hearings of local authority compulsory purchase orders and road schemes. In 2007 the number of oral hearing requests in relation to normal planning appeals was 103 and the number of hearings held was 17.

Nóta: Tá éisteachtaí béil maidir le horduithe ceannaithe éigeantacha údarás áitiúil agus scéimeanna bóthair san áireamh in éisteachtaí béil ó 2001. I 2007 bhí 103 iarratas ar éisteachtaí béil maidir le gnáth achomhairc phlannála agus bhí 17 éisteacht tionólta.

Inspectors' Reports and Recommendations

In 2007, the number of formal decisions made with Inspectors' reports were 4,611. The number of Inspectors' recommendations not generally accepted by the Board was 603 (13.1%) compared to 554 (13.6%) in 2006.

Moltaí agus Tuarascálacha gCigirí

I 2007, rinneadh 4,611 cinneadh foirmiúil le tuarascálacha na gCigirí. Níor ghlac an Bord go ginearálta le 603 (13.1%) de mholtaí na gCigirí i gcomparáid le 554 (13.6%) i 2006.

NORMAL PLANNING APPEALS

Introduction

Normal planning appeals i.e. under section 37 of the 2000 Planning Act (and under section 26 of the 1963 Planning Act for old planning cases) accounted for 88% of the intake of cases in 2007. Normal planning appeals arise from decisions by planning authorities on applications for permission for the development of land.

Normal planning appeals may be first party, third party or first and third party. Appendix 1 analyses the above categories of appeals and the effect of appeal decisions by reference to the category of appeal and the planning authority decision.

GNÁTH ACHOMHAIRC PHLEANÁLA

Réamhrá

Ba ghnáth achomhairc phleanála faoi alt 37 den Acht Pleanála 2000 (agus faoi alt 26 d'Acht Pleanála 1963 do shean chásanna phleanála) iad 88% de na cásanna go léir a fuarthas in 2007. Eascraíonn gnáth achomhairc phleanála as cinntí na n-údarás phleanála ar iarratais ar chead d'fhorbairt talún.

Is féidir le hachomharc phleanála a bheith ó chéad pháirtí, ó threaspháirtí nó ó chéad pháirtí agus ó threaspháirtí. Déanann Aguisín 1 anailís ar chatagóirí na n-achomharc thuasluaite agus an éifeacht atá ag na cinntí achomhairc trí thagairt a dhéanamh don chatagóir achomhairc agus do chinneadh an údarais phleanála.

FIGURE 7
Summary of appeals

		2007	2006	(laghdú) % Increase/(decrease) %
On hands at start	Idir lámha ag an tús	2,223	1,928	16%
Received	Faighthe	5,891	5,508	7%
Disposed of	Curtha de láimh	5,644	5,203	8%
On hands at end	Idir lámha ag deireadh	2,480	2,233	11%
Disposed of within statutory objective period	Curtha de láimh laistigh de sprioc thréimhse reachtúil	47%	51%	-
Average time taken (weeks)	Meán ama a tógadh (seachtainí)	20	18	25%

FIGIÚR 7
Achoimre na nAchoimharc

Received:	Highest level since Board was established. Intake up 21% on the annual average over the period 1998 to 2006.
Disposed of:	Highest level since Board was established. Disposals were 18% up on the annual average over the period 1998 to 2006.
On hands at end:	Highest since 2001. 32% up on the annual average over the period 1998 to 2006.

Faighthe:	An leibhéal is airde ó bunaíodh an Bord. Iontógáil suas 21% ar an meán bliantúil thar an tréimhse 1998 go 2006.
Curtha de láimh:	An leibhéal is airde ó bunaíodh an Bord. Cuireadh 18% níos mó cásanna de láimh ná an meán bliantúil thar an tréimhse 1998 go 2006.
Idir Lámha ag deireadh:	An leibhéal is airde ó 2001. Méadú 32% ar an meán bliantúil thar an tréimhse 1998 go 2006.



FIGURE 8
Analysis of appeals disposed of and analysis of invalid cases

Appeals Disposed of	Achomhairc curtha de láimh	2007	2006
Formally	Go foirmeálta	4,440	3,903
Otherwise	Ar bhealaí eile	1,204	1,300
- Invalid All	- Neamhbhailí lomlán	707	768
• late	- Déanach	227	254
• no acknowledgement	- gan admháil	198	220
• incorrect fee, no fee	- táille mícheart, gan táille	210	210
• name/address of appellant/agent	- ainm/seoladh achomharcóir/gníomhaire	53	68
• grounds/subject	- bonn/ábhar	8	10
• hours	- uaireanta	3	2
• other	- eile	8	4
- Appeal withdrawn by appellant (section 140(1) of 2000 Act)	- Achomharc aistarraingthe ag an achomharcóir (alt 140(1)den Acht 2000)	363	362
- Application withdrawn by applicant (section 140(1) of 2000 Act)	- Iarratas aistarraingthe ag an iarratasóir (alt 140(1)den Acht 2000)	96	108
- Appeal dismissed (section 37(4)(b) of 2000 Act)	- Achomharc dífe (alt 37(4)(b)den Acht 2000)	1	0
- Appeal dismissed (section 133 of the 2000 Act)	- Achomharc dífe (alt 133 den Acht 2000)	1	0
- Appeal dismissed (section 138(1)(a)(i) of 2000 Act)	- Achomharc dífe (alt 138(1)(a)(i)den Acht 2000)	12	19
- Appeal dismissed (section 138(1)(b) of the 2000 Act)	- Achomharc dífe (alt 138(1)(b)den Acht 2000)	15	32
- Appeal declared withdrawn (section 140(2) of 2000 Act)	- Fógraíodh gur aistarraingíodh an achomharc (alt 140(2)den Acht 2000)	7	9
- Application declared withdrawn (section 140(2) of 2000 Act)	- Fógraíodh gur aistarraingíodh an t-iarratas (alt 140(2)den Acht 2000)	1	2
- Application regarded as withdrawn (article 96(4) of 2001 Regulations)	- Meastar an t-iarratas mar aistarraingthe (airteagal 96(4) de Rialacháin 2001)	1	0
- Otherwise disposed of	- Curtha de láimh i slí eile	1	0
Total	lomlán	5,644	5,203

FIGIÚR 8
Anailís ar achomhairc a cuireadh de láimh agus anailís ar chásanna neamhbhailí

Invalid Appeals

The rate of invalid appeals in 2007 reduced from 14.8% in 2006 to 12.5% of the total disposed. This was probably as a result of measures taken by the Board.

Late: The period for making an appeal is four weeks starting on the day the planning authority make their decision. The Board's website has an interactive ready reckoner designed to assist in calculating the last day for making an appeal.

No acknowledgement: The stringent requirements of the 2000 Act generally require a third party appellant to include an acknowledgement from the planning authority of their submission or observation made at application stage.

Name and address: An appeal must state the name and address of the appellant and of the person, if any, acting on his/her behalf.

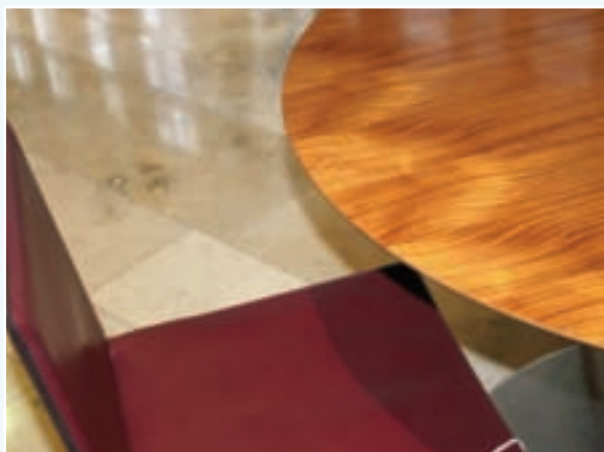
Achomhairc Neamhbhailí

Tháinig laghdú ó 14.8% in 2007 go 12.5% in 2006 ar líon na n-achomharc neamhbhailí mar chéatadán na n-achomharc uile a cuireadh de láimh. Is dócháil go raibh sé sin mar thoradh ar bhearta déanta ag an mBord.

Déanach: Is é ceithre seachtain ón lá a dhéanann an t-údarás pleanála a chinneadh, an tréimhse chun achomharc a dhéanamh. Tá 'ready reckoner' idirghníomhach ar shuíomh idirlín an Bhoird chun cabhrú leat an lá dhéanamh amach chun achomharc a dhéanamh.

Gan admháil: Tá sé mar riachtanas ag riachtanais dian an Achta 2000 go hiondúil go mbeadh admháil ón údarás pleanála ar a aighneacht nó a tuairimí a rinneadh ag an gcéim iarratais, a bheith curtha san áireamh ag an achomharcóir treaspháirtí.

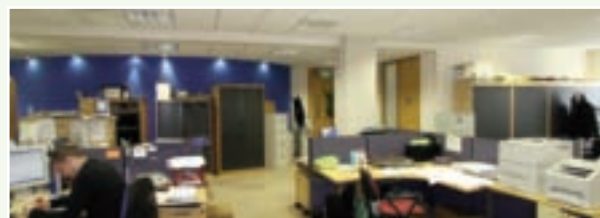
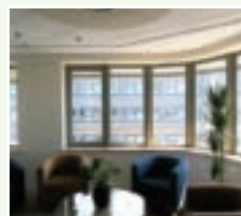
Ainm agus Seoladh: Caithfidh ainm agus seoladh an achomharcóra nó an duine, más ann, atá ag feidhmiú ar a shon.



Appeals by Area

An analysis of planning application decisions, appeals and appeal decisions for each county and city area is shown in Appendix 2. Overall, the number of appeals received as a percentage of planning authority decisions on planning applications was 6.7%, compared to 6.9% in 2006.

Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown (22.4%), Dublin City (15.7%) and Limerick City (15.4%) had the highest levels of decisions appealed. Areas with the highest rate of appealed decisions overturned by the Board were Wexford (47.8%), Cavan (47.2%) and Offaly (42.3%) while those with the lowest rate of appealed decisions overturned were Waterford City (16.7%), Kilkenny County Council (22.4%) and South Tipperary County Council (23.1%).



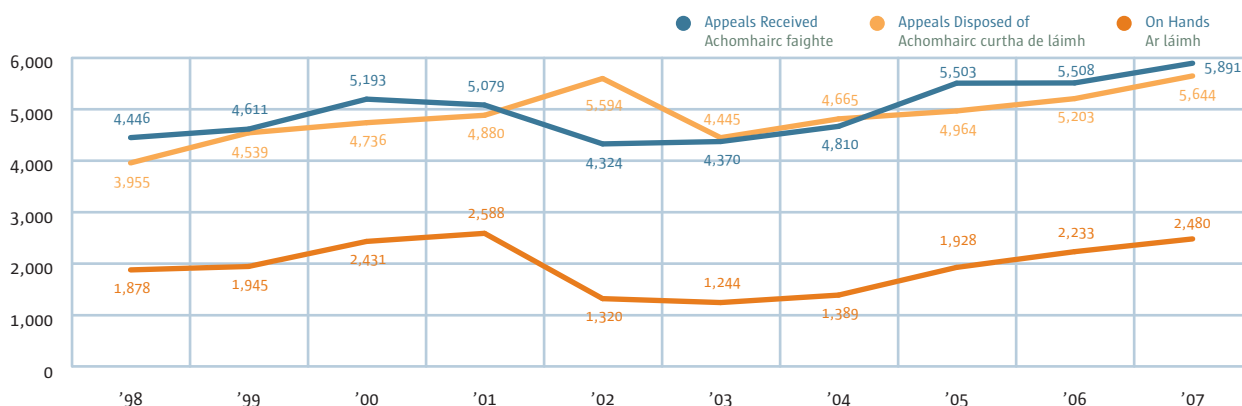
Achomhairc de réir Ceantair

Taispeánann Aguisín 2 anailís ar chinntí faoi iarratais phleanála, achomhairc, agus cinntí faoi achomhairc do gach ceantar contae agus cathrach. Ar an iomlán, bhí na hachomhairc a fuarthas cothrom le 6.7% de na cinntí a rinne údaráis phleanála faoi iarratais phleanála, i gcomparáid le 6.9% in 2006.

Bhí na leibhéil is airde de chinntí a ndearnadh achomhairc ina gcoinne i nDún Laoghaire/Ráth an Dúin (22.4%), i gCathair Átha Cliath (15.7%) agus i gCathair Luimnigh (15.4%). Ba iad Loch Garman (47.8%), An Cabhán (47.2%) agus Uíbh Fhailí (42.3%) na háiteanna leis an ráta is airde de chinntí a ndearnadh achomhairc ina gcoinne a d'iompaigh an Bord, agus bhí an ráta is ísle de chinntí a ndearnadh achomhairc ina gcoinne a iompaíodh i gCathair Port Láirge (16.7%), i gComhairle Contae Chill Chainnigh (22.4%) agus i gComhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann Theas (23.1%).

FIGURE 9
Appeals received, disposed of and on hands 1998 to 2007

FIGIÚR 9
Achomhairc a fuarthas, a cuireadh de láimh 1998 go dtí 2007





Major Infrastructure Appeals

The number of major infrastructure appeals received during 2007 was 57. The number disposed of was 55, of which 13% were disposed of within the statutory objective period. The average time taken to dispose of major infrastructure appeals was 34 weeks. The following are the broad criteria that are currently applied in deciding whether a planning appeal should receive major infrastructural status:

- National and/or local/regional projects of exceptional economic significance,
- Significant employment potential,
- Exceptionally large-scale industrial/commercial/residential projects including very large scale mixed projects,
- Energy generation and transmission projects,
- Significant windfarm projects,
- Landfill, waste, waste/water, incinerators,
- Mining/major quarrying projects,
- Major medical facilities,
- Strategic Development Zones.

Submission of documents to the Board by Planning Authorities

In 2007, planning authorities submitted the planning file and other documents in relation to appeals to the Board within the statutory period of two weeks in 69% of appeals (70% in 2006).

Rural Housing

The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government launched the Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines in April 2005. As the guidelines are issued under section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 the Board must have regard to them.

An analysis of the outcome of appeals relating to one-off rural houses is contained in Appendix 5.

Achomhairc um Bhonneagair Mhóra

Fuarthas 57 achomharc um bhonneagar mór le linn 2007, bhí 55 curtha de láimh, dá raibh 13% curtha de láimh laistigh den sprioc thréimhse reachtúil. Thóg é 34 seachtain ar an meán chun achomhairc um bhonneagair mhóra a chur de láimh. Is iad seo a leanas na critéir fhorleathana a chuirtear i bhfeidhm agus cinneadh á dhéanamh ar cibé ar chóir stádas bonneagair mhóir a thabhairt d'achomharc pleanála:

- Tionscadail náisiúnta agus/nó réigiúnacha/áitiúla de thábhacht eacnamaíoch ar leith,
- Cumas fostaíochta suntasach,
- Tionscadail thionsclaíocha/tráchtála/chónaithe mórsála eisceachtúla lena n-áirítear tionscadail mheasctha ar scála ollmhór,
- Tionscadail tarchurtha agus giniúna fuinnimh,
- Tionscadail fheirme gaoithe suntasacha,
- Líonta talún, dramhaíl, dramhuisce, loisceoirí,
- Tionscadail mhianadóireachta/chaireálaithe mhóra,
- Áiseanna móra leighis,
- Limistéir Forbartha Straitéiseacha.

Cáipéisí á chur faoi bhráid an Bhoird ag Údaráis Phleanála

I 2007, chuir údaráis phleanála an comhad pleanála agus cáipéisí eile maidir le hachomhairc, faoi bhráid an Bhoird laistigh den tréimhse reachtúil de dhá sheachtain i gcás 69% de na hachomhairc (70% i 2006).

Tithíocht Tuaithe

Sheol an tAire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil na Treoirínte um Thithíocht Tuaithe Inmharthana i mí Aibreáin 2005. Toisc go bhfuil na treoirínte eisithe faoi alt 28 den Acht Pleanála agus Forbartha 2000 caithfidh an Bord aird a thabhairt orthu.

Tá anailís ar thoradh na n-achomharc a bhain le tithe tuaithe aon-uaire le fáil in Aguisín 5.

STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE CASES

The Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 was enacted in 2006 and came into force on 31st January 2007. Under this Act the Board has become the single planning consent authority for certain major infrastructure projects on the transport, energy and environment areas (whether promoted by the public or private sector), including rail transport, gas pipelines and electricity generation and transmission. It has also been given responsibility for determining applications for compulsory acquisition relating to gas, airport and railway projects. The Board has published a number of guidelines advising applicants and local authorities of the procedures to be followed and advising the general public and interested bodies on how they can participate in the process. These guidelines are available on the Board's website.

FIGURE 10
All Strategic Infrastructure Cases
(including Local Authority Cases)

	Received 2007 *	Concluded 2007	On-going End 2007
Consultation Requests	74	33	41
Planning Applications	35	6	29
Scoping Requests	5	4	1

FIGURE 11
Local Authority Strategic Infrastructure Cases

	Received 2007 *	Disposed 2007	On-Hands End 2007
Applications	29	6	23
Scoping Requests	3	3	0
EIS Screening Cases	14	8	6
Alteration Requests	1	1	0
Total	47	18	29

* Since 31st January, 2007

CÁSANNA INFRASTRUCHTÚIR STRAITÉISIGH

Achtaíodh an tAcht um Phleanáil agus Fhorbairt (Infrastruchtúr Straitéiseach) 2006 i 2006 agus tá feidhm leis ó 31 Eanáir, 2007. Faoin Acht seo is é an Bord an t-aon údarás toilithe phleanála do mhórhionscadail áirithe infrastruchtúir i réimsí an iompair, an fhuinnimh agus na timpeallachta (cé acu agus iad á gcothú ag an earnáil phoiblí nó phríobháideach), ar a n-áirítear iompar iarnróid, píblínte gáis agus giniúint agus traiseoladh leictreachais. Tugadh freagracht dó freisin do chinneadh iarratas ar thógáil éigeantach i dtaca le tionscadail gháis, aerfoirt agus iarnróid. D'fhoilsigh an Bord roinnt treoirilínte a thugann comhairle d'iarratasóirí agus d'Údaráis Áitiúla faoi na nósanna imeachta a bhfuiltear le cloí leo agus a thugann comhairle don phobal agus do pháirtithe leasmhara faoi conas is féidir leo páirt a ghlacadh sa phróiseas.

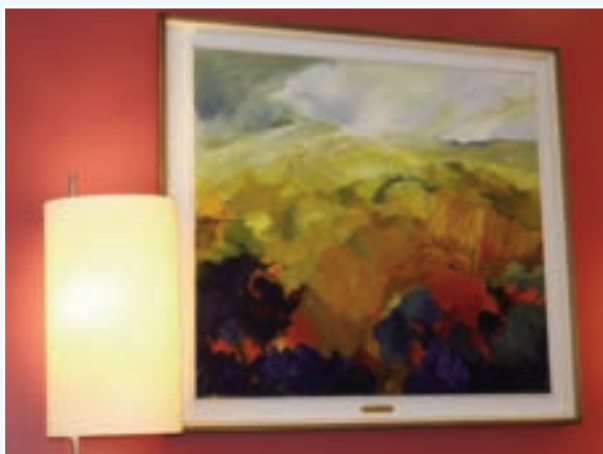
FIGIÚR 10
Na Cásanna Bonneagair Straitéisigh Uile
(lena n-áirítear cásanna Údaráis Áitiúil)

	Líon a fuarthas i 2007 *	Líon a cuireadh i gcrích i 2007	Ar siúl fós ag deireadh 2007
Iarratais Chomhairliúcháin	74	33	41
Iarratais Phleanála	35	6	29
Iarratais Scoipeála	5	4	1

FIGIÚR 11
Cásanna Bonneagair Straitéisigh Údaráis Áitiúil

	Líon a fuarthas i 2007 *	Líon a cuireadh i gcrích i 2007	Ar siúl fós ag deireadh 2007
Iarratais	29	6	23
Iarratais Scoipeála	3	3	0
Cásanna Scagtha RMT	14	8	6
Iarratais Athraithe	1	1	0
Iomlán	47	18	29

* Ó 31 Eanáir, 2007



The new procedures normally require applicants to engage in pre-application consultations with the Board which will be followed by a ruling from the Board as to whether the particular project will be treated as a strategic infrastructure project in accordance with the new Act.

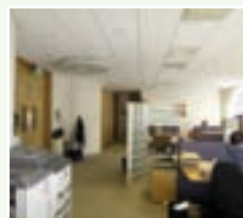
The Act also provided that local authority infrastructure projects requiring environmental impact assessment are now also classified as strategic infrastructure (as is any compulsory acquisition application relating to such a proposed development). Determination of these local authority cases has been a Board function since 2001. They are not subject to a pre-application consultation requirement.

