



## Press Release

### **Mr. Austin McInerney, McInerney Auctioneers Prosecuted by the Property Services Regulatory Authority**

On the 22nd November 2018, **Mr. Austin McInerney trading as McInerney Auctioneers** was convicted at Gort District Court of a breach of Section 28 of the Property Services (Regulation) Act 2011 (“the Act”), following a prosecution by the Property Services Regulatory Authority (PSRA). Mr McInerney t/a McInerney Auctioneers was convicted of an offence relating to the provision of property services on 26 March 2018 in circumstances where he was not at that time the holder of a licence, in contravention of Section 28(1)(a) of the Act. Mr McInerney pleaded guilty to this charge and Judge Patrick Durkan fined Mr. McInerney €500.

The prosecution was taken by the Property Services Regulatory Authority following a formal inspection of McInerney Auctioneers during March, 2018.

The PSRA’s Chief Executive, Ms. Maeve Hogan, speaking following the court case said “All property service providers, auctioneers, estate agents, lettering and management agents are required to hold a licence issued by the PSRA. This successful prosecution demonstrates the PSRA’s continuing commitment to eradicating unlicensed Property Service Providers across the country. If anyone has concerns about a Property Service Provider please contact us at [info@psr.ie](mailto:info@psr.ie).

The PSRA is an agency of the Department of Justice and Equality and is responsible for controlling and supervising Property Service Providers (PSPs) i.e. Auctioneers, Estate Agents, Letting Agent and Management Agents. Our remit includes, licensing all such service providers; the provision of a complaints investigation and redress system for consumers; the setting and enforcement of standards in the provision of property services and the maintenance of a compensation fund. The PSRA is also responsible for three Public Registers namely the Property Price Register, the Commercial Lease Register and the Register of Licensees.

The PSRA’s website provides the register of all licensees and the public should contact one of these Property Service Providers when engaging a licensee to carry out work on your behalf.

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