

PSRA inaugural Conference – Property Services: Facing the Future
6th March 2019

The Minister for Justice and Equality, Mr. Charlie Flanagan, T.D., today opened the inaugural conference of the Property Services Regulatory Authority at the Croke Park Meetings and Events Centre. This one day conference titled “Property Services: Facing the Future” will explore the future of the property services sector following almost seven years of regulation of the sector.

The conference also marks the launch of a report on the ‘first of its kind’, research on the *lived* experience of regulation in the Irish property sector. The Report, ‘The Impact of Regulation on the Property Services Sector’, is based on input from over 1,200 licensees of the Property Services Regulatory Authority, as well as a number of individual follow-up interviews. Dr. Róisín Murphy, author of the Report, will present her findings at the conference on the impact of regulation from the perspective of those directly affected by it, licensees.

In recognising the positive engagement by licensees with this Report, the Minister acknowledged its relevance and significance to the sector and stated that “this Report will be of value in informing both future policy and the strategic direction of the property services sector”.

Throughout the day, the conference sessions will focus on key areas of interest for licensees, including; ethical conduct, mediation, anti-money laundering, protection of business interests, consumer protection and professional development. The issue of Brexit will also be addressed by our guest speaker, Mr. Mark Hayward, CEO of the National Association of Estate Agents in the UK.

Speaking of the event, Ms. Maeve Hogan, CEO of the Property Services Regulatory Authority stated, ‘We are delighted today to host our inaugural conference. This event provides us with an opportunity to acknowledge the significant work that has been achieved to date in regulating the property services sector, while also looking to the future to ensure, continuing professionalism and effective regulation of the sector’.

Over 300 licensees from across the country are attending the event, along with representatives from relevant sectoral bodies. The event is also being livestreamed to facilitate licensees from across the country who wish to engage directly with the conference on the day.