Fees have been determined and approved in respect of strategic infrastructure applications lodged on or after the 10th of December 2007 (€100,000 application fee and €50 observer fee).

The functions assigned to it under the Act are preformed by the Strategic Infrastructure Division of the Board, comprising the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and three other members (Margaret Byrne, Angela Tunney and Karl Kent).

Of the concluded consultations in respect of proposed developments, 10 were deemed strategic infrastructure, 19 were deemed not strategic infrastructure and 4 were withdrawn.

Those local authority projects which also classify as Strategic Infrastructure since 31st January, 2007, are indicated in the chart below:



Tá na treoirí seo ar fáil ar shuíomh gréasáin an Bhoird. Is gnáth go gcuireann na nósanna imeachta nua iachall ar iarratasóirí tabhairt faoi chomhairliúcháin réamhiarratais leis an mBord; ina dhiaidh sin déanfaidh an Bord rialú ag socrú más rud é go bpléifear leis an tionscadal áirithe mar thionscadal infrastruchtúir straitéisigh de réir an Achta nua.

Rinne an tAcht soláthar dó freisin go ndéanfaí tionscadail infrastruchtúir de chuid na nUdarás Áitiúil ina dteastaíonn measúnú iarmhairte timpeallachta, go ndéanfaí iad a aicmiú mar infrastruchtúir straitéisigh anois freisin (chomh maith le haon iarratas ar thógáil éigeantach a bhaineann lena leithéid d'fhorbairt a mholtar). Feidhm de chuid an Bhoird atá ann ó 2001. Níl siad faoi réir ag riachtanas comhairliúcháin réamhiarratais.

Cinneadh agus faomhaíodh táillí i dtaca le hiarratais infrastruchtúir straitéisigh a thaisctear ar nó i ndiaidh 10 Nollaig 2007 (táille iarratais de €100,000 agus táille breathnóra de €50).

Cuirtear na feidhmeanna sin a shanntar air faoin Acht i gcrích ag Rannán Infrastruchtúir Straitéisigh an Bhoird, a bhfuil an Cathaoirleach, an Leasathaoirleach agus triúr ball eile ina mbaill de (Margaret Byrne, Angela Tunney agus Karl Kent).

As na comhairliúcháin a críochnaíodh i leith forbraíochtaí molta, measadh 10 mar bhonneagar straitéiseach, measadh 19 mar neamh-bhonneagar straitéiseach, agus aistarraingíodh 4.

Tugtar na tionscadail Údaráis Áitiúil sin a aicmítear freisin mar Infrastruchtúir Straitéiseach ó 31 Eanáir, le fios sa chairt thíos:

Operation of the new Provisions:

The Board received 74 requests to enter into pre-application consultations in 2007 and it held 97 meetings relating to these requests during the year. The Board has been represented at such meetings by teams drawn from its professional planning and administrative staff. The main purposes of the pre-application consultation process are to enable the Board consider whether the proposed development should be deemed strategic infrastructure by reference to the criteria in the Act, advise prospective applicants regarding what considerations related to proper planning and sustainable development or the environment, may have a bearing on its decision in relation to any application and to also advise on the procedures involved in the making and consideration of a direct application to An Bord Pleanála. The pre-application consultation process does not involve the Board in any assessment of the merits of a proposed development as any such consideration is reserved until the formal planning application stage.

Of the 74 consultation requests, 33 were disposed of during the year, leaving 41 on-going at the start of 2008. The Board received three non-local authority strategic infrastructure development applications in the latter half of 2007. Two of these cases have already been determined in early 2008, and both of these decisions were made within the statutory objective period of 18 weeks following oral hearings into the applications.

OTHER CASES

Other Cases under Planning, Building Control, Water Pollution and Air Pollution Acts

Apart from normal planning appeals and local authority projects, other functions have been assigned to the Board under the Planning Acts; the Building Control Acts 1990 and 2007; the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 to 2007; and the Air Pollution Act 1987. A summary of the various cases which came before the Board in 2007 is set out in Figure 12.

Feidhmiú na bhForálacha Nua:

Fuair an Bord 74 iarratas le tabhairt faoi chomhairliúcháin réamhiarratais i 2007 agus thionóil sé 97 cruinniú i dtaca leis na hiarratais seo le linn na bliana. Rinneadh ionadaíocht ar an mBord ag a leithéid de chruinnithe ag foirne a fuarthas óna bhfoireann ghairmiúil phleanála agus riaracháin. Is iad príomhchuspóirí an phróisis chomhairliúcháin réamhiarratais ná cur ar chumas an Bhoird breithniú a dhéanamh ar chóir an fhorbairt a bheartaítear a mheas mar infrastruchtúr straitéiseach, ag tagairt do chritéir an Achta, comhairle a thabhairt d'iarratasóirí ionchasacha maidir leis na breithniúcháin sin a bhaineann le pleanáil cheart agus le forbairt inbhuanaithe na timpeallachta ar féidir go rachaidh a leithéid i bhfeidhm ar a shocrú maidir le haon hiarratas agus le comhairle a thabhairt faoi na nósanna imeachta atá i gceist i ndéanamh agus i mbreithniú iarratais dhírigh ar an mBord Bord Pleanála. Le linn an phróisis chomhairliúcháin réamhiarratais ní dhéanann an Bord measúnú faoi fhiúntas forbartha a bheartaítear, ós rud é go gcoimeádtar aon bhreithniú den chineál seo don chéim iarratais fhoirmeálta phleanála.

As na 74 iarratas comhairliúcháin, cuireadh 33 de láimh le linn na bliana, rud atá d'fhág go raibh 41 acu fós ar siúl ag tús 2008. Fuair an Bord 3 iarratas ar fhorbairt infrastruchtúir straitéisigh nach mbaineann le húdaráis áitiúla i ndara leath de 2007. Cinneadh dhá cinn de na cásanna seo cheana go luath i 2008, agus rinneadh an dá shocrú seo laistigh den tréimhse de chuspóir reachtúil de 18 seachtaine tar éis éisteachtaí béil faoi na hiarratais.

CÁSANNA EILE

Cásanna eile faoi Achtanna Pleanála, Rialú Foirgníochta, Truailliú Uisce agus Truailliú Aeir

Tá feidhmeanna eile tugtha don Bhord seachas gnáth achomhairc phleanála agus tionscadail údarás áitiúil, faoi na hAchtanna Pleanála; An tAcht um Rialú Foirgníochta 1990 agus 2007, na hAchtanna Rialtais Áitiúil (Truailliú Uisce) 1977 i 2007; agus an tAcht um Thruailliú Aeir 1987. Tá achoimre de na cásanna a tháinig faoi bhráid an Bhoird i 2007 leagtha amach i bhFigiúr 12.

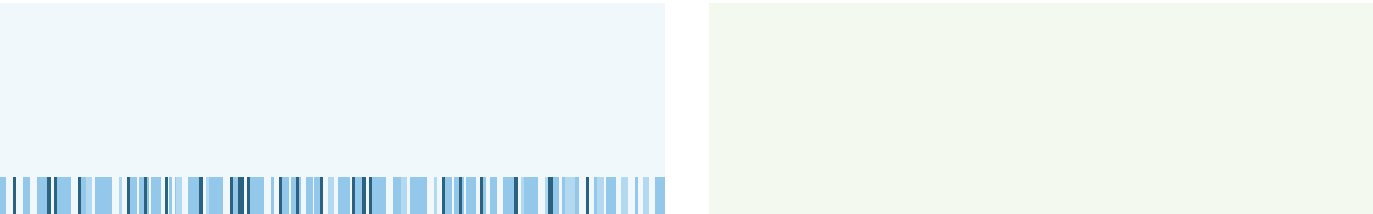


FIGURE 12 Summary of other cases under Planning, Building Control, Water Pollution and Air Pollution, Roads and Derelict Sites Acts			FIGIÚR 12 Achoimre ar chásanna eile faoi Achtanna Pleanála, Rialaithe Foirgníochta, Truaillithe Uisce agus Truaillithe Aeir, Bóithre agus Láithreáin Tréigthe					
Non-Strategic Local Authority Projects	Tionscadail Neamh-Stráistéiseacha Údaráis Áitiúil	Approved* Ceadaithe*			Diúltaithe* Refused*	Iomlán cinntí Total decisions		
Case type	Cineál Cáis	Le hathraithe With modifications	Gan athraithe Without modifications	Iomlán Ceadaithe Total approved				
Compulsory Acquisition	Fála Éigeantacha	10	25	35	7	42		
Road Projects	Tionscadail Bóithre	5	0	5	2	7		
Other local authority projects	Tionscadail eile na nÚdarás Áitiúla	9	0	9	2	11		
Total	Iomlán	24	25	49	11	60		
In addition, the Board directed that an EIS not be prepared in 11 EIA sub-threshold cases and be prepared in 2 such cases. It also provided responses in relation to 2 EIA scoping requests. There were 33 informal decisions, i.e. where no objections were received in compulsory acquisition cases. <i>* The terms “approved” and “refused” are used colloquially. Different terms apply depending on the legislation concerned.</i>								
Sa bhreis ar seo, d’ordaigh an Bord gan MTT a ullmhú i 11 cás MTT fotháirsigh agus go n-ullmhófaí ceann i 2 cás eile mar sin. Chuir sé eolas ar fáil i dtaobh 2 iarratas do scóipeail MTT. Bhí 33 cinntí neamh-fhoirmiúla, m.sh. áit nár fuarthas aon cur i gcoinne i gcásanna fála éigeantacha. <i>* Baintear úsáid as na téarmaí “ceadaithe” agus “diúltaithe” go comhráiteach. Baineann téarmaí éagsúla ag braith ar an reachtaíocht cuí.</i>								
			On hands start of year	Received in year	Sub-total	Disposed of in year Curtha de láimh sa bhliain		
			Idir lámha ag tús na bliana	Faighte sa bhliain	Fo-Iomlán	Formally decided Cinntí Foirmiúla	Otherwise disposed Curtha de láimh i slí eile	All Gach
								On hands end of year Idir lámha ag deireadh na bliana
Planning Acts	Achtanna Pleanála							
Leave to Appeal	Cead Achomharc	8	189	197	137	50	187	10
Referrals	Tarchuir	43	107	150	55	32	87	63
Determinations ¹	Cinntí ¹	1	2	3	1	1	2	1
Section 254 Licences	Ceadúnais Rannóg 254	1	6	7	4	1	5	2
Planning Scheme(SDZ)	Scéim Pleanála (SDZ)	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
EIS Exemption	Diólúine ó RMT	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
Special Amenity Order	Ordú Taitneamhachta Speisialta	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
Control of Quarries (section 261)	Rialú Cairéal (alt 261)	5	192	197	36	16	52	145
Subtotal	Fo-Iomlán	58	498	556	233	100	333	223
Building Control Acts	Achtanna um Rialú Foirgníochta							
Fire Safety Certificate	Teastas Sábháilteachta Tine	8	50	58	25	4	29	29
Relaxation & Dispensation Certificates	Teastais Riartha agus Maolaithe	1	7	8	1	0	1	7
Subtotal	Fo-Iomlán	9	57	66	26	4	30	36
Water Pollution Acts	Achtanna um Thruailliú Uisce							
Discharge to water	Curtha chuig Uisce	10	21	31	16	5	21	10
Discharge to sewers	Curtha chuig Séarachas	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
Subtotal	Fo-Iomlán	10	22	32	16	5	21	11
Air Pollution Act	Acht um Thruailliú Aer							
Air emission	Scaoileadh aer	5	7	12	5	1	6	6
Total	Iomlán	82	584	666	280	110	390	276
255 ¹	(65%) of the 390 cases were disposed of within 18 weeks/4 months, as appropriate. These cases relate to the 1963 to 1999 Planning Acts.							
255 ¹	(65%) de na 390 cásanna curtha de láimh laistigh de 18 seachtaine/4 mí,mar is cuí. Baineann roinnt de na cásanna sin leis na hAchtanna Pleanála 1963 go 1999.							

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Board recognises that its main asset is its staff. The Board's authorised staffing complement at the end of 2007, exclusive of Board members, was 172. The average number of staff employed during 2007 was 152.4 (147 in 2006).

The following staff were employed as at 31 December 2007. The organisational structure in 2007 is on page 28. The new organisational structure incorporating the strategic infrastructure division is in Appendix 6.

Chief Officer*	Paul Mullally
Secretary*	Diarmuid Collins
Planning Officer*	Vacancy
Deputy Planning Officers*	Ben Cranwell, Des Johnson, Padraic Thornton, Philip Jones
Senior Administrative Officers*	Chris Clarke, David Curran, Gerard Egan, Bríd Hill.
Senior Planning Inspectors	Andrew Boyle, Paul Caprani, Una Crosse, Mary Cunneen, Derek Daly, Philip Davis, Jane Dennehy, Michael Dillon, David Dunne, Pauline Fitzpatrick, Breda Gannon, Philip Green, Stephen Kay, Dermot Kelly, Mary Kennelly, Mairead Kenny, Karla McBride, Dolores McCague, Conor McGrath, Kevin Moore, Ann Marie O'Connor, Danny O'Connor, Stephen O'Sullivan, Tom Rabbette, Robert Ryan, Keith Sargeant, Ruairi Somers, Fiona Tynan, Bryan Ward, Brendan Wyse, Óznur Yücel-Finn.
Senior Executive Officers	Pierce Dillon, Michael Donlan, Marcella Doyle, Tom Gill, Josephine Hayes, Mary Holohan, Mary Kelly, Violet Kennedy, Carol Moloney, Myriam O' Neill, Bernie Redmond, Mary Tucker.

ACMHAINNÍ DAONNA

Aithníonn an Bord go bhfuil a phríomh shócmhainn a fhoireann. Bhí an comhlán foirne údaráithe an Bhoird ag deireadh 2007, gan comhaltaí an Bhoird san áireamh, mar 172. Tá an meán uimhir foirne fostaithe i rith 2007 ná 152.4 (147 i 2006).

Tá an fhoireann a fostaíodh mar ag 31 Nollaig 2007 mar seo a leanas. Tá an struchtúr 2007 eagraíochta ar leathanach 28. Tá an struchtúr eagraíochtúil nua a chuimsíonn an rannán um bonneagar straitéiseach san áireamh in Aguisín 6.

Príomh Oifigeach*	Paul Mullally
Rúnaí*	Diarmuid Collins
Oifigeach Pleanála*	Folúntas
Oifigigh Tánaisteacha Pleanála*	Ben Cranwell, Des Johnson, Padraic Thornton, Philip Jones
Oifigigh Riaracháin Sinsearach*	Chris Clarke, David Curran, Gerard Egan, Bríd Hill.
Cigirí Pleanála Sinsearach	Andrew Boyle, Paul Caprani, Una Crosse, Mary Cunneen, Derek Daly, Philip Davis, Jane Dennehy, Michael Dillon, David Dunne, Pauline Fitzpatrick, Breda Gannon, Philip Green, Stephen Kay, Dermot Kelly, Mary Kennelly, Mairead Kenny, Karla McBride, Dolores McCague, Conor McGrath, Kevin Moore, Ann Marie O'Connor, Danny O'Connor, Stephen O'Sullivan, Tom Rabbette, Robert Ryan, Keith Sargeant, Ruairi Somers, Fiona Tynan, Bryan Ward, Brendan Wyse, Óznur Yücel-Finn.
Oifigigh Feidhmiúcháin Sinsearach	Pierce Dillon, Michael Donlan, Marcella Doyle, Tom Gill, Josephine Hayes, Mary Holohan, Mary Kelly, Violet Kennedy, Carol Moloney, Myriam O' Neill, Bernie Redmond, Mary Tucker.



Planning Inspectors

Angela Brereton, Siobhan Carroll, Auriol Considine, Caryn Coogan, Mary Crowley, Aisling Cunnane, Lorraine Dockery, Emer Doyle, Leslie Howard, Gillian Kane, Suzanne Kehely, Jenny Kelly, Kevin Lynch, Louise Kiernan, Deirdre MacGabhann, Brid Maxwell, Hugh Mannion, Colin McBride, Kenneth Moloney, Sarah Moran, Gerard Ryan, Juliet Ryan, Robert Speer.

* Member of Management Committee

Executive Officers

Frances Barrett, Miriam Baxter, Eddie Brennan, Bronwyn Byrne, Muiríosa Cassells, Patrick Cosgrave, Darren Coombes, Cora Cunningham, Frank Dempsey, Barry Devine, Eamonn Dowling, John Duffy, Tom Egan, Nóirín Finnegan, Regina Fitzgerald, Rob Forde, Siobhan Gavin, Jane Gilvarry, Gráinne Kelly, Shane Kelly, Des Kennedy, Justin Keane, Luke Ryan, Kiernan Doherty, Rita Donnelly, Sinéad Coughlan, Anne Killian, Fergal Kilmurray, Patricia Leggett, Sinead McInerney, Bríd McManus, Nichola Meehan, Aisling Matthews, Sue Morel, Carmel Morgan, Helen Murphy, Catherine Nolan, Mairead Oglesby, Lisa Quinn, Nora Ryan, Kieran Somers, Bríd Tiernan, Patricia Wall, Eilis Weafer, Siobhán White.

Administrative Assistants

Christopher Byrne, Sarah Byrne, Bill Coleman, Roslyn Collins, Niall Connolly, Ian Conroy, Stephen Deighan, Caroline Dennis, Vincent Dillon, Neil Doherty, Marie Doyle, Orla Drohan, Amanda Duffy, Gavin Duffy, James Fagan, Seamus Grant, David Gray, Josephine Halpin, Michael Heffernan, Anna Howard, Paul Howe, Christian Keegan, Anna Kelsh, Richard Kennedy, Rita Kiernan, David Kilroe, Mary Ledwith, Leonard Mangan, Mark Masterson, Alan McArdle, Shaun McGee, Mary McGrath, Neil Molloy, Susan Moloney, Wayne Moss, Eilish Mulholland, Ted O' Brien, Carmen O' Carroll, Aisling O' Connor, Gary O' Reilly, Jim Roe, Fergal Ryan,

Cigirí Pleanála

Angela Brereton, Siobhan Carroll, Auriol Considine, Caryn Coogan, Mary Crowley, Aisling Cunnane, Lorraine Dockery, Emer Doyle, Leslie Howard, Gillian Kane, Suzanne Kehely, Jenny Kelly, Kevin Lynch, Louise Kiernan, Deirdre MacGabhann, Brid Maxwell, Hugh Mannion, Colin McBride, Kenneth Moloney, Sarah Moran, Gerard Ryan, Juliet Ryan, Robert Speer.

* Comhaltai den Choiste Bainistíochta

Oifigigh Feidhmiúcháin

Frances Barrett, Miriam Baxter, Eddie Brennan, Bronwyn Byrne, Muiríosa Cassells, Patrick Cosgrave, Darren Coombes, Cora Cunningham, Frank Dempsey, Barry Devine, Eamonn Dowling, John Duffy, Tom Egan, Nóirín Finnegan, Regina Fitzgerald, Rob Forde, Siobhan Gavin, Jane Gilvarry, Gráinne Kelly, Shane Kelly, Des Kennedy, Justin Keane, Luke Ryan, Kiernan Doherty, Rita Donnelly, Sinéad Coughlan, Anne Killian, Fergal Kilmurray, Patricia Leggett, Sinead McInerney, Bríd McManus, Nichola Meehan, Aisling Matthews, Sue Morel, Carmel Morgan, Helen Murphy, Catherine Nolan, Mairead Oglesby, Lisa Quinn, Nora Ryan, Kieran Somers, Bríd Tiernan, Patricia Wall, Eilis Weafer, Siobhán White.

Cúntóirí Riaracháin

Christopher Byrne, Sarah Byrne, Bill Coleman, Roslyn Collins, Niall Connolly, Ian Conroy, Stephen Deighan, Caroline Dennis, Vincent Dillon, Neil Doherty, Marie Doyle, Orla Drohan, Amanda Duffy, Gavin Duffy, James Fagan, Seamus Grant, David Gray, Josephine Halpin, Michael Heffernan, Anna Howard, Paul Howe, Christian Keegan, Anna Kelsh, Richard Kennedy, Rita Kiernan, David Kilroe, Mary Ledwith, Leonard Mangan, Mark Masterson, Alan McArdle, Shaun McGee, Mary McGrath, Neil Molloy, Susan Moloney, Wayne Moss, Eilish Mulholland, Ted O' Brien, Carmen O' Carroll, Aisling O' Connor, Gary O' Reilly, Jim Roe, Fergal Ryan,

Maeve Shaw, Stephen Sutton,
Sinead Sweeney, David Walker,
Colm Walsh, Damien Wyse.

Consultants, Advisers and Part-Time Consultant Inspectors

The Board has the power to engage such consultants and advisers as it considers necessary for the discharge of its functions.

