



PRESS STATEMENT

MINISTERS' MEET WITH THE NEW GOVERNING BOARD OF AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA

An Coimisiún Pleanála was delighted to welcome Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne and Minister of State for Planning and Local Government, John Cummins to the office of An Coimisiún Pleanála on Tuesday 22 July 2025. During the visit, the Ministers met with the Chairperson of the Governing Board, Paul Reid, and the other members of the Governing Board on the occasion of the first meeting of the Governing Board following their appointment under Part 17 of the Planning and Development Act 2024. The Ministers also met with the Chief Executive Officer Peter Mullan, the Planning Commissioners, and staff of the Commission.

Paul Reid, Chairperson of the new Governing Board stated:

"The first meeting today of the Governing Board marks an important milestone in the implementation of the new oversight arrangements for An Coimisiún Pleanála. Together with the CEO, the Planning Commissioners and staff of the Commission, the Board are looking forward to continuing the good progress made over the past while and to play our role in overseeing the performance of housing and other strategic planning developments".

Peter Mullan CEO stated:

"I am very pleased with the progress made by the Commission on substantially clearing the backlog of cases awaiting decisions with the Commission, I assured the Ministers of the continued compliance (currently 100%) by the Commission with its 16 weeks' timeline for decisions in Large Scale Residential Developments (LRDs)

and I am looking forward to working with Paul Reid Chairperson, and the newly appointed Governing Board under the new governance structure.”

Speaking on the day Minister Browne said:

“It is a pleasure to meet the newly appointed Governing Board of An Coimisiún Pleanála today. An Coimisiún provide a critical role in the Irish planning system. The new board, delivering a vital function in the governance of our planning system, will ensure that decisions are made with integrity, independence, and in full alignment with the public interest.

“I am confident the newly re-established planning body will provide the correct platform to address issues in a manner that underpins confidence in the planning system. The success of this is already evident with work progressing through the backlog of cases by the planning body. This new structure will ensure the continuous improvement required for the planning system to evolve to meet both current and future challenges.”

Minister Cummins added:

“Supporting the re-establishment of An Coimisiún Pleanála has been vital to ensure the continuous improvements of our planning system. They received an exchequer allocation of €40.6 million for 2025, an increase of approximately €7 million on the 2024 allocation; as well as an increase of 117 new staffing posts. These vital resources will assist the Commission on their work on the vital function they provide in the governance of our planning system.”

25 July 2025