During 2007, the Board retained, under section 124 of the 2000 Planning Act, the services of professional consultants to advise it on specialist matters arising in certain appeals.

In accordance with section 120(2) of the Act, the Board continued the engagement of part-time consultant inspectors having regard to the need to comply with the Board's statutory time objective of determining cases. Fee-per-case (FPC) Inspectors, who are all qualified planners, generally report on the smaller/less complex planning appeals. Qualified planners from professional consultancy firms (PCFs) were also engaged on a limited basis (following an open tendering process in 2001) to report on larger/more complex planning appeals.

The Board also engaged part-time consultants (PTCs), mostly engineers with appropriate experience, to conduct oral hearings and make reports and recommendations in relation to local authority infrastructure projects, e.g. road/motorway schemes, waste etc.

Figure 13 shows the number of reports received from part-time consultant inspectors in 2007 and 2006. The number of reports received from these inspectors in 2007 represented 43% of all reports received, (48% in 2006).

Consultants retained by the Board in the foregoing capacities in 2007, other than FPC Inspectors, are on page 29.

Maeve Shaw, Stephen Sutton,
Sinead Sweeney, David Walker,
Colm Walsh, Damien Wyse.

Comhairleoirí, Moltóirí agus Cigirí Comhairleacha Páirtaimseartha

Tá cumhacht ag an mBord comhairleoirí agus lucht molta a ghlacadh mar a mheastar riachtanach le scaoileadh a fheidhmeanna.

I rith 2007, choimeád an Bord, faoi alt 124 den Acht Pleanála 2000, seirbhísí de chomhairleoirí gairmiúla chun iad a mholadh ar chúrsaí speisialta a ardaíonn in achomhairc áirithe.

De réir alt 120(2) den Acht, lean an Bord le cigirí comhairleacha páirtaimseartha a fhostú i dtreo is go mbeidís in ann cloí lena sprioc thréimhse ama chun cásanna a réiteach. Tuairiscíonn Cigirí Táille-in-aghaidh-gach-cás (TC), atá mar lucht pleanála cáilithe, go ginearálta ar achomhairc phleanála casta níos lú/níos ísle. Bhí lucht pleanála cáilithe ó chomhlachtaí comhairleora gairmiúla (CCG) fostaithe (i ndiaidh próisis forthairisceana oscailte i 2001) ar bhonn páirtaimseartha chun tuairisciú ar achomhairc phleanála casta níos mó/ a tuilleadh.

Ghlac an Bord le comhairleoirí páirt-aimseartha (CPT) chomh maith, innealtóirí le taithí oiriúnach, chun éisteacht béil a chur ar siúl agus tuairiscí agus moltaí a dhéanamh maidir le tionscadail bhonneagair na n-údarás áitiúil m.sh. scéimeanna bóthair/mótar-bhealaí, dramhaíola agus araile.

Taispeánann Figiúr 13 an líon tuarascálacha faighte ó chigirí comhairleora páirt-aimseartha i 2007 agus 2006. Sheas an líon tuarascálacha faighte ó na cigirí sin 43% de gach tuarascáil faighte, (48% i 2006).

Tá comhairleoirí coimeádta ag an mBord sna cumais roimhe seo i 2007, seachas Cigirí TC, ar leathanach 29.

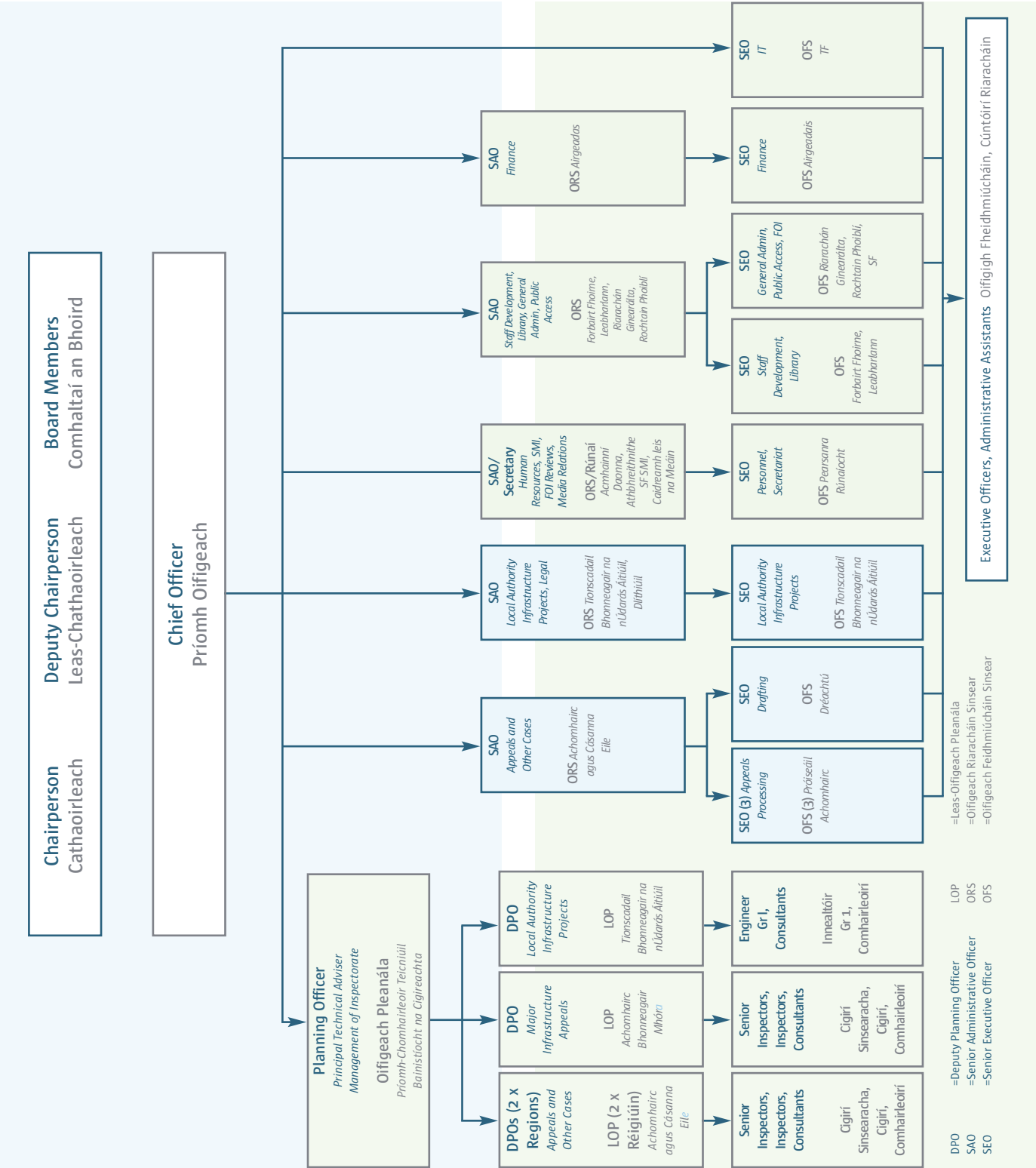
FIGURE 13
Reports received from Part-time Consultant Inspectors

FIGIÚR 13
Tuairiscí faighte ó Chigirí Comhairleora Páirt-aimseartha

		2007	2006	Méadú/ (Laghú)% Increase/(decrease) %
FPC Inspectors	Cigirí TC	1,990	1,921	4%
PCF Inspectors	Cigirí CCG	30	23	30%
PTC Inspectors	Cigirí CPT	129	86	50%
TOTAL	Iomlán	2,149	2,030	6%

ORGANISATIONAL CHART 2007

CAIRT EAGRAÍOCHTA 2007



Consultants engaged by the Board during 2007 (excluding Fee-per-case Inspectors)

Professional Consultancy Firms (PCFs)

CDN - Graham Carlisle

Ian Bertram & Associates - Ian Bertram

NAI Fuller Peiser - Andrew Hubbard

Keith Hamilton

Planning Regeneration and Management Consultants - Keith Reid

Part Time Consultants (PTCs)

Eoghan Brangan, Richard J. Burke, Brendan Devlin, Jonathan Evans, Gerry Farrington, Des Fitzgerald, James J. Harney, Thomas Haugh, Jim Hearn, Dom Hegarty, Vincent Hussey, Gerard McGlinchey, Billy Moore, Martin Nolan, John O'Donnell, Padraig Ó'Gliasáin, Michael Ward.

Professional Consultants

David M. Ball, Shane Bennet, Eugene Daly, Raymond J. Connolly, George Faller, Maurice Johnson, Jerome Keohane, Thomas McDonald, Paddy Matthews, Don Menzies, Austin Morgan, Donal O'Callaghan, Tim Paul, Michael Slattery.

The Board also retained the services of Barry Doyle and Company, Solicitors.

Comhairleoirí fostaithe ag an mBord le linn 2007 (gan Cigirí ar Tháille in aghaidh an Cháis san áireamh)

Comhlachtaí Comhairleora Gairmiúla (CCG)

CDN - Graham Carlisle

Ian Bertram & Associates - Ian Bertram

NAI Fuller Peiser - Andrew Hubbard

Keith Hamilton

Comhairligh um Athghiniúint agus Bainistíocht Pleanála Keith Reid

Comhairleoirí Páirtaimseartha (CPA)

Eoghan Brangan, Richard J. Burke, Brendan Devlin, Jonathan Evans, Gerry Farrington, Des Fitzgerald, James J. Harney, Thomas Haugh, Jim Hearn, Dom Hegarty, Vincent Hussey, Gerard McGlinchey, Billy Moore, Martin Nolan, John O'Donnell, Padraig Ó'Gliasáin, Michael Ward.

Comhairleoirí Gairmiúla

David M. Ball, Shane Bennet, Eugene Daly, Raymond J. Connolly, George Faller, Maurice Johnson, Jerome Keohane, Thomas McDonald, Paddy Matthews, Don Menzies, Austin Morgan, Donal O'Callaghan, Tim Paul, Michael Slattery.

Tá an Bord tar-éis seirbhísí Barry Doyle and Company, Dlíodóirí a choinneáil.

FINANCE

Fees

Fees are payable to the Board by parties in respect of strategic infrastructure development applications, appeals, referrals and certain other matters which are submitted to the Board for determination and in relation to requests for oral hearings under the Planning, Water Pollution, Air Pollution and Building Control Acts.

Fees are also payable by certain persons/bodies other than parties, generally known as “observers”, in respect of submissions or observations made to the Board.

Gross receipts from fees in 2007 amounted to €3,676,319 of which €755,422 was refunded where appeals were found to be late or otherwise invalid. In 2007, the net receipts from fees represented about 12.6% of total expenditure (11% in 2006).

Income and expenditure

In 2007, total expenditure amounted to €23,213,677 while income amounted to €23,531,894 leaving a surplus for the year of €318,217. There was an incoming surplus of €133,639 which left a surplus of €184,578.

The accounts are reproduced in Appendix 10. Certification under the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997 is in Appendix 7.

Members' salaries and expenses

Members of the Board may hold no other employment and are paid salaries under the PAYE system. Fees are not paid to members.

A statement on Remuneration and Members' fees is in Appendix 9.

Internal Audit and Financial Control

The Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies has been adopted and is being complied with and, in particular, appropriate procedures for financial reporting, procurement and assets disposal are being carried out. A statement on the system of Internal Financial Control is in Appendix 8.

AIRGEADAS

Táillí

Tá táillí iníoctha leis an mBord ag páirtithe maidir le hiarratais Fhorbairt Bhonneagair Straitéisigh, le hachomhairc, le tarchuir agus le gnóthaí eile a chuirtear faoi bhráid an Bhoird chun cinneadh a dhéanamh orthu maidir le hachainí chun éisteacht béal faoi na hAchtanna Pleanála, na hAchtanna um Thruailliú Uisce, um Thruailliú Air agus um Rialú Foirgníochta.

Tá táillí iníoctha chomh maith le daoine/comhlachtaí seachas páirtithe, aitheanta go ginearálta mar “bhreathnóirí”, maidir le haighneachtaí nó breathnóireacht déanta ag an mBord.

Tháinig na fáiltais chomhlán ó tháillí i 2007 go dtí €3,376,319 óna raibh €755,422 aisíoctha san áit go raibh achomharc déanach nó olc ar slí eile. I 2007, bhí na fáiltais ghlan ó tháillí mar 12.6% den chaiteachas iomlán (11% i 2006).

Ioncam agus caiteachas

I 2007, tháinig an caiteachas iomlán go dtí €23,213,677 agus tháinig ioncam go dtí €23,531,894 ag farasbarr don bhliain de €318,217. Bhí farasbarr isteach de €133,639 a d'fhág farasbarr de €184,578.

Tá macasamhail de na cuntais in Aguisín 10. Tá na deimhniúcháin faoin Acht um Íoc Pras Cuntas 1997 in Aguisín 7.

Costais agus tuarastail na gcomhaltaí

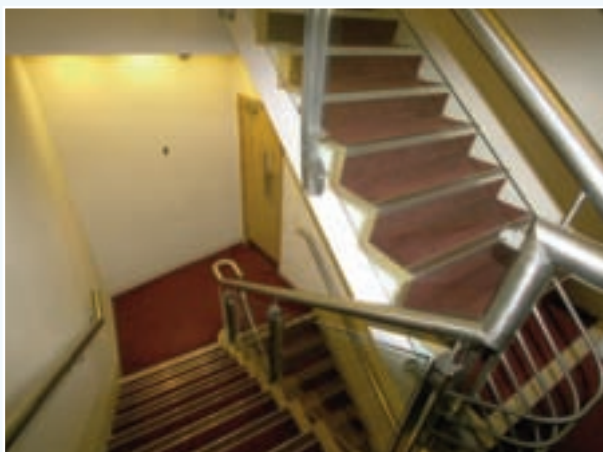
Ní foláir do chomhaltaí an Bhoird gan aon fhostaíocht eile a ghlacadh agus íochtar tuarastal leo faoin gcóras ÍMAT. Ní íochtar táillí le comhaltaí.

Tá ráiteas ar Luach saothair agus Táillí Chomhaltaí in Aguisín 9.

Iníúchadh Inmheánach agus Rialú Airgeadais

Tá glactha leis an gCód Cleachtais don Rialachas de Chomhlachtaí Stáit agus táthar ag géilleadh do, go mór mhór, go bhfuil gach gnáthamh cuí do thuairisciú airgeadais, iníúchadh inmheánach, sholáthar agus cur de láimh shócmhainní á chur i bhfeidhm. Tá ráiteas ar an gcóras Rialaithe Airgeadais Inmheánach in Aguisín 8.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

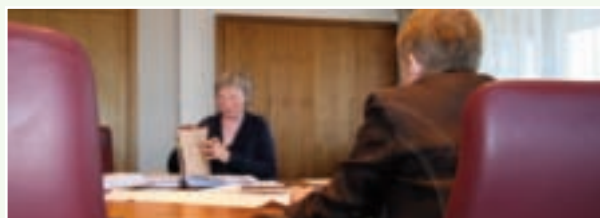
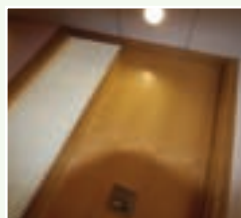


There is no automatic right of appeal to the Courts in respect of decisions made by the Board on appeals, referrals and local authority project cases. Under the 2000 to 2007 Planning Acts, such decisions can only be challenged by way of an application for judicial review to the High Court.

During 2007, High Court judicial review proceedings arising from the Board's decisions and procedures in relation to appeals and other matters were instituted in 32 cases (23 in 2006). In the course of the year proceedings were discontinued or dismissed in 11 cases (9 in 2006). Leave applications for judicial review were refused in 3 cases (4 in 2006).

High Court judgements on substantive cases were given in 4 (2 in 2006) cases, 2 (4 in 2006) of which found in favour of the Board and 2 (8 in 2006) against. In respect of the latter cases, 4 (3 in 2006) of these decisions were in circumstances where the Board consented to the quashing of its decision order due to procedural defects while one other resulted in quashing of Board Order as a consequence of legal defects in the local planning authority handling of the relevant planning application.

IMEACHTAÍ DLÍ



Níl aon cheart uathoibríoch achomhairc leis an gCúirt maidir le cinntí déanta ag an mBord ar achomhairc, tharchuir agus chásanna tionscadail an rialtais áitiúil. Faoin Acht Pleanála 2000 an 2007, ní féidir agóid a dhéanamh i gcoinne a leithéid de chinneadh ach amháin trí iarratas ar athbhreithniú breithiúnach leis an Ard-Chúirt.

I rith 2007, d'ordaíodh athbhreithniú breithiúnach Ard-Chúirte ag éirí ó chinntí agus imeachtaí an Bhoird maidir le hachomhairc agus ábhair eile i 32 cás (23 i 2006). I rith na bliana caitheadh amach nó stopadh 11 cás cúirte (9 i 2006). Diúltaíodh cead iarratais chun athbhreithniú breithiúnach i 3 cás (4 i 2006).

Tugadh breith Ard-Chúirte ar chásanna i 4 cás (2 i 2006), 2 (4 i 2006) i bhfabhar an Bhoird agus 2 (8 i 2006) ina choinne. Maidir leis na cásanna ina choinne, bhí dhá ceann de na cinntí seo, 4 (3 i 2006) i gcúinsí ar cheadaigh an Bord a ordú cinnidh a neamhnú, de bharr lochtanna gnáthaimh fad is a rinneadh neamhnú ar Orduithe an Bhoird sna cinn eile tiosc lochtanna dlíthiúla sa chaoi a phléigh an t-údarás pleanála i gceist.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The Planning Acts, the Freedom of Information Act and Access to Information on the Environment Regulations provide for access to certain information on the Board's operations. Casework files are available for inspection free of charge on the third working day after the case is decided and copies of documents can be purchased. The Board's decision order and direction and the Inspector's report are also available on the Board's website.

The number of public access requests for casework files was 2,391 in 2007.

Further information on the above is available from the Board and on its website. Figure 14 gives a breakdown of the requests made under the Freedom of Information Act.

FIGURE 14
Freedom of Information – Breakdown of requests

On hands at start of year	Ar láimh ag tosach na bliana
Requests received	Iarratais faighte
Granted/Partially granted	Tugtha/Tugtha i bpáirt
Withdrawn or dealt with outside FOI	Aistarraingthe nó déileáilte le lasmuigh de SF
Refused	Diúltaithe
On hands at end of year	Ar láimh ag deireadh na bliana

There was 1 request for Internal Review in 2007; 1 refused.

** Transferred to Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.*

Bhí 1 iarratas ar Athbhreithniú Inmheánach in 2007; 1 cheann.

** Tarchurtha chuig an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil.*

Customer Services/Complaints

In accordance with our Customer Service Action Plan, the Board has a system of dealing with enquiries about the quality of service provided and to analyse and measure the number of complaints received. Our system is not designed to provide a further appeal against our decision on the planning appeal.

ROCHTAIN AR EOLAS

Tugann na hAchtanna Pleanála, an tAcht um Shaoráil Faisnéise agus na Rialacháin um Rochtain ar Eolais faoin gComhshaoil rochtain áirithe ar eolas ar oibríochtaí an Bhoird. Tá comhad oibre ar chásanna ar fáil le hiniúchadh saor in aisce agus is féidir cóipeanna de cháipéisí a cheannach. Tá a thuilleadh eolais ar an méid thuas-luaite le fáil ar a shuíomh idirlín an Bhoird.

Bhí 2,391 iarratas ar rochtain phoiblí ar chomhaid chásóibre i 2007.

Tá a thuilleadh eolais ar an méid thuas le Fáil ón mBord ar a shuíomh idirlín. Tugann Figiúr 14 briseadh síos ar na hiarratais déanta faoin Acht Shaoráil Faisnéise.

FIGIÚR 14
Saoráil Faisnéise – Miondealú ar Iarratais

	2007	2006
On hands at start of year	2	2
Requests received	11	19
Granted/Partially granted	4	7
Withdrawn or dealt with outside FOI	1	1*
Refused	8	11
On hands at end of year	0	2

Gearáin/Seirbhísí Custaiméara

Maidir lenár bPlean Gníomhaíochta Seirbhíse Custaiméara, thóg an Bord ar láimh córas a chur in áit chun déileáil le gearáin mar gheall ar cháil na seirbhíse a cuireadh ar fáil agus chun anailís agus tomhas a dhéanamh ar an méid gearáin a tháinig isteach. Níl ár gcóras deartha chun a thuilleadh agóide a dhéanamh i gcoinne ár gcinneadh ar achomharc pleanála.

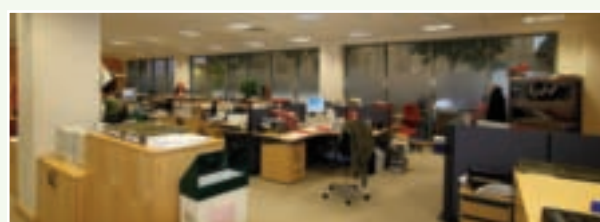
CUSTOMER SERVICES/COMPLAINTS



In 2007, the Board received **343** letters in relation to decided cases and replied to **302**. The nature of the correspondence was varied and not all would constitute a complaint. The following breakdown is based on the main reason for a contact. It is designed to illustrate the main reasons for correspondence, but it is often the case that the correspondence contains elements of several types of contact. For example, queries where both interpretation and enforcement is involved.

Number of cases disputing decision:	77
Number of cases requiring interpretation:	68
Number of cases regarding enforcement issues:	72*
Number of cases regarding miscellaneous issues:	85

* Note that the Board is often contacted about cases where a person considers that the Board's decision is not being correctly implemented. This is a matter for the planning authority as the Board has no role in enforcement matters. As the Board can only direct the person to the planning authority with such queries, anyone with an interest in such matters should contact the planning authority directly.



In 2007, fuair an Bord **343** litir maidir le cásanna a cinneadh agus tugadh freagra ar **302**. Bhí cineálacha éagsúla comhfhreagrais i gceist agus ní gearáin iad uile. Tá an miondealú seo a leanas bunaithe ar na príomhchúiseanna a ndearna daoine teagmháil linn. Tá sé deartha chun na príomh-chúiseanna leis an gcomhfhreagras a léiriú, ach is minic go gcuimsíonn comhfhreagras gnéithe de chineálacha éagsúla teagmhála. Mar shampla, fiosruithe a mbaineann míniú agus forfheidhmiú leo.

Líon na gcásanna ag déanamh agóide in aghaidh cinnidh:	77
Líon na gcásanna ina raibh gá le míniú:	68
Líon na gcásanna a bhain le saincheisteanna forfheidhmithe:	72*
Líon na gcásanna a bhain le saincheisteanna ilghnéitheacha:	85

* Tabhair faoi deara go ndéantar teagmháil leis an mBord go minic i gcásanna ina gceapann duine nach bhfuil cinneadh an Bhoird á chur i bhfeidhm i gceart. Baineann sé sin leis an údarás pleanála, mar níl aon ról forfheidhmithe ag an mBord. Ós rud é nach féidir leis an mBord aon rud a dhéanamh seachas an duine a atreorú chuig an Údarás Pleanála lena leithéid d'fhiosrúcháin, ba chóir d'aon duine ar spéis leo na ceisteanna sin dul i dteagmháil leis an údarás pleanála go díreach.

CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER BODIES



The Board is obliged to keep itself informed of the policies of certain bodies whose functions have a bearing on proper planning and sustainable development. These include Ministers of the Government and planning authorities.

The Board continued its practice of maintaining contact with public authorities and other representative organisations whose functions impact on the planning process. During 2007, the Board met with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), Irish Rural Dwellers Association (IRDA), Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Irish Home Builders Association (IHBA), Irish Business and Employers Confederation (IBEC), Irish Planning Institute (IPI), Commission for Communications Regulations (ComReg), Institute of Engineering Ireland (IEI), County & City Managers Association x 2 (CCMA) - Planning Sub-Group, Industrial Development Authority (IDA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

COMHAIRLE LE COMHLACHTAÍ EILE

Tá sé de dhualgas ar an mBord é féin a choinneáil ar an eolas faoi pholasaithe comhlachtaí áirithe a bhfuil tionchar ag a bhfeidhmeanna ar phleanáil cheart agus forbairt inmharthana. Áirítear orthu sin Airí an Rialtais agus údaráis phleanála.

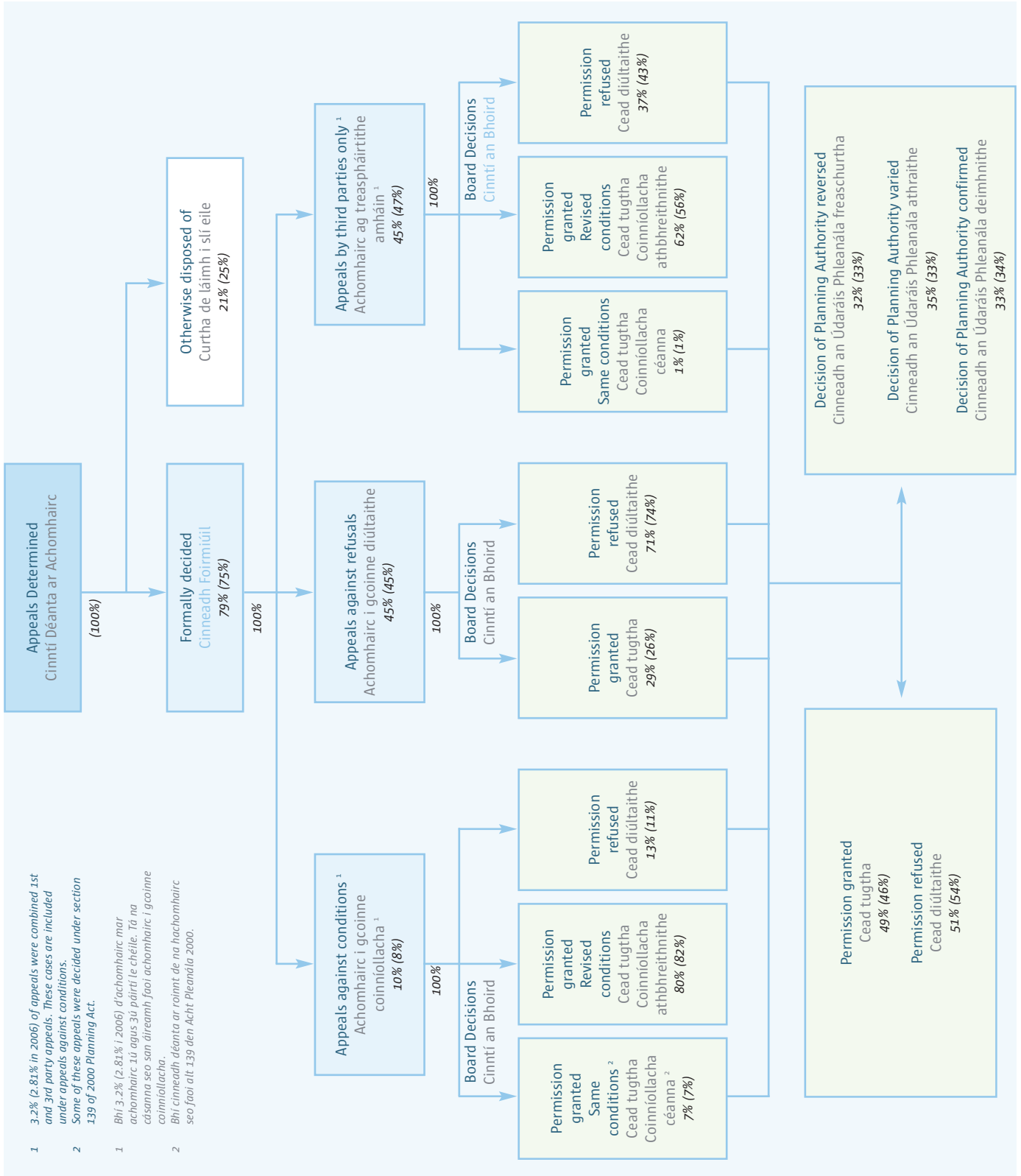
Lean an Bord lena gcleachtas maidir le caidreamh a dhéanamh le húdaráis phoiblí agus eagraíochtaí ionadaíochta eile a bhfuil tionchar ag a bhfeidhmeanna ar an bpróiseas phleanála. Le linn 2007, bhuail an Bord leis an tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra (SPNF), Cumann Lucht Cónaithe na Tuaithe (CLCT), Comhchoiste an Oireachtais faoin gComhshaol, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil, Cumann Tógálaithe Tithe na hÉireann (CTTÉ), Cónaidhm Ghnólachtaí agus Fhostóirí na hÉireann (CGFÉ), Institiúid Pleanála na hÉireann (IPÉ), Coimisiún do Rialacháin Chumarsáide (ComReg), Institiúid Innealtóireachta na hÉireann (IIÉ), Cumann na mBainisteoirí Contae agus Cathrach x 2 (CBCC) – Foghrúpa Pleanála, Údarás Forbartha Tionscail (ÚFT) agus an An Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (GCC).

APPENDIX 1

Analysis of normal planning appeal decisions.

AGUISÍN 1

Anailís ar ghnáth chinntí achomhairc phleanála.



APPENDIX 2

AGUISÍN 2

Normal planning appeals received and decided by area in 2007
Gnáth achomhairc phleanála faighte agus cinneadh déanta ortha de réir cheantair i 2007.

		(1) Méid Cinntí déanta ag údarás phleanála	(2) Méid cinntí achomharc don Bhord	(3) % de chinntí faoi achomharc	(4) Cinntí achomharctha mar % de gach achomharc don Bhord	(5) % de chinntí an údaráis phleanála deimhnithe ag an mBord	(6) % de chinntí an údaráis phleanála athraithe ag an mBord	(7) % de chinntí an údaráis phleanála freaschuirthe ag an mBord
		(1) No. of decisions made by planning authority	(2) No. of decisions appealed to Board	(3) % of decisions appealed	(4) Decisions appealed as a % of all appeals to Board	(5) % of planning authority decisions confirmed by Board	(6) % of planning authority decisions varied by Board	(7) % of planning authority decisions reversed by Board
County	Contae							
Carlow	Ceatharlach	1,202	74	6.2%	1.3%	15.4%	48.1%	36.5%
Cavan	An Cabhán	2,642	82	3.1%	1.4%	18.9%	34.0%	47.2%
Clare	An Clár	2,504	173	6.9%	2.9%	40.4%	31.7%	27.9%
Cork	Corcaigh	9,620	468	4.9%	7.9%	30.3%	40.1%	29.6%
Donegal	Dún na nGall	5,841	163	2.8%	2.8%	33.3%	27.6%	39.1%
Dun L/Rathdown	Dún Laoghaire/Ráth an Dúin	2,369	530	22.4%	9.0%	32.7%	37.3%	30.0%
Fingal	Fine Gall	2,062	296	14.4%	5.0%	39.4%	35.7%	24.9%
Galway	Gaillimh	5,202	242	4.7%	4.1%	36.1%	23.2%	40.7%
Kerry	Ciarraí	4,628	295	6.4%	5.0%	36.1%	22.6%	41.3%
Kildare	Cill Dara	2,779	193	6.9%	3.3%	36.5%	33.6%	29.9%
Kilkenny	Cill Chainnigh	2,276	122	5.4%	2.1%	35.8%	41.8%	22.4%
Laois	Laois	1,822	88	4.8%	1.5%	45.6%	17.5%	36.8%
Leitrim	Liatroim	1,142	42	3.7%	0.7%	25.6%	33.3%	41.0%
Limerick	Luimneach	2,681	119	4.4%	2.0%	34.3%	35.4%	30.3%
Longford	An Longfort	1,096	49	4.5%	0.8%	27.3%	36.4%	36.4%
Louth	Lú	2,231	150	6.7%	2.5%	35.9%	27.2%	36.9%
Mayo	Maigh Eo	3,257	202	6.2%	3.4%	32.6%	42.2%	25.2%
Meath	An Mhí	3,635	204	5.6%	3.5%	43.1%	29.9%	27.0%
Monaghan	Muineachán	2,812	55	2.0%	0.9%	36.4%	33.3%	30.3%
North Tipperary	Tiobraid Árann Thuaidh	1,725	90	5.2%	1.5%	29.4%	39.7%	30.9%
Offaly	Uíbh Fhailí	1,818	100	5.5%	1.7%	28.2%	29.6%	42.3%
Roscommon	Ros Comáin	2,003	98	4.9%	1.7%	29.1%	30.9%	40.0%
Sligo	Sligeach	1,347	69	5.1%	1.2%	27.1%	35.6%	37.3%
South Dublin	Áth Cliath Theas	1,763	251	14.2%	4.3%	45.9%	28.2%	25.8%
South Tipperary	Tiobraid Árann Theas	1,938	96	5.0%	1.6%	26.2%	50.8%	23.1%
Waterford	Port Láirge	1,709	127	7.4%	2.2%	26.1%	33.7%	40.2%
Westmeath	An Iarmhí	1,895	101	5.3%	1.7%	41.3%	28.8%	30.0%
Wexford	Loch Garman	4,646	176	3.8%	3.0%	21.1%	31.1%	47.8%
Wicklow	Cill Mhantáin	2,318	254	11.0%	4.3%	34.5%	30.5%	35.0%
City	Cathair							
Cork	Corcaigh	945	113	12.0%	1.9%	26.1%	44.6%	29.4%
Dublin	Baile Átha Cliath	4,389	690	15.7%	11.7%	29.6%	46.6%	23.9%
Galway	Gaillimh	646	88	13.6%	1.5%	32.4%	29.7%	37.8%
Limerick	Luimneach	356	55	15.4%	0.9%	15.4%	50.0%	34.6%
Waterford	Port Láirge	327	36	11.0%	0.6%	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
Total	Iomlán	87,626	5,891	6.7%	100.0%	32.5%	37.1%	30.4%

1. 'Area' is a county planning authority and all other planning authorities in that area except city councils.
2. Figures of decisions made by planning authorities courtesy of the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government.

1. 'Ceantar' is ea údarás pleanála contae agus aon údarás pleanála sa cheantar sin ach amháin comhairlí cathrach.
2. Figiúirí ar chinntí déanta ag údaráis phleanála le caoinchead ón Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil.

APPENDIX 3

AGUISÍN 3

		Agricultural Talmhaíocht	Community Facilities Aiseanna Pobail	Education Oideachas	Industry Tionscadal	Leisure/Sport Fóilíocht/Spórt	Residential Cónaithe	Transport Iompar	Utilities Fónais	Wholesale Mórdhíol	Mixed Measctha	Signs Comharthaí	Offices Oifigí	Retail Miondíol	Miscellaneous Ilgheithreach	Total Iomlán
Normal planning appeals received by development category/area																
Gnáth achomhairc phleanála faighte de réir catagóire/ceantair forbartha																
County	Contae															
Carlow	Ceatharlach	3	3	0	7	0	41	0	1	0	10	2	1	6	0	74
Cavan	An Cabhán	3	3	0	6	0	57	1	4	0	3	0	0	5	0	82
Clare	An Clár	11	2	2	4	3	117	1	9	1	7	0	4	9	3	173
Cork	Corcaigh	18	5	2	31	5	336	5	9	0	30	0	6	15	6	468
Donegal	Dún na nGall	9	3	0	8	2	106	3	10	0	12	0	0	8	2	163
D L/Rathdown	Dún Laoghaire/Ráth an Dúin	1	6	6	1	4	435	4	9	0	37	2	8	15	2	530
Fingal	Fine Gall	3	4	4	4	5	220	7	10	1	16	4	4	12	2	296
Galway	Gaillimh	6	1	0	4	3	171	1	9	2	27	0	2	14	2	242
Kerry	Ciarraí	7	2	2	7	5	211	3	19	1	12	1	3	18	4	295
Kildare	Cill Dara	4	3	5	11	4	112	1	10	0	19	0	1	22	1	193
Kilkenny	Cill Chainnigh	10	0	0	7	2	71	1	7	0	11	0	0	11	2	122
Laois	Laois	2	2	1	3	1	58	2	9	0	5	2	1	2	0	88
Leitrim	Liatroim	1	0	0	2	1	26	1	2	0	4	0	0	5	0	42
Limerick	Luimneach	3	0	0	3	1	83	0	8	0	6	1	0	12	2	119
Longford	An Longfort	1	1	0	3	1	27	0	2	0	5	0	5	4	0	49
Louth	Lú	7	0	1	5	0	92	1	3	0	18	1	3	13	6	150
Mayo	Maigh Eo	9	1	0	8	4	132	3	12	0	17	1	4	10	1	202
Meath	An Mhí	14	4	5	8	1	128	6	7	0	16	2	2	10	1	204
Monaghan	Muineachán	4	1	0	5	0	31	2	4	0	2	0	0	5	1	55
North Tipp	Tiobraid Árann Thuaid	6	2	0	3	2	50	1	7	0	9	0	3	5	2	90
Offaly	Uíbh Fhailí	4	2	0	7	2	60	0	3	1	11	0	3	7	0	100
Roscommon	Ros Comáin	6	1	0	6	2	62	3	5	0	5	0	1	6	1	98
Sligo	Sligeach	3	1	0	2	1	42	2	4	0	8	1	0	5	0	69
South Dublin	Áth Cliath Theas	0	4	8	8	2	180	1	11	1	8	4	5	18	1	251
South Tipp	Tiobraid Árann Theas	5	4	0	3	0	49	0	10	0	13	0	0	10	2	96
Waterford	Port Láirge	2	0	1	7	1	94	3	2	0	9	1	1	6	0	127
Westmeath	An Iarmhí	5	0	1	7	1	59	0	6	0	10	1	3	7	1	101
Wexford	Loch Garman	4	4	1	3	0	122	4	5	0	17	0	2	12	2	176
Wicklow	Cill Mhantáin	5	2	6	4	1	187	1	2	0	26	6	4	9	1	254
City	Cathair															
Cork	Corcaigh	0	0	8	1	0	73	0	3	0	14	2	0	10	2	113
Dublin	Baile Átha Cliath	0	13	11	1	5	462	1	9	0	78	34	31	38	7	690
Galway	Gaillimh	1	0	0	1	2	51	1	3	0	15	0	4	9	1	88
Limerick	Luimneach	0	0	0	1	2	21	1	2	0	8	0	0	20	0	55
Waterford	Port Láirge	0	0	1	0	0	16	1	1	0	8	2	0	7	0	36
Total	Iomlán	157	74	65	181	63	3982	61	217	7	496	67	101	365	55	5891
Note: Figures shown under 'Residential' in this Appendix includes units in hostels, hotels, nursing homes and similar types of accommodation. Residential units may also be included under other development categories e.g. under 'Mixed'. Nóta: San áireamh sna figiúirí taispeánta faoi 'Cónaitheach' san Aguisín seo tá brúnna, óstáin, tithe altranais agus a leithéid de lóistín. D'fhéadfadh aonaid cónaithe a bheith san áireamh chomh maith faoi chatagóir forbartha eile m.sh.faoi 'Measctha'.																

APPENDIX 4

AGUISÍN 4



Achoimre do gach cás curtha de láimh trí thagairt do sprioc thréimhse reachtúil

	Gnáth Achomhairc Phleanála			Forbairt Bhonneagair Straitéisigh ²			Gach Cás Eile			Iomlán na gcásanna		
Bliain	A	B	% Laistigh den Sprioc Thréimhse Reachtúil ¹	A	B	% Laistigh den Sprioc Thréimhse Reachtúil ¹	A	B	% Laistigh den Sprioc Thréimhse Reachtúil ¹	A	B	% Laistigh den Sprioc Thréimhse Reachtúil ¹

Summary of all cases disposed of by reference to statutory objective period

	Normal Planning Appeals			Strategic Infrastructure Development ²			All Other Cases			Total Cases		
Year	A	B	% Within Statutory Objective Period ¹	A	B	% Within Statutory Objective Period ¹	A	B	% Within Statutory Objective Period ¹	A	B	% Within Statutory Objective Period ¹
1998	2,487	1,468	63%	-	-	-	53	26	67%	2,560	1,497	63%
1999	2,097	2,442	46%	-	-	-	45	31	59%	2,155	2,478	47%
2000	2,236	2,500	47%	-	-	-	26	42	38%	2,282	2,551	47%
2001	1,403	3,477	29%	-	-	-	60	64	48%	1,482	3,567	29%
2002	1,957	3,637	35%	-	-	-	91	66	58%	2,068	3,736	36%
2003	3,278	1,167	74%	-	-	-	219	59	79%	3,526	1,256	74%
2004	3,995	670	86%	-	-	-	271	50	84%	4,357	754	85%
2005	3,879	1,085	78%	-	-	-	233	58	80%	4,210	1,177	78%
2006	2,660	2,543	51%	-	-	-	194	118	62%	2,934	2,694	52%
2007	2,647	2,997	47%	56	39	40%	255	135	65%	2,980	3,183	48%

Notes:

A: Number disposed of within statutory objective periods.

B: Number not disposed of within statutory objective periods.

¹ The statutory objective period is 18 weeks in the case of appeals, referrals and certain local authority project cases received by the Board under the 2000 Act, and 4 months in the case of appeals and other cases under the 1963 to 1999 Planning Acts, the Building Control Act and the Water Pollution Acts. A statutory objective period does not apply to certain cases.

² Figures for local authority project cases exclude cases which were otherwise disposed of (e.g. no objections received).

Nótaí:

A: An méid curtha de láimh laistigh de sprioc thréimhsí reachtúla.

B: An méid nach bhfuil curtha de láimh laistigh de sprioc thréimhsí reachtúla.

¹ Is é an sprioc thréimhse reachtúil ná 18 seachtain i gcás achomhairc, tarchuir agus tionscadail na n-údarás áitiúil faighte ag an mBord faoin Acht 2000 agus 4 mí i gcás achomhairc agus cásanna eile faoi na hAchtanna Pleanála 1963 go 1999, faoin Acht um Rialú Foirgníochta agus faoi na hAchtanna um Thruailliú Uisce. Ní bhaineann sprioc thréimhse reachtúil le cásanna áirithe.

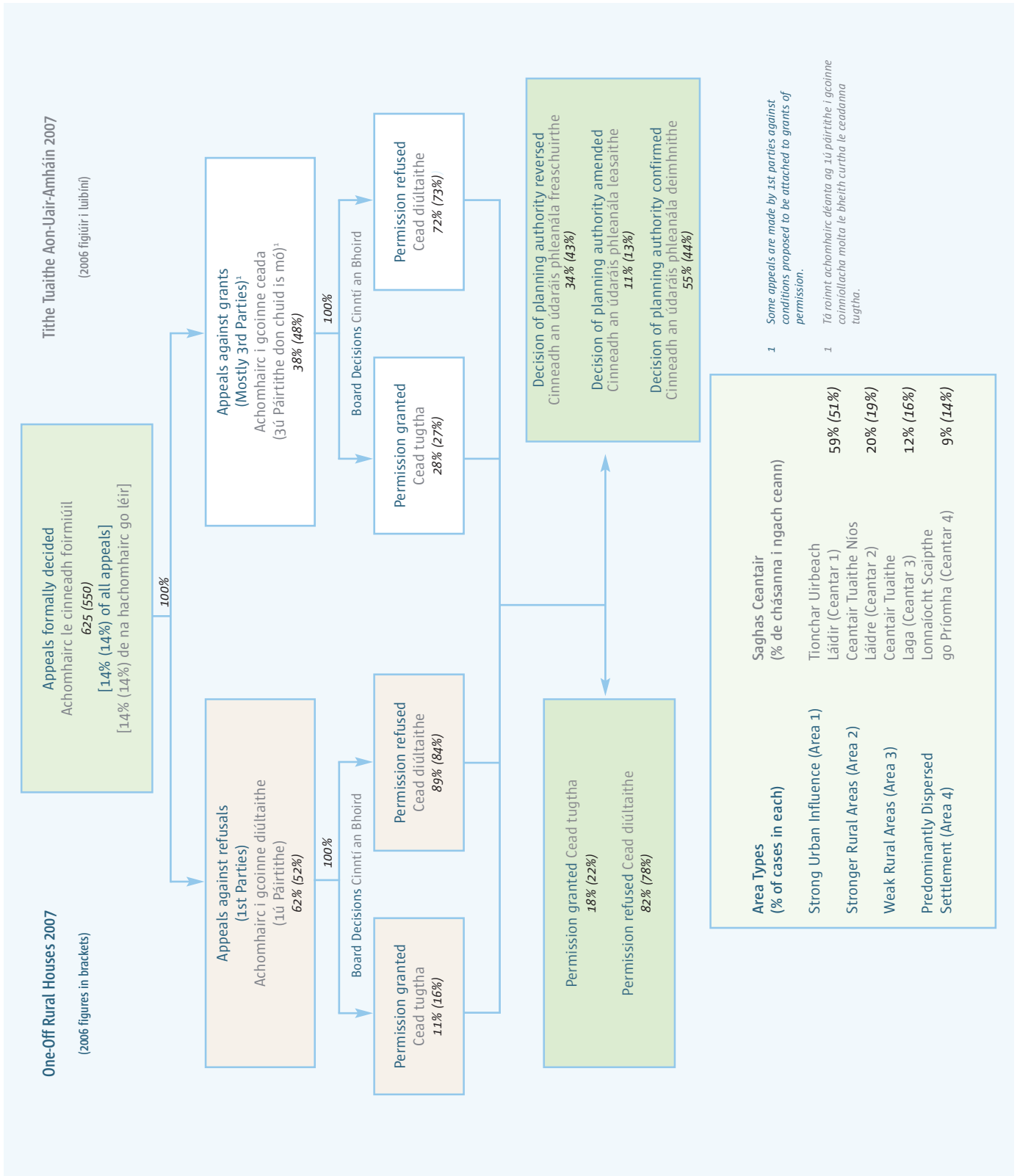
² Níl cásanna a cuireadh de láimh i slíte eile (m.sh. ní bhfuarthas aon agóid) san áireamh sna figiúirí do chásanna tionscadail an rialtais áitiúil.

APPENDIX 5

Analysis of rural housing decisions

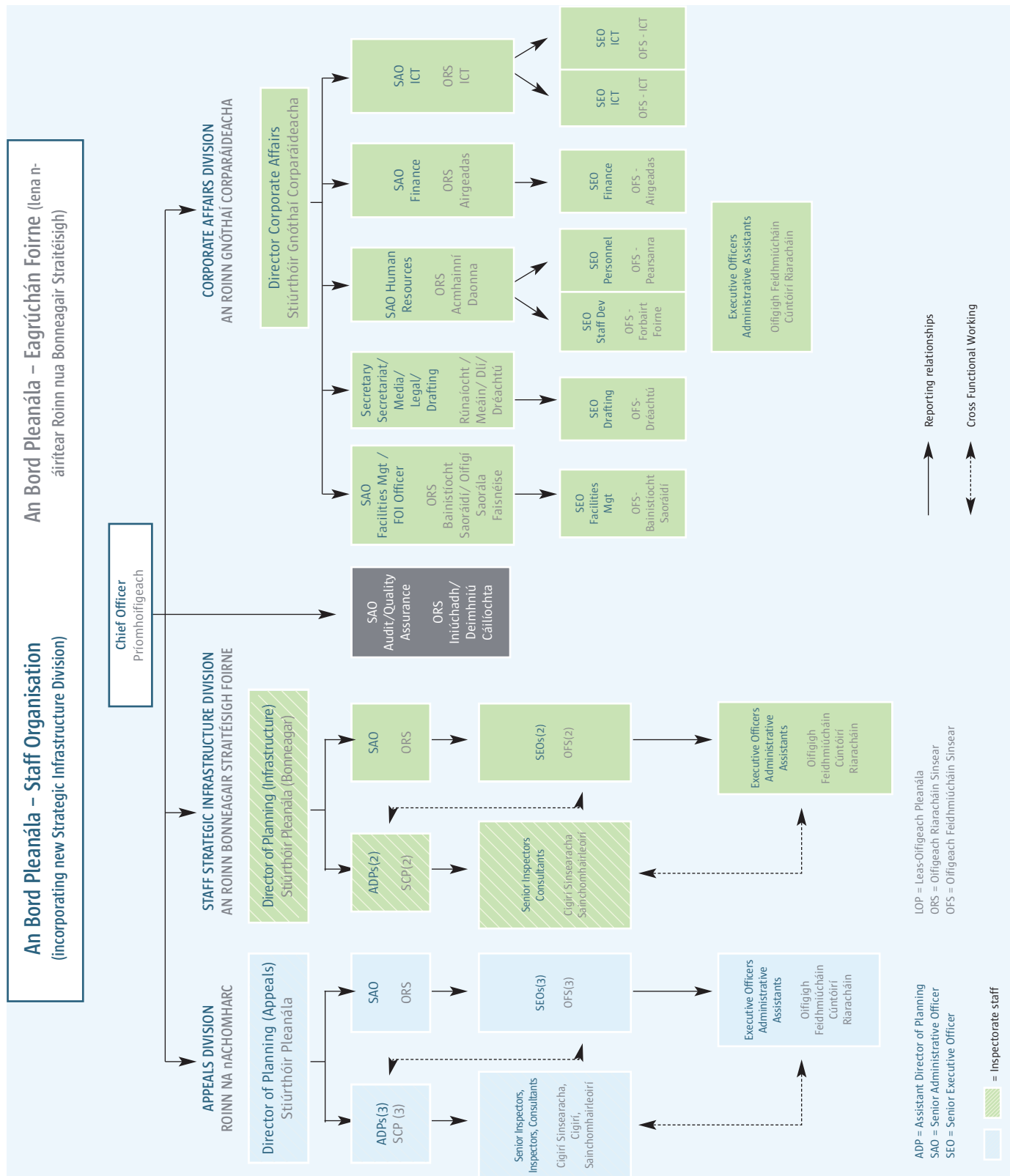
AGUISÍN 5

Anailís ar chinntí ar thithíocht tuaithe



APPENDIX 6 NEW STAFF ORGANISATIONAL CHART

AGUISÍN 6 CAIRT NUA EAGRÚCHAIN FOIRNE



APPENDIX 7



Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997

The Board comes within the scope of the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997, as amended by the European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions) Regulations 2002. The payment practices of the Board are reported on below for the year ended 31 December 2007 in accordance with section 12 of the Act.

1. It is the Board's policy to comply with the relevant provisions of the Act and, in particular, to ensure that all invoices are paid promptly. Specific procedures are in place that enable it to track all invoices and ensure that payments are made before the due date. Invoices are registered daily and payments are made as required to ensure timely payments. In 2007, the Board did not set or agree payment periods outside the terms of the Act.
2. The system of internal control incorporates such controls and procedures as are considered necessary to ensure compliance with the Act. This system includes accounting and computer controls designed to ensure the identification of invoices and contracts for payment within the payment periods required by the Act. Reports are produced that identify unpaid outstanding invoices and these reports are reviewed regularly at a senior level.
3. The procedures referred to at 1 and 2 above are designed to provide reasonable but not absolute assurance against material non-compliance with the Act. The Board is satisfied that its procedures have operated adequately in the main and that no remedial action is required.

AGUISÍN 7

An tAcht um Íoc Pras Cuntas 1997

Tagann an Bord laistigh de réimse an Achta um Íoc Pras Cuntas 1997, mar atá leasuithe ag Rialacháin (Íocaíocht Déanach in Idirbhearta Tráchtála) na gComhphobal Eorpach 2002. Tá cleachtais íocaíochta an Bhoird tuairiscithe thíos don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007 maidir le halt 12 den Acht.

1. Is é polasaí an Bhoird géilleadh do fhorálacha ábhartha an Achta agus, go háirithe, a chinntiú go ndíoltar sonraisc go pras. Tá gnáthaimh áirithe ar bun a chuireann ar a gcumas sonraisc a rianú lena chinntiú go ndéantar íocaíochtaí roimh an dáta dlite. Cláraítear sonraisc go laethúil agus déantar íocaíochtaí mar is gá lena chinntiú go bhfuil íocaíochtaí tráthúla déanta. I 2007, níor eagraigh an Bord tréimhsí íocaíochta lasmuigh de théarmaí an Achta.
2. Ionchorpraíonn an córas rialaithe inmheánach a leithéid de rialúcháin agus ghnáthaimh agus atá riachtanach chun géilleadh don Acht a chinntiú. San áireamh leis an gcóras seo tá rialúcháin ríomhaireachta agus cuntasaióchta deartha chun sonraisc agus conarthaí le n-íoc a aithint laistigh de na tréimhsí íocaíochta faoi Acht. Cuirtear tuarascáil ar fáil a aithníonn sonraisc gan íoc agus tá na tuarascálacha seo athbhreithnithe go rialta ar leibhéal sinsearach.
3. Tá na nósanna gnáthaimh a bhfuil tagartha dóibh ag 1 agus 2 thuas deartha chun deimhniú réasúnta a dhéanamh i gcoinne neamh-ghéilliúlacht don Acht. Tá an bord sásta go n-oibríonn a chuid ghnáthaimh go maith agus nach bhfuil gá le haon ghníomhaíocht fheabhais.

4. The average delay in making payments, after the statutory period of 30 days, was 10.5 days.

A detailed review of the records for the year reveals the following:

■ Total number of late payments in excess of €320	2
■ Total value of late payments in excess of €320	€2,808
■ Total value of all late payments (A)	€2,808
■ Total value of all payments (B)	€8,518,338
■ (A) as a % of (B)	0.03%
■ Total amount of interest paid on late payments	€10.18

Since 1 January 2007 there have been no material developments insofar as the Board's compliance with the Act is concerned.

4. Ba é an meán moill ag déanamh íocaíochtaí, tar éis na tréimhse reachtúil de 30 lá, ná 10.5 lá.

Taispeánann athbhreithniú sonrach ar thaifid na bliana é seo a leanas:

■ Líon iomlán na n-íocaíochtaí déanacha sa bhreis ar €320	2
■ Luach iomlán na n-íocaíochtaí déanacha sa bhreis ar €320	€2,808
■ Luach iomlán na n-íocaíochtaí déanacha (A)	€2,808
■ Luach iomlán na n-íocaíochtaí (B)	€8,518,338
■ (A)mar % de (B)	0.03%
■ Méid úis iomlán íoctha ar íocaíochtaí déanacha	€10.18

Ó 1 Eanáir 2007 ní raibh aon fhabhraíocht ábhartha maidir le géilliúlacht an Bhoird don Acht.

APPENDIX 8

Statement on System of Internal Financial Control

Responsibility for System of Internal Financial Control

On behalf of the Board of An Bord Pleanála, I acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated.

The system can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely period.

Key Control Procedures

The Board has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment by:

- clearly defining management responsibilities;
- establishing formal procedures for reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action.

The Board established a process to identify and evaluate business risks by putting in place an Audit Needs Risk Assessment which led to formally-

- identifying the nature, extent and financial implications of risks facing the body including the extent and categories which it regards as acceptable;
- assessing the likelihood of identified risks occurring;
- assessing the costs of operating particular controls relative to the benefit obtained.

The Board proposes to undertake this process on an on-going basis. The system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information, administrative procedures including segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular it includes:

- a comprehensive budgeting system with an annual budget which is reviewed and agreed by Board members;
- regular reviews by the management committee of periodic financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts;

AGUISÍN 8

Ráiteas faoin gCóras Rialúcháin Airgeadais Inmheánach

Freagracht as an gCóras Rialaithe Airgeadais Inmheánach

Thar ceann Boird an Bhoird Phleanála, glacaim lenár ndualgas a chinntiú go bhfuil córas éifeachtach rialaithe airgeadais inmheánach á choimeád agus á fheidhmiú.

Ní féidir leis an gcóras ach deimhniú réasúnta, seachas deimhniú dearfach, a sholáthar go bhfuil sócmhainní á gcaomhnú, idirbhearta údaraithe agus taifeadta i gceart, agus go bhfuil dearmadaí coiscithe nó braite laistigh de thréimhse tráthúil.

Príomh-Imeachtaí Rialaithe

Tá céimeanna tógtha ag an mBord chun timpeallacht rialaithe cuí a chinntiú trí:

- chúraimí bainistíochta a shainmhíniú go soiléir;
- gnáthaimh fhoirmiúla a bhunú chun teip rialaithe a thuairisciú agus gníomhaíocht cheartaithe cuí a chur ar bun.

Tá próiseas bunaithe ag an mBord chun rioscaí gnó a aithint agus a mheas, trí Mheasúnú Rioscaí na Riachtanas Iniúchóireachta a bhunú, d'fhoann, go foirmeálta:

- nádúir, méid agus impleachtaí airgeadais na rioscaí roimh an gcomhlacht a shainaithint, lena n-áirítear an méid agus na catagóirí a mheasann sé a bheith inghlactha;
- an seans go dtarlódh rioscaí aitheanta a mheas;
- an costas a bhaineann le rialúcháin áirithe a oibriú a mheas i leith an leas a bhaintear as.

Molann an Bord an próiseas seo a athbhunú ar bhonn leanúnach. Tá an córas rialaithe airgeadais inmheánach bunaithe ar fhráma eolais bainistíochta rialta, gnáthaimh riaracháin le dualgais a roinnt san áireamh, agus córas dealagáideachta agus freagrachta. Go háirithe san áireamh tá:

- córas cuimsitheach buiséadach le buiséad bliantúil atá athbhreithnithe agus aontaithe ag comhaltaí an Bhoird;
- athbhreithniú rialta ag comhaltaí an Bhoird ar thuascálacha airgeadais bliantúla agus tréimhsiúla a chuireann feidhmíocht airgeadais in iúl i gcoinne réamhaisnéisí;

- review by the Board members of annual financial estimates and financial reports;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined capital investment control guidelines.

The Board appointed consultants to carry out its internal audit function for a number of years. It now proposes to appoint its own internal auditor at a senior level from within its own resources in 2008. This appointment is an integral part of a restructuring of the organisation approved by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government given with the consent of the Minister for Finance. Pending the appointment of an internal auditor, the Board continues to apply the system of financial control referred to above. The work of internal auditor will operate in accordance with the Framework Code of Best Practice set out in the Code of Practice on the Governance of State Bodies. The work of internal audit will be informed by analysis of the risk to which the body is exposed, and annual internal audit plans will be based on this analysis. The analysis of risk and the internal audit plans will be endorsed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board. A function of the Internal Auditor will be to provide the Audit Committee with a report of internal audit activity. The report will include the Internal Auditor's opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal financial control. There was no internal audit function or Audit committee in operation in the year 2007. The system for monitoring controls was not fully operating and therefore, did not comply with the requirements of the Code of Practice. The Board failed to fulfil its commitment to have an annual review of the system of financial control.

Annual Review of Controls

In the year 2007 the Board did not formally review the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control. The Board will fully conform with the requirements of the Code of Practice in 2008.



John O'Connor
Chairperson

16 July 2008

- athbhreithniú comhaltaí Boird ar mheastacháin bhliantúla airgeadais agus ar thuairiscí airgeadais;
- spriocanna a cheapadh chun feidhmíocht airgeadais agus eile a thomhas;
- treoirlínte faoi rialú infheistíocht chaipitil atá sainmhínithe go soiléir.

Cheap an Bord comhairleoirí chun a fheidhm iniúchta inmheánaigh a chomhlíonadh le blianta anuas. Tá sé mar aidhm anois ag an mBord chun iniúcháir inmheánaigh a cheapadh ar leibhéal sinsearach óna acmhainní féin i 2008. Beidh an ceapadh seo mar chuid tábhachtach don Bhord a athstruchtúru mar a bhí ceadaithe ag an Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil agus aontú ón Aire Airgeadais faighte cheana féin. Ag feitheamh go dtí go mbeidh ceapadh an iniúcháir inmheánaigh i bhfeidhm, tá an Bord fós ag cur an córas rialaithe airgeadais thuasluaite ar bun. Feidhmíonn oibriú an iniúcháir inmheánach de réir Chreachtóid an Chleachtais is Fearr a leagadh síos sa Chód Cleachtais do Rialachas na gComhlachtaí Stáit. Tacaítear le hobair an iniúchta inmheánaigh trí anailís ar na rioscaí atá roimh an gcomhlacht agus bunaítear pleananna don iniúchadh bliantúil inmheánach ar an anailís seo. Formhuiníonn an Coiste Iniúcháireachta an anailís riosca agus na pleananna iniúchta inmheánaigh, agus faomhann an Bord iad. Cuireann an tIniúcháir Inmheánach tuairisc ar fáil don Choiste Iniúcháireachta faoi na himeachtaí iniúcháireachta inmheánacha. Cuimsíonn an tuairisc seo tuairim an Iniúcháir Inmheánaigh maidir le leogacht agus éifeacht an chórais rialaithe airgeadais inmheánaigh. Ní raibh aon fheidhm iniúchta inmheánaigh nó Coiste Iniúcháireachta i bhfeidhm i 2007. Ní raibh an córas chun faireacháin a dhéanamh ar na rialúcháin ag oibriú go hiomlán agus dá bhrí sin ní raibh sé ar aon dul leis na coinníollacha atá leagtha amach sa Chód Cleachtais. Theip ar an mBord cun a ngealltanais a chomhlíonadh chun go mbeidh athbhreithniú bliantúil don chóras rialaithe airgeadais i bhfeidhm.

Athbhreithniú Bliantúil na Rialúcháin

Sa bhliain 2007 ní dhearna an Bord athbhreithniú foirmiúil ar éifeachtacht an chórais rialaithe airgeadais inmheánaigh. Comhlíonfaidh an Bord riachtanais an Chóid Cleachtais go hiomlán i 2008.



Seán Ó Conchúir
Cathaoirleach

16 Iúil 2008

APPENDIX 9

Statement on Remuneration and Members' Fees

General

The Board complies with the guidelines covering the payment of fees to the Chairperson and other members of the Board set out in the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. The Board implements wage increases in accordance with sanction from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. It does not depart from Government pay policy in any way.

Members' Fees and Expenses

The salary of the Chairperson, under section 105(14)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, is set at the same salary as is paid to a judge of the High Court. The salary of the post of Deputy Chairperson is set at a rate equivalent to a maximum of the salary scale for an Assistant Secretary in the Civil Service. The salary of other members is set at a rate equivalent to the minimum of the Assistant Secretary scale in the Civil Service.

The Chairperson is paid a fixed car allowance and a representational allowance at levels sanctioned by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in 1994.

One member qualified for special expenses. The expenses, which were sanctioned by the Minister of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government with the consent of the Minister for Finance, cover costs associated with travel from home to Dublin, and accommodation in Dublin.

There are no fees paid to Board Members.



John O'Connor
Chairperson



Brian Hunt
Deputy Chairperson

16 July 2008

AGUISÍN 9

Ráiteas ar Luach Saothair agus Táillí na gComhaltaí

Ginearálta

Tá treoirilínte a chládaíonn fócaíocht táillí leis an gCathaoirleach agus comhaltaí eile den Bhord leagtha amach sa Chód Cleachtais do Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit géillte dóibh ag an mBord. Feidhmíonn an Bord arduithe pá de réir cheada ón Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil. Ní imíonn sé ó pholasaí pá an Rialtais in aon slí.



Costais agus Táillí na gComhaltaí

Tá pá an Chathaoirligh, faoi alt 105(14)(a) den Acht um Phleanáil agus Forbairt 2000 socraithe mar an bpá céanna a íoctar le breitheamh Ard-Chúirte. Tá pá an phoist de Leas-Chathaoirleach socraithe ag ráta atá ar chomhard leis an uasmhéid de scála pá Rúnaí Cúnta sa Státseirbhís. Tá pá comhaltaí eile socraithe ag ráta atá ar chomhard leis an íosmhéid do Rúnaí Cúnta sa Státseirbhís.

Íoctar liúntas gluaisteáin seasta leis an gCathaoirleach agus liúntas ionadach ar leibhéal a cheadaigh an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil i 1994.

Cháiligh comhalta amháin do chostais speisialta. Clúdaíonn na costais, a bhí ceadaithe ag an Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil, le toiliú an Aire Airgeadais, na costais a bhaineann le taisteal ón mbaile go Baile Átha Cliath, agus lóistín i mBaile Átha Cliath.

Ní íoctar aon táillí le Comhaltaí den Bhord.

Seán Ó Conchúir
Cathaoirleach

Brian Hunt
Leas-Chathaoirleach

16 Iúil 2008

APPENDIX 10

Financial Statements



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AGUISÍN 10

Ráitis Airgeadais

Clár

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Statement of Board's Responsibilities

Section 117(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 requires the Board to prepare financial statements in such form as may be approved by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, after consultation with the Minister for Finance. In preparing those financial statements, the Board is required to:-

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Board is responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Board and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with section 117(1) of the 2000 Act. The Board is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Board and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The books of account are kept at the Board's headquarters at 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1.



John O'Connor
Chairperson



Brian Hunt
Deputy Chairperson

16 July 2008

Ráiteas faoi Dhualgais an Bhoird

Tá sé riachtanach de réir Ailt 117(1) den Acht um Phleanáil agus Forbairt 2000 don Bhord ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú ina leithéid de shlí agus a cheadódh an tAire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil, i ndiaidh dul i gcomhairle leis an Aire Airgeadais. In ullmhú na ráitis airgeadais, tá ar an mBord:

- polasaithe cuntasáiochta oiriúnacha a roghnú agus ansin iad a chur i bhfeidhm i slí seasmhach,
- breithiúnais agus meastacháin a dhéanamh atá réasúnta agus stuama,
- ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú ar bhonn gnóthais leantach, agus
- sonrú an bhfuil caighdeán cuntasáiochta feidhmeach leannta, géillsineach d'aon imeacht ábhartha taispeánta agus mínithe sna ráitis airgeadais.

Tá an Bord freagrach maidir le leabhair chuntais chearta a choimeád a thaispeánann le cruinneas réasúnta ag aon am seasamh airgeadais an Bhoird agus a chuireann ar a chumas a bheith ábalta a bheith géillsineach do Alt 117(1) den Acht 2000. Tá an Bord freagrach chomh maith as sócmhainní an Bhoird a chosaint agus mar sin as céimeanna réasúnta a thógáil chun camastaíl agus míriail eile a bhrath.

Coimeádtar na leabhair chuntais ag 64 Sráid Mhaoilbhríde, Baile Átha Cliath 1.



Seán Ó Conchúir
Cathaoirleach



Brian Hunt
Leas-Chathaoirleach

16 Iúil 2008



Statement of Accounting Policies

1. General:

The Board was established under section 3 of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 1976.

Under the Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2007, the Board is responsible for the determination of applications for strategic infrastructure development from 31 January 2007, appeals and certain other matters. The Board is also responsible for dealing with appeals under the Building Control Acts 1990 and 2007, the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 to 2007, and the Air Pollution Act 1987.

2. Basis of Preparation:

The financial statements are prepared under the accruals method of accounting, except as otherwise indicated, and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles under the historical cost convention. Financial reporting standards recommended by the recognised accountancy bodies are adopted, as they become operative.

3. Oireachtas Grant:

Oireachtas grants are accounted for on a cash receipt basis.

Ráiteas faoi Bheartais Chuntasaíochta

1. Ginearálta:

Bunaíodh an Bord faoi alt 3 den Acht Rialtais Áitiúil (Pleanáil agus Forbairt) 1976.

Faoi na hachtanna um Phleanáil agus Fhorbartha 2000 go 2007, tá an Bord freagrach as cinneadh iarratas i gcomhair forbairt bonneagair straitéisigh ó 31 Eanáir 2007, achomhairc agus cúrsaí áirithe eile. Tá an Bord freagrach chomh maith as plé le hachomhairc faoi na hachtanna Rialaithe Tógála 1990 agus 2007, An tAcht Rialtais Áitiúil (Truailliú Uisce), 1977 go 2007, agus An tAcht um Thruailliú Air, 1987.

2. Bunús an Ullmhúcháin:

Tá na ráitis airgeadais ullmhaithe faoin modh fabhráithe cuntasáíochta, mura bhfuil a mhalairt taispeánta, agus maidir le gnáth phrionsabail chuntasaíochta inghlactha faoin gcoinbhinsiún costais stairiúil. Glactar le caighdeáin thuarascála airgeadais molta ag comhlachtaí aitheanta cuntasáíochta, faoi mar a thagann siad i bhfeidhm.

3. Deontas Oireachtais:

Déantar cuntasáíocht ar dheontais Oireachtais ar bhonn fáiltais airgid tirim.



4. Fees:

In 2007, fees fixed by the Board in accordance with section 144 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, were payable to the Board in respect of strategic infrastructure development applications, appeals and referrals under that Act. Fees were also paid to the Board in accordance with regulations made by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government under:

- section 10 of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 1982,
- section 7 of the Building Control Act 1990, as amended,
- sections 6 and 19 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977, as amended, and
- section 35 of the Air Pollution Act 1987

in respect of appeals and certain other matters under those Acts. Fee income in the accounts is shown net of refunds, which are made in respect of invalid appeals, referrals and other cases.

5. Fixed Assets and Depreciation:

Fixed assets, which are stated at historical cost, are depreciated using the straight-line method at an annual rate of 10% for leasehold buildings and 20% for all other asset categories.

6. Capital Account:

The Capital Account represents the unamortised amount of income used to purchase fixed assets.

4. Táillí:

I 2007, bhí táillí seasta ag an mBord maidir le halt 144 den Acht um Pleanáil agus Forbairt 2000, mar atá leasaithe, iníoctha chuig an mBord maidir le hiarratais fhorbairt bhonneagair straitéisigh, agus maidir le hachomhairc agus tarchuir faoin Acht. Íocadh táillí leis an mBord chomh maith de réir rialachán déanta ag an Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreachta agus Rialtais Áitiúil faoi:

- alt 10 den Acht Rialtais Áitiúil (Pleanáil agus Forbairt) 1982,
- alt 7 den Acht um Rialú Foirgníochta 1990, mar atá leasaithe,,
- ailt 6 agus 19 den Acht Rialtais Áitiúil (Truailliú Uisce) 1977, mar atá leasuithe, agus
- alt 35 den Acht um Thruailliú Aeir 1987

maidir le hachomhairc agus gnóthaí eile faoi na hAchtanna seo. Taispeántar ioncam ó tháillí sna cuntais mar aisíoc glan ar aisíocaíochtaí a déantar maidir le hachomhairc neamhbhailí, tarchuir agus cásanna eile.

5. Sócmhainní Seasta agus Dímheas:

Sócmhainní seasta, atá curtha síos ar luach stairiúil, atá ag íslíú luacha ar an modh líne díreach ar ráta bliantúil de 10% do fhoirgnimh ar léas agus 20% do gach catagóir shócmhainne eile.

6. Cuntas Caipitiúil:

Déanann an Cuntas Caipitil ionadú ar an méid ioncain neamh-amúchta a úsáidtear chun sócmhainní seasta a cheannach.

7. Superannuation:

The Board operates defined benefit superannuation schemes through the medium of four different independent schemes namely:

- An Bord Pleanála Staff Superannuation Scheme 1986 to 2006
- An Bord Pleanála Staff Spouses' and Children's Contributory Pension Scheme 1986
- An Bord Pleanála (Chairman and Members) Superannuation Scheme 1986 to 2003
- An Bord Pleanála (Chairman and Members) Spouses' and Children's Contributory Pension Scheme 1986 to 2002.

The payment of superannuation benefits to and in respect of employees and members of the Board is provided for in these defined benefit superannuation schemes approved by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and with the consent of the Minister for Finance under section 119 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

The schemes are funded annually on a pay-as-you-go basis from monies available to the Board, including monies from exchequer funds provided by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government and from contributions deducted from staff and members' salaries.

Superannuation costs reflect superannuation benefits earned by members and employees in the period and are shown net of staff superannuation contributions, which are retained by the Board. An amount corresponding to the superannuation charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable, and offset by grants received in the year to discharge superannuation payments.

Actuarial gains or losses arising on scheme liabilities are reflected in the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from exchequer funds provided by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

7. Aoisliúntas:

Feidhmíonn an Bord scéim sochair sainmhínithe aoisliúntais trí cheithre scéim neamhspleách ar leith, is iad sin ná:

- Scéim Aoisliúntais Fhoireann An Bhoird Phleanála 1986 go 2007
- Scéim Pinsean Ranníocach Céilí agus Leanaí Fhoireann An Bhoird Phleanála 1986
- Scéim Aoisliúntais (Cathaoirleach agus Comhaltaí) An Bhoird Phleanála 1986 go 2002
- Scéim Pinsean Ranníocach Céilí agus Leanaí (Cathaoirleach agus Comhaltaí) An Bhoird Phleanála 1986 go 2002.

Tá an íocaíocht de shochair aoisliúntais le agus maidir le fostaithe agus comhaltaí den Bhord foráilte do sna scéimeanna aoisliúntais sochair sainmhínithe molta ag an Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil agus le cead an Aire Airgeadais faoi alt 119 den Acht um Phleanáil agus Forbairt 2000.

Tá na scéimeanna maoinithe go bliantúil ar bhonn 'íoc mar a théann tú' ó airgid ar fáil dó, lena n-áirítear airgid ón státchiste curtha ar fáil ag an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil agus ó ranníocaíochtaí asbhainte ó thuarastail na foirne.

Léiríonn costais aoisliúntais sochair aoisliúntais tuillte ag comhaltaí agus baill foirne sa tréimhse agus tá siad taispeánta glan de ranníocaíochtaí aoisliúntais na foirne, a choimeádann an Bord. Aithnítear méid atá comhsheasmhach leis an gcostas aoisliúntais mar ioncam chomh fada agus is féidir é a aisghabháil, agus á thacú le deontais faighte sa bhliain chun íocaíochtaí aoisliúntais a íoc.

Tá gnóthachain agus caillteanais achtúire ag éirí ó fhiachais scéime léirithe sa Ráiteas faoi Ghnóthachain agus Caillteanais Aitheanta, agus aithnítear coigeartú comhsheasmhach sa mhéid atá inaisghafa ó chistí an Státchiste a sholáthraíonn an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil.

Superannuation liabilities represent the present value of future superannuation payments earned by staff to date. Deferred superannuation funding represents the corresponding asset to be recovered in future periods from exchequer funds provided by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

8. Legal Costs:

It is the policy of the Board to discharge any legal costs awarded against it following conclusion of cases on foot of taxed Bills of Costs. It is also the policy of the Board to discharge its own legal costs associated with applications for judicial review of the Board's decisions following presentation of cases in the High Court or Supreme Court.

The Board, where practicable, seeks recovery of its legal costs arising out of legal actions where such costs are awarded by the Courts (see Note 11). Income from such awards is accounted for on a cash receipt basis and the amount recovered is netted to legal expenditure fees in the current year.

In addition, outstanding costs are written off when they are deemed to be unrecoverable.

9. Lease Costs:

It is the policy of the Board to write off all ancillary costs associated with the new lease at 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 over 10 years.

Léiríonn fiachais aoisliúntais luach reatha íocaíochtaí aoisliúntais don todhchaí atá tuillte ag fostaithe go dtí seo. Léiríonn maoiniú aoisliúntais iarchurtha an tsócmhainn chomhsheasmhach, a bheadh aisghafa i dtréimhsí sa todhchaí ó chistí an Státchiste a sholáthraíonn an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil.

8. Costais Dlí:

Is é polasaí an Bhoird go níocfaí aon chostas dlíthiúil tugtha ina gcoinne tar éis conclúid cásanna de bhun Billí Costais faoi cháin. Is é polasaí an Bhoird chomh maith a gcostais dlí féin bainteach le iarratais do athbhreithniú breithiúnach ar chinneadh an Bhoird tar éis cásanna a chur faoi bhráid na hArd- Chúirte nó an Chúirt Uachtarach a íoc.

Déanfaidh an Bord, san áit go bhfuil sé praiticiúil, iarracht a gcostais dlí ag éirí ó chaingean dlí a athghabháil san áit go bhfuil costais molta ag na Cúirteanna (féach nóta 11). Tá ioncam óna leithéid de dháimhe curtha san áireamh ar bhonn fáiltais airgid tirim, agus déantar an méid aisghafa glan ar tháillí caiteachais dhlíthiúla sa bhliain reatha.

Chomh maith leis sin, déantar costais amuigh a dhíscríobh nuair a meastar nach féidir iad a fháil ar ais.

9. Costais Léasa:

Is é polasaí an Bhoird gach costas coimhdeach a bhaineann le 64 Sráid Mhaoilbhríde, Baile Átha Cliath 1 thar 10 bliana a dhíscríobh.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for year ended 31 December 2007

CUNTAS IONCAIM AGUS CAITEACHAIS

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

		2007 €	2006 €
Income:	Ioncam:		
Oireachtas Grant	Deontas Oireachtais	15,990,000	13,609,000
Fees (Note 1)	Táillí (Nóta 1)	2,920,897	2,169,156
Local Authority Projects	Forchúiteamh Costais ar Thionscadail		
Cost Recoupment	an Rialtais Áitiúil	332,770	439,023
Miscellaneous	Ilghnéitheach	8,988	6,847
Net Deferred Funding	Maoiniú Glan Iarchurtha		
for Superannuation (Note 3(b))	do Aoisliúntas (Nóta 3(b))	3,603,000	3,964,000
Profit(Loss) on Disposal of Fixed Assets	Brabús/Caillteanas ar		
	Shócmhainní Seasta a Chur de Láimh	0	130
		22,845,655	20,188,156
Transfer (to)/from	Tarchuir (go dtí)/ó		
Capital Account (Note 9)	Chuntas Caipitiúil (Nóta 9)	686,239	557,846
		23,531,894	20,746,002
Expenditure:	Caiteachas:		
Salaries, Allowances and	Tuarastail, Liúntais agus		
Superannuation (Note 2)	Aoisliúntas (Nóta 2)	14,695,339	12,745,942
Establishment Expenses (Note 4)	Costais Bhunaíochta (Nóta 4)	3,424,856	2,938,040
Operating Expenses (Note 5)	Costais Oibre (Nóta 5)	5,093,482	5,184,548
Total Expenditure	Caiteachas Iomlán	23,213,677	20,868,530
Deficit for year	Easnamh don bhliain	318,217	(122,528)
(Deficit) / Surplus brought forward	(Easnamh) / Farasbarr tugtha ar aghaidh	(133,639)	(11,111)
Cumulative (Deficit)	Carnta (Easnamh)		
at 31 December	ag an 31 Nollaig	184,578	(133,639)
Statement of Total Recognised	Ráiteas ar Ghnóthachain		
Gains & Losses	agus Chaillteanais Aitheanta		
Experience (loss) on superannuation	(Caillteanais) taithí ar fhiachais		
scheme liabilities	na scéime aoisliúntais	1,530,000	(679,000)
Changes in assumptions underlying the present	Athruithe in bhfoshuímh ag tacú le luach		
value of superannuation scheme liabilities	reatha fhiachais na scéime aoisliúntais	(5,216,000)	2,253,000
Actuarial gain on Superannuation	Gnóthachan achtúire		
Liabilities (Note 3(f))	ar Fhiachais Aoisliúntais (Nóta 3(f))	(3,686,000)	1,574,000
Adjustment to Deferred	Coigeartú ar Mhaoiniú		
Superannuation Funding (Note 3(d))	Aoisliúntais Iarchurtha Nóta 3(d)	3,686,000	(1,574,000)
Surplus for year	Farasbarr don bhliain	318,217	(122,528)
Total Recognised (loss)	(Caillteanas) Aithnithe		
for year	Iomlán don bhliain	318,217	(122,528)

The Statement of Accounting Policies, Cash Flow Statement and Notes 1 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Tá an Ráiteas ar Pholasaithe Cuntasaíochta, an Ráiteas faoi Shreabhadh Airgid agus Nótaí 1 go 16 ina bpáirt de na ráitis airgeadais seo.

John O'Connor

John O'Connor
Chairperson

16 July 2008

Padraic Thornton

Padraic Thornton
Chief Officer

Seán Ó Conchúir

Seán Ó Conchúir
Cathaoirleach

16 Iúil 2008

Padraic Thornton

Padraic Thornton
Príomhoifigeach

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2007

CLÁR COMHARDAITHE

mar atá ar an 31 Nollaig 2007



		2007 €	2006 €
Fixed Assets (Note 6):	Sócmhainní Seasta (Nóta 6)	2,842,710	3,528,949
Current Assets	Sócmhainní Reatha		
Debtors and Prepayments (Note 7)	Féichiúnaithe agus Réamh-íocaíochtaí (Nóta 7)	901,446	556,049
Cash in bank and on hand	Airgead sa bhanc agus ar láimh	611,589	1,298,645
		1,513,035	1,854,694
Current Liabilities	Fiachais Reatha		
Sundry Creditors and Accrued Expenses (Note 8)	Il-Chreidiúnaithe agus Costais Fabhráithe (Nóta 8)	(1,328,457)	(1,988,333)
Net Current Liabilities	Glanfhiachais Reatha	184,578	(133,639)
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities before superannuation	Sócmhainní Iomlána Lúide Fiachais Reatha roimh Aoisliúntas	3,027,288	3,395,310
Deferred Superannuation Funding	Maoiniú Aoisliúntais larchurtha	62,309,000	62,392,000
Superannuation Liabilities (Note 3(e))	Fiachais Aoisliúntais (Nóta 3(e))	(62,309,000)	(62,392,000)
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	Sócmhainní Iomlána Lúide Fiachais Reatha	3,027,288	3,395,310
Represented by	Léirithe ag		
Capital Account (Note 9)	Cuntas Caipitiúil (Nóta 9)	2,842,710	3,528,949
Income and Expenditure Account	Cuntas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais	184,578	(133,639)
		3,027,288	3,395,310

The Statement of Accounting Policies, Cash Flow Statement and Notes 1 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Tá an Ráiteas ar Pholasaithe Cuntasaíochta, an Ráiteas faoi Shreabhadh Airgid agus Nótaí 1 go 16 ina bpáirt de na ráitis airgeadais seo.

John O'Connor
Chairperson

16 July 2008

Padraic Thornton
Chief Officer

Seán Ó Conchúir
Cathaoirleach

16 Iúil 2008

Padraic Thornton
Príomhoifigeach

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for year ended 31 December 2007

RÁITEAS FAOI SHREABHADH AIRGID

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

Reconciliation of operating surplus/(deficit) to net cash inflow from operating activities

Réiteach farasbarr/(easnamh) oibríochta go hinsreabhadh glan ó gníomhaíochtaí oibríochta

		2007 €	2006 €
Surplus(Deficit) for year	Farasbarr (Easnamh) don bhliain	318,217	(122,528)
Movement on Capital Account	Gluaiseacht ar Chuntas Caipitiúil	(686,239)	(557,846)
Depreciation	Dímheas	771,785	788,719
(Increase) in debtors	(Méadú) i bhféichiúnaithe	(345,397)	(84,919)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(Laghdú)/Méadú i gcreidiúnaithe	(659,876)	428,835
Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow	(Eis-sreabhadh)/Insreabhadh Airgid Glan	(601,510)	452,261

Cash Flow Statement**Ráiteas faoi Shreabhadh Airgid**

Net Cash (Outflow)/inflow from operating activities	(Eis-sreabhadh)/Insreabhadh airgid glan ó gníomhaíochtaí oibríochta	(601,510)	452,261
Capital Expenditure (net of Disposals)	Costas Caipitiúil (glan ó Dhiúscairtí)	(85,546)	(230,873)
(Decrease)/Increase in cash	(Laghdú)/Méadú in airgead tirim	(687,056)	221,388

Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds**Réiteach de shreabhadh airgid glan go dtí gluaiseacht i gcistí glan**

(Decrease)/Increase in cash in year	(Laghdú)/Méadú in airgead tirim sa bhliain	(687,056)	221,388
Net Funds at 1 January	Cistí Glan ar 1 Eanáir	1,298,645	1,077,257
Net Funds at 31 December	Cistí Glan ar 31 Nollaig	611,589	1,298,645

The Statement of Accounting Policies and Notes 1 to 16 form part of these Financial Statements.

Tá an Ráiteas ar Pholasaithe Cuntasaíochta agus Nótaí 1 go dtí 16 mar pháirt de na ráitis airgeadais seo.

John O'Connor
John O'Connor
Chairperson

16 July 2008

Padraic Thornton
Padraic Thornton
Chief Officer

Seán Ó Conchúir
Seán Ó Conchúir
Cathaoirleach

16 Iúil 2008

Padraic Thornton
Padraic Thornton
Príomhoifigeach

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for year ended 31 December 2007



Note 1 Fee Income

	2007 €	2006 €
Fees received in respect of appeals and referrals	3,376,319	2,579,401
Fees received in respect of Strategic Infrastructure Development	300,000	-
Refunds	(755,422)	(410,245)
	2,920,897	2,169,156

Note 2 Salaries and Allowances

At 31 December 2007, the Board consisted of a chairperson and 10 ordinary members, (ten members at the end of 2006) in accordance with section 104 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Membership of the Board is wholetime.

At 31 December 2007, there were 170 whole time equivalent employees in the Board of which 10 were management, 52.5 were professional and 107.5 were administrative. The average number of wholetime equivalent employees during the year was 152.4 (138.8 in 2006). During 2007, there was no increase in the intake of cases. The volume of cases disposed of increased by 9%. Staffing levels are approved by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government with the consent of the Minister for Finance.

	2007 €	2006 €
Salaries and Allowances	9,707,293	7,915,095
Superannuation Costs	4,322,688	4,334,524
Employers' PRSI	665,358	496,323
	14,695,339	12,745,942

NÓTAÍ LEIS NA RÁITIS AIRGEADAIS

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

Note 1 Ioncam Táille

	2007 €	2006 €
Táille faighte i leith achomharc agus tarchur.	3,376,319	2,579,401
Táillí a fuarthas maidir le Forbairt Bonneagair Straitéisigh	300,000	-
Aisíocanna	(755,422)	(410,245)
	2,920,897	2,169,156

Nóta 2 Tuarastail agus Liúntais

Ag 31 Nollaig 2007, bhí an Bord comhdhéanta de chathaoirleach agus 10 ngnáth-bhall, (deichniúr mball ag deireadh 2006) de réir alt 104 den Acht um Phleanáil agus Fhorbartha 2000, mar atá leasaithe. Is ballraíocht lánaimsire atá ag an mBord.

Ag 31 Nollaig 2007, bhí 170 fostaí cothrom le lánaimsire ag an mBord, a raibh 10 i mbainistíocht, 52.5 gairmiúil agus 107.5 riarthach. Ba é meánlíon na bhfostaithe cothrom le lánaimsire i rith na bliana ná 152.4 (138.8 i 2006). Le linn 2007, níor tháinig aon mhéadú iontógáil na gcásanna. Tháinig méadú 9% ar líon na gcásanna cuireadh de láimh. Tá na leibhéil foirne formheasta ag an Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil le toiliú an Aire Airgeadais.

	2007 €	2006 €
Tuarastail agus Liúntais	9,707,293	7,915,095
Costais Aoisliúntais	4,322,688	4,334,524
ÍMAT na bhFostaithe	665,358	496,323
	14,695,339	12,745,942

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for year ended 31 December 2007



Note 3 Superannuation

(a) Superannuation Scheme

The Board operates a defined benefit scheme which is unfunded.

The valuation used for FRS17 disclosures has been based on an actuarial valuation on 7 April 2008 by a qualified independent actuary to take account of the requirements of FRS17 in order to assess the scheme liabilities at 31st December 2007. The financial assumptions used to calculate scheme liabilities under FRS17 are

	At 31/12/07	At 31/12/06	At 31/12/05
Discount rate	5.50%	4.75%	4.25%
Rate of expected salary increase	4.25%	4.00%	3.25%
Rate of increase in pensions payment	4.25%	4.00%	3.25%
Inflation	2.50%	2.25%	2.25%

(b) Net Deferred Funding for Pensions in year

	2007 (€'000)	2006 (€'000)
Funding recoverable in respect of the current year:		
Superannuation costs	4,771	4,758
State grant applied to pay pensioners	(1,168)	(794)
	<u>3,603</u>	<u>3,964</u>

(c) Analysis of total pension costs charged to Expenditure

	2007 (€'000)	2006 (€'000)
Current service cost	1,752	2,118
Interest on Superannuation Scheme Liabilities	3,019	2,640
Employee Contributions	(448)	(423)
	<u>4,323</u>	<u>4,335</u>

NÓTAÍ LEIS NA RÁITIS AIRGEADAIS

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

Nóta 3 Aoisliúntas

(a) Scéim Aoisliúntais

Feidhmíonn an Bord scéim sochair sainmhínithe nach bhfuil maoinithe.

Tá an luacháil a úsáidtear do nochtadh FRS17 bunaithe ar luacháil achtúireach déanta ar 7 Aibreán 2008 ag achtúire cáilithe neamhspleách chun riachtanais FRS17 a chur san áireamh d'fhonn dhliteanais na scéime a mheasúnú ar 31 Nollaig 2007. Is iad na foshuímh airgeadais a úsáidtear chun fiachais na scéime a ríomh faoi FRS17 ná

	Ar an 31/12/06	Ar an 31/12/05	Ar an 31/12/04
Ráta lascaine	5.50%	4.75%	4.25%
Ráta ardaithe tuarastail measta	4.25%	4.00%	3.25%
Ráta méadaithe in íocaíochtaí i bpinsin	4.25%	4.00%	3.25%
Boilsciú	2.50%	2.25%	2.25%

(b) Maoiniú larchurtha Glan do Phinsin sa bhliain

	2007 (€'000)	2006 (€'000)
Maoiniú inaisghafa maidir le costais aoisliúntais na bliana reatha:		
Costais aoisliúntais	4,771	4,758
Deontas stáit chun pinsinéirí a íoc	(1,168)	(794)
	<u>3,603</u>	<u>3,964</u>

(c) Anailís ar chostais phinsin iomlán gearrtha ar Chaiteachas

	2007 (€,000)	2006 (€,000)
Costas Seirbhíse Reatha	1,752	2,118
Ús ar Fhiachais na Scéime Aoisliúntais	3,019	2,640
Ranníocaíochtaí na bhfostaithe	(448)	(423)
	<u>4,323</u>	<u>4,335</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for year ended 31 December 2007



(d) Deferred Funding Asset for Superannuation

The Board recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for superannuation on the basis of a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the superannuation scheme, and the policy and practice in relation to funding public service superannuation including contributions by employees and the annual estimates process. While there is no formal agreement regarding these specific amounts with the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, the Board has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to meet such sums in accordance with current practice. The deferred funding asset for superannuation at 31 December 2007 amounts to €62 million (2006: €62 million).

(e) Movement in Net Pension Liability during the financial year

	2007 (€'000)	2006 (€'000)
Net Pension Liability at 1 January	(62,392)	(60,002)
Current Service Cost	(1,752)	(2,118)
Pensions Paid	1,168	794
Past Service Cost	0	0
Other Finance Income	(3,019)	(2,640)
Actuarial gain recognised in STRGL	3,686	1,574
Net Pension Liability at 31 December	(62,309)	(62,392)

NÓTAÍ LEIS NA RÁITIS AIRGEADAIS

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

(d) Sócmhainn Mhaoinithe Iarchurtha do Aoisliúntas

Aithníonn an Bord na méideanna dlite mar shócmhainn comhsheasmhach leis an bhfiachas iarchurtha neamh-mhaoinithe do aoisliúntas ar bhonn roinnt eachtraí a tharla roimhe seo. San áireamh sna heachtraí seo tá bunú na scéime aoisliúntais, agus an pholasaí agus an chleachtais maidir le haoisliúntais a mhaoiniú don státseirbhís lena n-áirítear ranníocaíochtaí ag fostaithe agus an próiseas measúnaithe bliantúil. Cé nach bhfuil aon chomhaontú foirmiúil leis an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil maidir leis na méideanna seo ar leith, níl aon fhianaise ag an mBord nach leanfaidh an polasaí maoinithe le méideanna dá leithéid a chomhlíonadh i gcomhréir le cleachtas reatha. Is é an tsócmhainn mhaoinithe iarchurtha ar 31 Nollaig 2007 ná €62 milliún (2006: €62 milliún).

(e) Gluaiseacht san Fhiachas Pinsin Glan le linn na bliana airgeadais

	2007 (€,000)	2006 (€,000)
Fiachas Pinsin Glan ar 1 Eanáir	(62,392)	(60,002)
Costas Seirbhíse Reatha	(1,752)	(2,118)
Pinsin Íoctha	1,168	794
Costas Seirbhíse Cheana	0	0
Ioncam Airgeadais Eile	(3,019)	(2,640)
Gnóthachain achtúire aitheanta san RGCA	3,686	1,574
Fiachas Pinsin Glan ar 31 Nollaig	(62,309)	(62,392)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for year ended 31 December 2007

NÓTAÍ LEIS NA RÁITIS AIRGEADAIS

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

(f) History of experience gains and losses

(f) Stair na ngnóthachan agus na gcaillteanas taithí

		2007 €'000	2006 €'000	2005 €'000
Experience gains/(losses) on scheme liabilities	Gnóthachain/(caillteanas) taithí ar fhiachais na scéime			
Amount	Méid	(1,530)	(679)	(1,912)
Percentage of present value of scheme liabilities	Céatadán de luach reatha fhiachais na scéime	(2.5%)	(1.1%)	(3.2%)
Actuarial gain/(loss) recognised in Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses	Gnóthachan/(caillteanas) achtúire aitheanta sa Ráiteas ar Ghnóthachain agus Chaillteanas Aitheanta			
		€'000	€'000	€'000
Amount	Méid	3,686	1,574	(7,608)
Percentage of present value of scheme liabilities	Céatadán de luach reatha fhiachais na scéime	5.9%	2.5%	(12.7%)

Note 4 Establishment Expenses
Costais Bhunaíochta

		2007 €	2006 €
Rent and Service Charge (<i>Note 13</i>)	Cíos agus Táille Seirbhíse (<i>Nóta 13</i>)	2,407,169	1,905,027
Repairs and Maintenance	Deisiú agus Cothabháil	82,473	90,766
Insurance	Árachas	39,375	38,249
Light and Heat	Teas agus Solas	124,054	115,279
Depreciation	Dímheas	771,785	788,719
Total	Iomlán	3,424,856	2,938,040

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for year ended 31 December 2007

NÓTAÍ LEIS NA RÁITIS AIRGEADAIS

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

Note 5 Operating Expenses Costais Oibríochta

		2007 €'000	2006 €'000
Travel and Subsistence	Taisteal agus Maireachtáil	539,730	495,035
Legal Fees (Note 11)	Táillí Dlí (Nóta 11)	972,039	1,276,043
Office Equipment and Stationery	Trealamh Oifige agus Stáiseanáireacht	224,771	268,502
Information and Communications Technology	Teicneolaíocht Fhaisnéise agus Chumarsáide	216,737	147,514
Printing and Books	Leabhair agus Cló	41,533	28,803
Statutory Notices	Fógraí Reachtúla	244,159	214,916
Recruitment, Staff Training and Development and Conferences	Earcaíocht, Traenáil Fhoirne agus Forbairt agus Comhdhálacha	240,587	206,559
Telephone and Postage	Guthán agus Post	299,501	267,959
Consultants' Fees and Services (Note 12)	Táillí agus Seirbhísí Comhairleora (Nóta 12)	2,288,936	2,254,319
Audit Fees	Táillí Iniúchta	18,500	16,900
Sundries	Ilnithe	6,989	7,998
Total	Iomlán	5,093,482	5,184,548

Note 6 Fixed Assets Sócmhainní Seasta

		Léas-sheilbh Áitreabh Leasehold Premises €	Troscáin & Feisteas Furniture & Fittings €	TE & Oifig Trealamh IT & Office Equipment €	Iomlán Total €
Cost	Costas				
Balance at 01/01/07	larmhéid ar 01/01/07	6,449,704	80,166	1,354,712	7,884,582
Additions	Breis	0	0	85,546	85,546
Disposals	Cur de Láimh	0	0	0	0
Balance at 31/12/07	larmhéid ar 31/12/07	6,449,704	80,166	1,440,258	7,970,128
Depreciation	Dímheas				
Balance at 01/01/07	larmhéid ar 01/01/07	3,221,190	73,411	1,061,032	4,355,633
Charge for the year	Táille don bhliain	644,970	3,964	122,851	771,785
Disposals	Cur de Láimh	0	0	0	0
Balance at 31/12/07	larmhéid ar 31/12/07	3,866,160	77,375	1,183,883	5,127,418
Net Book Value	Luach Leabhair Glan				
31 December 2007	31 Nollaig 2007	2,583,544	2,791	256,375	2,842,710
31 December 2006	31 Nollaig 2006	3,228,514	6,755	293,680	3,528,949

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for year ended 31 December 2007

NÓTAÍ LEIS NA RÁITIS AIRGEADAIS

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

Note 7 Debtors
Féichiúnaithe

		2007 €	2006 €
Debtors	Féichiúnaithe	61,744	26,318
Prepayments	Réamhíocaíochtaí	839,702	529,731
		901,446	556,049

Note 8 Creditors due within one year
Creidiúnaithe dlite laistigh de bhliain amháin

		2007 €	2006 €
Creditors	Creidiúnaithe	60,315	184,383
Accruals	Fabhruithe	1,267,113	1,484,564
Withholding Tax	Cáin Shiarchoinneálach	0	100,020
PAYE/PRSI	ÍMAT/ÁSPC	0	198,138
Other Creditors	Creidiúnaithe Eile	1,029	21,231
		1,328,457	1,988,336

Note 9 Capital Account
Cuntas Caipitiúil

		2007 €	2006 €
Balance at 1 January	larmhéid ar 1 Eanáir	3,528,949	4,086,795
- Income allocated for capital purposes (net of asset disposals)	- Ioncam roinnte ar mhaithe le cuspóirí caipitiúla (glan ó dhiúscairtí sócmhainne)	85,546	230,873
- Amortisation in line with asset depreciation	- Amúchadh de réir dímheasa sócmhainní	(771,785)	(788,719)
Transfer from/(to) Income and Expenditure Account	Tarchuir ó/(go dtí) Cuntas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais	(686,239)	(557,846)
Balance at 31 December	larmhéid ar 31 Nollaig	2,842,710	3,528,949

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for year ended 31 December 2007



Note 10 Contingencies with Regard To Legal Actions

There is a contingent liability of an undetermined amount as a result of legal actions against the Board in relation to its decisions on planning appeals and other cases. It is the Board's policy to contest such actions, where appropriate.

Note 11 Recoverable Legal Costs

As indicated at 8 in the Statement of Accounting Policies, certain legal costs are initially borne by the Board and recovery is pursued. The situation in 2007 regarding these costs was as follows:

	2007 €	2006 €
Outstanding at 1 January	2,996,286	2,712,413
Recovered during year ¹	(863,266)	(852,980)
Recoverable costs arising during year	964,244	1,306,508
Costs written-off during year	0	(169,655)
Outstanding at 31 December	3,097,264	2,996,286

The Board continually reviews the recoverability of the above costs. It is anticipated that a substantial amount thereof will not be recovered.

¹ The amount recovered was netted to legal fees in the current year.

NÓTAÍ LEIS NA RÁITIS AIRGEADAIS

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

Nóta 10 Teagmhasaí maidir le Caingne Dlí

Tá dliteanas teagmhasach do mhéid neamhchinntithe de bharr caingne dlí i gcoinne an Bhoird maidir lena chinneadh ar achomhairc phleanála agus chásanna eile. Is é polasaí an Bhoird dul i gconspóid lena leithéid de chaingne, mar is cuí.

Nóta 11 Costaisí Dlí Infhaighte Ar Ais

Mar a taispeántar ag 8 sa Ráiteas ar Pholasaithe Cuntasaíochta, iompraíonn an Bord costais áirithe dlí i dtosach agus leantar le hathghabháil. Is é mar atá i 2007 maidir leis na costais seo ná mar a leanas:

	2007 €	2006 €
Gan íoc ar 1 Eanáir	2,996,286	2,712,413
<i>Athghafa i rith na bliana</i> ¹	(863,266)	(852,980)
Costais infhaighte ar ais i rith na bliana	964,244	1,306,508
Costais díscríofa i rith na bliana	0	(169,655)
Gan íoc ar 31 Nollaig	3,097,264	2,996,286

Athbhreithníonn an Bord in-aisghabhálacht na gcostas thuas ar bhonn leanúnach. Réamh-mheastar nach n-aisghabhfar cuid mhaith acu.

¹ Bhí an méid a athghabhadh glanta le táillí dlí sa bhliain reatha.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for year ended 31 December 2007



Note 12 Consultants' Fees and Services

In accordance with section 120(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, the Board engages part-time consultant inspectors on a fee-per-case basis in accordance with rates approved by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government with the consent of the Minister for Finance. In addition, the Board engages, in accordance with section 124 of the Act, other consultants and advisors, as it is necessary for the performance of its functions. In 2007, about 43% of all inspectors' reports came from part-time consultant inspectors and their fees, along with associated costs relating to recording of oral hearings, accounted for nearly 89% (2006:87%) of all consultancy fees and services costs.

Note 13 Premises

The Board occupies and pays rent on premises at 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 which is held on a 25 year lease from October 2001.

The costs in relation to the fit-out and certain other matters, other than normal establishment and operating costs, were allocated for capital purposes and included under Leasehold Premises in the Fixed Assets. Ongoing improvements to the premises are treated in a similar manner.

The financial commitment on the above lease is the annual rent which in 2007 was €1,106,582. The rent is currently undergoing a 5 year review with the landlord and any change will apply with effect from 1st January 2007. The Board has made provision in the accounts for an increase in 2007 in line with professional advice which it has received.

Note 14 Board Members & Staff Interests

Board members and certain staff are required to make declarations/disclosures of interests in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

Section 147 of the 2000 Act provides for statutory declarations by members and certain staff in relation to certain interests. A register of interests is maintained by the Secretary in accordance with section 147 of the Act and is available for public inspection during office hours.

NÓTAÍ LEIS NA RÁITIS AIRGEADAIS

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

Nóta 12 Táillí agus Seirbhísí Comhairleora

De réir ailt 120(2) den Acht Pleanála agus Forbartha 2000, fostaíonn an Bord comhairleoirí páirtaimseartha ar bhonn pá de réir cáis de réir rátaí molta ag an Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil le cead an Aire Airgeadais. Chomh maith leis sin, fostaíonn an Bord, de réir ailt 124 den Acht, comhairleoirí eile faoi mar a tá riachtanach chun a gcuid feidhmeanna a chomhlíonadh. I 2007, tháinig timpeall 43% de thuarascálacha cigireachta ó chomhairleoirí agus bhí a dtáillí chomh maith le costais bainteach le taifead éisteacht béil freagrach do beagnach 89% (2006:87%) do gach táille comhairleach agus costas seirbhíse.

Nóta 13 Áitreabh

Áitíonn an Bord, agus íocann cíós ar, áitreabh ag 64 Sráid Mhaoilbhríde, Baile Átha Cliath 1, atá ar léas 25 bliain aige ó Dheireadh Fómhair 2001.

Leithdháiltear costais maidir le feistiú agus rudaí áirithe eile, seachas gnáthchostais bhunaíochta agus oibríochta, chun críocha caipitiúla, agus cuimsítear iad faoi Áitreabh Léasach sna Sócmhainní Seasta. Pléitear le feabhsúcháin leanúnacha ar an áitreabh sa dóigh chéanna

Is é geall airgeadais ar an léas thuas ná an cíós bliantúil arbh é €1,106,582 a bhí ann i 2007. Tá an cíós faoi réir athbhreithniú 5 bliana leis an tiarna talún faoi láthair agus beidh aon athrú curtha i bhfeidhm ó 1 Eanáir 2007. Tá soláthar déanta ag an mBord sna cuntais i gcomhair méadú i 2007 de réir comhairle ghairmiúil a fuarthas.

Nóta 14 Comhaltaí an Bhoird & Leasa na Foirne

Tá se riachtanach do chomhaltaí an Bhoird agus do chuid áirithe den fhoireann dearbhú/nochtadh a dhéanamh ar aon leasa de réir forálacha an Achta Pleanála agus Forbartha 2000.

Forálann alt 147 den Acht 2000 dearbhú reachtúil ag comhaltaí agus cuid áirithe den fhoireann. Tá clár do leasa ar coimeád ag an Rúnaí maidir le halt 147 den Acht agus tá sé ar fáil chun iniúchadh poiblí i rith uaireanta oifige.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for year ended 31 December 2007



Section 148 of the 2000 Act relates to disclosures regarding a pecuniary or other beneficial interest in, or which is material to, any appeal or other matter to be determined by the Board. In 2007, members made two (2) disclosures, staff made two (2) disclosures and consultants made two (2) disclosures.

Note 15 Code of Conduct and Ethics

The Code of Practice for State Bodies requires a written code of conduct for Board members. A Code in compliance with the guidelines is in operation and members are required to make declarations of interests to the Secretary on an annual basis.

In addition, members and certain staff are subject to the requirements of the Ethics in Public Office Acts 1995 and 2001, and yearly statements of registrable interests are made under the Acts. The Acts require that the statements of Board members be furnished to the Standards in Public Offices Commission every year. In 2007, all members made statements in accordance with the Acts.

Under section 150 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, the Board has adopted a code of conduct for dealing with conflicts of interest and promoting public confidence in the integrity of the conduct of its business. The code applies to members, certain staff and other persons whose services are availed of by the Board. In 2007, one (1) member made disclosures, four (4) staff made disclosures and one (1) consultant made disclosures under the Code.

Note 16 Approval of Financial Statements

The Board approved the financial statements on 16 July 2008.

NÓTAÍ LEIS NA RÁITIS AIRGEADAIS

don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007

Baineann Alt 148 d'Acht 2000 le nochtadh i dtaobh leas tairbhiúil airgid nó eile in aon achomharc nó ábhar eile a chinneadh an Bord, nó atá ábhartha dóibh. I 2007, rinne comhaltaí dhá (2) nochtadh, an fhoireann dhá (2) nochtadh, agus comhairleoirí dhá (2) nochtadh.

Nóta 15 Cód Iompair agus Eitic

De réir an Chóid Chleachtais do Chomhlachtaí Stáit, ní mór cód cleachtais scríofa a chur ar fáil do chomhaltaí Boird. Tá cód a théann leis na treoirlínte i bhfeidhm agus ní foláir do chomhaltaí leasanna a nochtadh don Rúnaí ar bhonn bliantúil.

Chomh maith leis sin, tá comhaltaí agus baill foirne áirithe faoi réir riachtanais na nAchtanna um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí 1995 agus 2001, agus déantar ráitis bhliantúla de leasanna inchláraithe faoi na hAchtanna sin. De réir na nAchtanna, tá sé riachtanach ráitis chomhaltaí den Bhord a thabhairt do Choimisiún na gCaighdeán in Oifigí Poiblí gach bliain. In 2007, rinne gach ball ráitis de réir na nAchtanna.

Faoi alt 150 den Acht Pleanála agus Forbartha 2000, ghlac an Bord le cód iompair chun déileáil le heasaontas leasa agus chun muinín an phobail a spreagadh in ionracas agus iompar a chuid gnó. Baineann an cód le comhaltaí, baill foirne áirithe agus daoine eile a mbaineann an Bord úsáid as a seirbhísí. I 2007, rinne comhalta amháin (1), ceathrar (4) ball foirne, agus comhairleoir amháin (1) nochtadh faoin gCód.

Nóta 16 Na Ráitis Airgeadais a Fhormheas

Rinne an Bord na ráitis airgeadais a fhorghnó ar an 16 Iúil 2008.

APPENDIX 11 REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL



Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

I have audited the financial statements of An Bord Pleanála for the year ended 31 December 2007 under the Planning and Development Act 2000.

The financial statements, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein, comprise the Statement of Accounting Policies, the Income and Expenditure Account, the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes.

Respective Responsibilities of the Board and the Comptroller and Auditor General

An Bord Pleanála is responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000 and for ensuring the regularity of transactions. An Bord Pleanála prepares the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland. The accounting responsibilities of the Members of the Board are set out in the Statement of Board's Responsibilities.

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

I report my opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland. I also report whether in my opinion proper books of account have been kept. In addition, I state whether the financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

I report any material instance where moneys have not been applied for the purposes intended or where the transactions do not conform to the authorities governing them.

I also report if I have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of my audit.

I review whether the Statement on the System of Internal Financial Control reflects An Bord Pleanála's compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies and report any material instance where it does not do so, or if the

AGUISÍN 11 TUARASCÁIL AN ARD-REACHTAIRE CUNTAS AGUS CISTE

Tuarascáil an Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste le cur i láthair Thithe an Oireachtais

Tá ráitis airgeadais An Bhoird Pleanála don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2007 iniúchta agam faoin Acht um Pleanáil agus Forbairt 2000.

Tá na ráitis airgeadais, a ullmhaíodh faoi na beartais chuntasaíochta arna leagan amach sna ráitis, comhdhéanta den Ráiteas ar Bheartais Chuntasaíochta, an Cuntas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais, an Ráiteas Gnóthachan agus Caillteanas Aitheanta Iomlán, an Clár Comhardaithe, an Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid agus na nótaí gaolmhara.

Freagrachtaí an Bhoird agus an Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste faoi seach

Tá an Bord Pleanála freagrach as na ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú de réir an Achta um Pleanáil agus Forbairt 2000 agus as rialtacht na n-idirbheart a chinntiú. Ullmhaíonn An Bord Pleanála na ráitis airgeadais de réir Cleachtais Chuntasaíochta a nGlactar Leis go Coitianta in Éirinn. Tá freagrachtaí cuntasaíochta Chomhaltaí an Bhoird leagtha amach sa Ráiteas um Fhreagrachtaí an Bhoird.

Is é m'fhreagrachtsa ná na ráitis airgeadais a iniúchadh de réir cheanglas ábhartha dlí agus rialúcháin agus Caighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hIniúcháireacht (Ríocht Aontaithe agus Éire).

Tuairiscím mo thuairim maidir le cibé an dtugann na ráitis airgeadais léargas fóircheart, de réir Cleachtais Chuntasaíochta a nGlactar Leis go Coitianta in Éirinn. Tuairiscím freisin cibé, dar liom, an raibh leabhair chuntais chuí coinnithe. Lena chois sin, deirim cibé an dtugann na ráitis airgeadais leis na leabhair chuntais.

Tuairiscím ar aon chás ábhartha nár feidhmíodh suimeanna airgid chun na gcríoch a bhí beartaithe nó sa chás nach leanann na hidirbhearta do na húdaráis a rialaíonn iad.

Tuairiscím freisin mura bhfuil an fhaisnéis agus na mínithe ar fad faighte agam agus atá riachtanach chun críocha m'iniúchta.

Scrúdaím an Ráiteas maidir leis an Córas um Rialú Inmheánach Airgeadais le féachaint an léirítear ann gur chomhlíon An Bord Pleanála an Cód Cleachtais maidir le

statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information of which I am aware from my audit of the financial statements. I am not required to consider whether the Statement on the System of Internal Financial Control covers all financial risks and controls, or to form an opinion on the effectiveness of the risk and control procedures.

I read other information contained in the Annual Report, and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. I consider the implications for my report if I become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements.

Basis of Audit Opinion

In the exercise of my function as Comptroller and Auditor General, I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board and by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures and regularity of the financial transactions included in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to An Bord Pleanála's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations that I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit agus tuairiscím ar aon chás ábhartha nach ndéanann sé amhlaidh, nó más rud é go bhfuil an ráiteas míthreorach nó nach dtagann sé le faisnéis eile atá ar eolas agam de bharr na ráitis airgeadais a bheith iniúchta agam. Ní cheanglaítear orm a bhreithniú cibé an gclúdaíonn an Ráiteas maidir leis an Córas um Rialú Inmheánach Airgeadais gach priacal agus rialú airgeadais, ná teacht ar thuairim maidir le héifeachtacht na nósanna imeachta maidir le priacail agus rialú.

Léim faisnéis eile atá sa Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, agus breithním cibé an dtagann sé leis na ráitis airgeadais iniúchta. Breithním na himpleachtaí do mo thuarascáil má thagaim ar an eolas faoi aon rud atá, de réir cosúlachta, ina mhíráiteas nó ina neamhréireacht ábhartha leis na ráitis airgeadais.

An Bunús atá le mo Thuairim ar na Ráitis

I mbun m'fheidhme mar Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste, rinne mé m'iniúchadh ar na ráitis airgeadais de réir Caighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hIniúcháireacht (Ríocht Aontaithe agus Éire) arna n-eisiúint ag an mBord um Chleachtais Iniúcháireachta agus trí thagairt a dhéanamh do na nithe ar leith is gá a chur san áireamh i ndáil le cúrsaí bainisteoireachta agus oibriúcháin a ghabhann le comhlachtaí Stáit. Déantar scrúdú mar chuid den iniúchadh, ar bhonn tástála, ar fhianaise a bhaineann le suimeanna agus rialtacht na n-idirbheart airgeadais a chuirtear san áireamh sna ráitis airgeadais, agus leis na hidirbhearta a fhoilsítear iontu. Chomh maith leis sin, cuimsíonn an t-iniúchadh measúnacht ar na meastacháin agus ar na breitheanna suntasacha a rinneadh agus na ráitis airgeadais á n-ullmhú, agus measúnacht le féachaint an n-oireann na beartais chuntasaíochta don bhail atá ar chúrsaí an Bhoird Pleanála, ar feidhmíodh na beartais sin ar bhealach leanúnach agus ar foilsíodh iad ar bhealach sásúil.

Phleanáil mé agus rinne mé m'iniúchadh sa chaoi is go bhfaighinn an fhaisnéis agus na mínithe ar fad a mheas mé a bheith riachtanach ionas go mbeadh leordhóthain fianaise agam a d'fhágfadh cinnteacht réasúnach ann go bhfuil na ráitis airgeadais saor ó mhíráiteas ábhartha, cibé acu calaois nó neamhrialtacht eile nó earráid is cúis leis sin. I dteacht ar mo thuairim, rinne mé meastóireacht ar a shásúla is a cuireadh faisnéis i láthair sna ráitis airgeadais san iomlán freisin.



Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, of the state of An Bord Pleanála's affairs at 31 December 2007 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

In my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by An Bord Pleanála. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

Other Matter

Without qualifying my opinion on the financial statements I draw attention to the Statement on the System of Internal Financial Control which discloses that An Bord Pleanála failed to conduct a review of the effectiveness of internal financial controls for the year and that it did not fully comply with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.

John Buckley
Comptroller and Auditor General

28th July 2008

Tuairim

Is é mo thuairim go dtugann na ráitis airgeadais léargas fíorcheart, de réir Cleachtais Chuntasaíochta a nGlactar Leis go Coitianta in Éirinn, ar riocht ghnóthaí an Bhoird Pleanála ag 31 Nollaig 2007 agus ar a ioncam agus ar a chaiteachas don bhliain dar críoch sin.

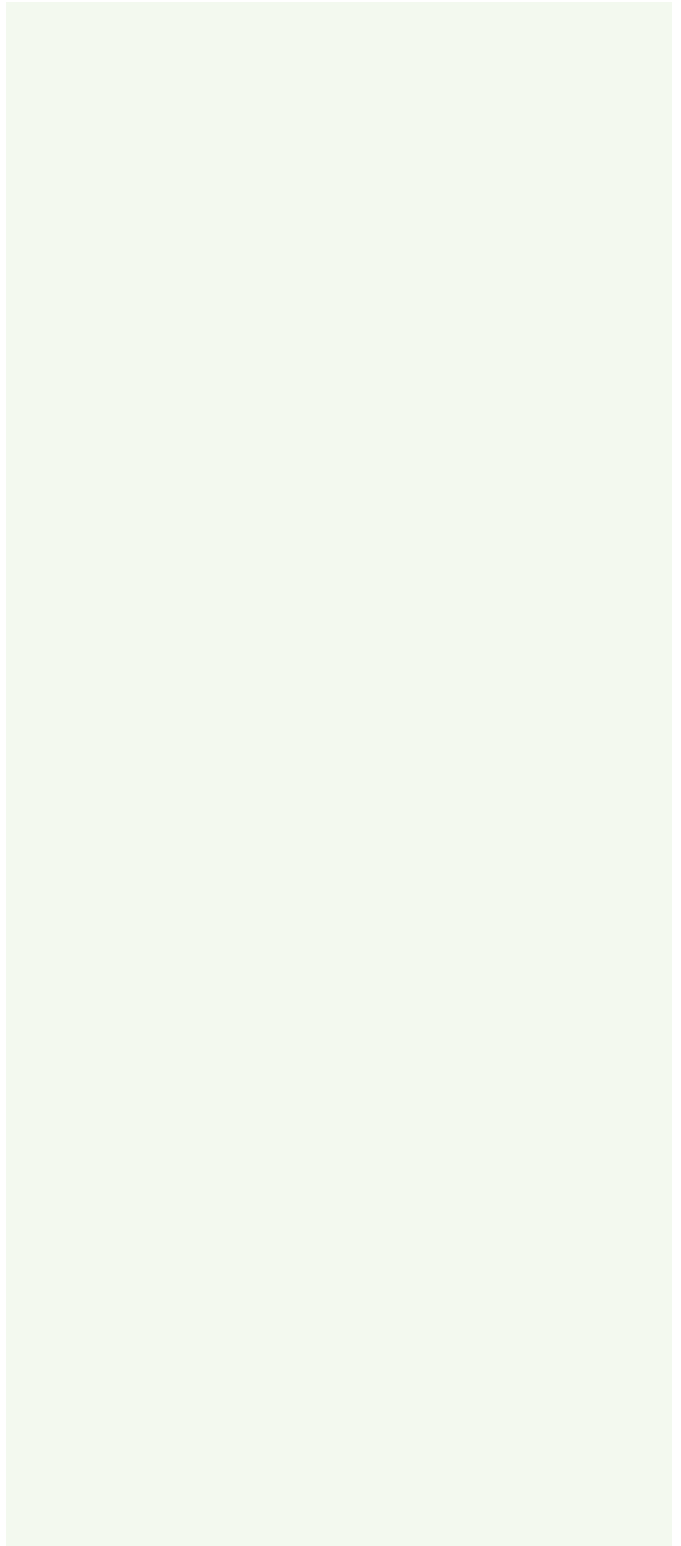
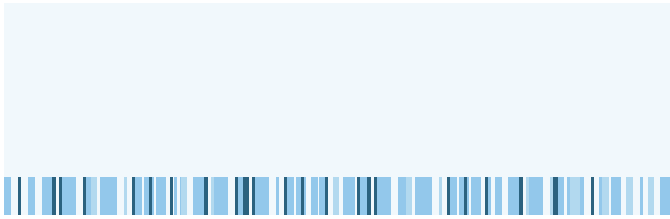
Is é mo thuairim go raibh leabhair chuntais chuí coinnithe ag an mBord Pleanála. Tá na ráitis airgeadais ag teacht leis na leabhair chuntais.

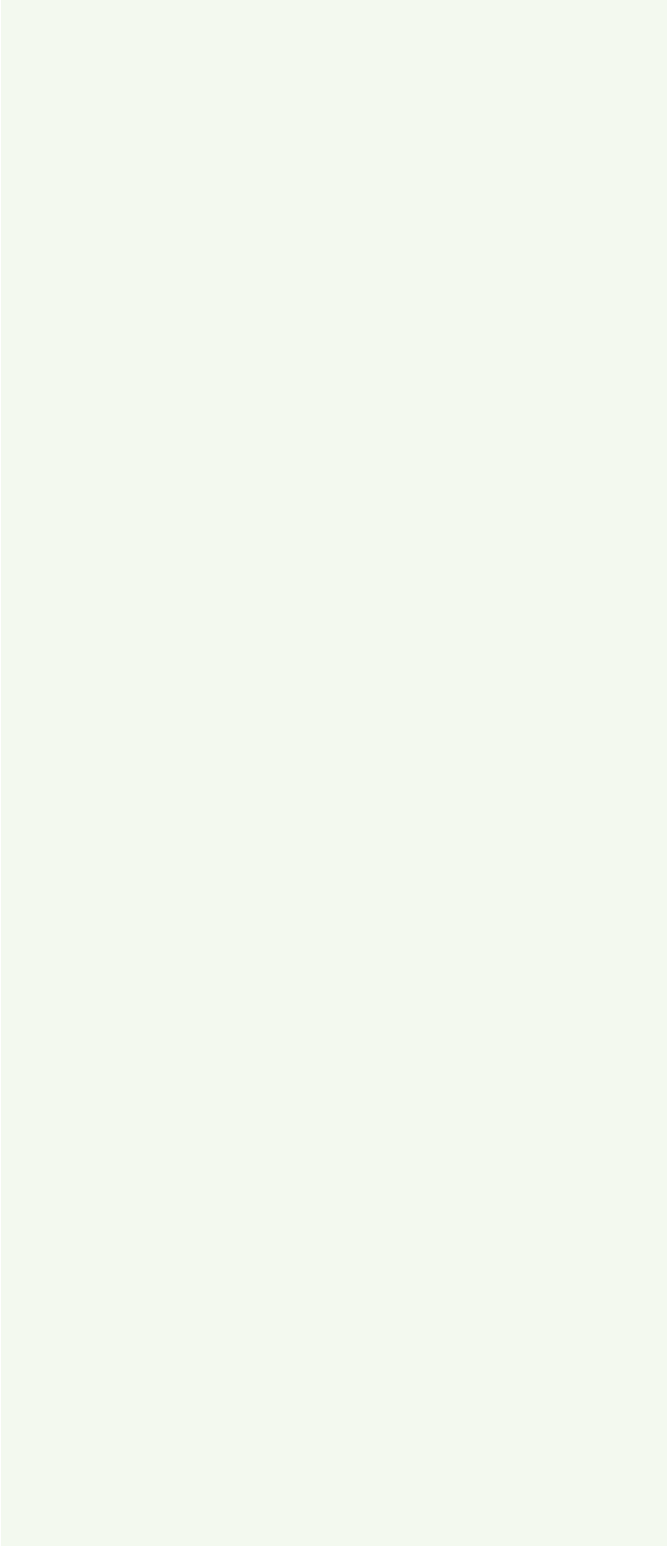
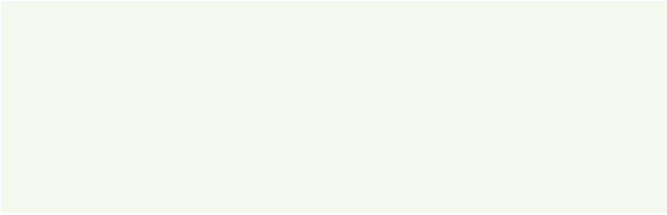
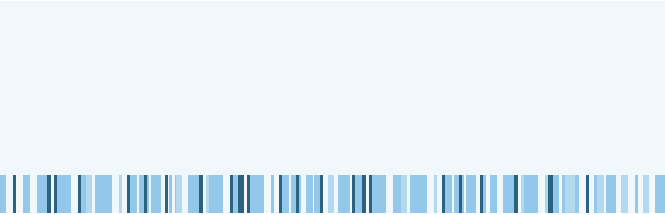
Ábhar eile

Gan mo thuairim ar na ráitis airgeadais a mhaolú, tarraingím aird ar an Ráiteas maidir leis an Córas um Rialú Inmheánach Airgeadais lena leagtar amach gur theip ar an mBord Pleanála athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar éifeachtacht rialuithe inmheánacha airgeadais don bhliain agus nár chomhlíon sé ceanglais an Chóid Chleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit go hiomlán.

John Buckley
Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste

28 Iúil 2008





An Bord Pleanála



64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

Tel: 01 858 8100
Fax: 01 872 2684
LoCall: 1890 275 175
Email: bord@pleanala.ie
Web: www.pleanala.ie

PRN: A8/0696

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde
Baile Átha Cliath 1

Teil: 01 858 8100
Faics: 01 872 2684
LóGhlao: 1890 275 175
Ríomhphost: bord@pleanala.ie
Láithreán Gréasáin: www.pleanala.ie

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