



Annual Conference 2008

Efficiency through Innovation

The Malton Hotel, Killarney, Co. Kerry
Tuesday 23rd /Wednesday 24th September 2008

I am delighted to welcome you to the fifth annual conference of the Local Government Directors Association. I encourage you to be actively involved in the work of the conference and to build on the success of our previous conferences.

The theme of this conference is entitled **"Efficiency through Innovation"** examining some of the challenges and opportunities that present in managing the efficiency agenda as it affects the role of Directors of Services. Speakers have been chosen in order to give a wide and yet practical perspective as possible on our conference theme.

The conference will conclude with the Annual General Meeting of the LGDA and the LGDS and the involvement of all Directors is crucial to the success of our organisation in the coming year.

I would like to thank all of the Directors, especially the members of the Executive Committee and the Conference Sub-group who have organised this conference. A special word of thanks to the IPA and in particular Dr. Philip Byrne for his guidance and assistance.

Seamus Neely,
Chairperson
Local Government Directors Association



Mr. Seamus Neely, Chairperson, Local Government Directors Association

Seamus is currently Chair of the Local Government Directors Association and a member of its National Executive. He is Director of Services in Cavan County Council with responsibility for Planning and Transportation. Prior to his current role he was Director of Corporate Services, Cavan County Council. Seamus has recently completed the Local Government MBA programme at DCU.

Efficiency through Innovation

Programme Day 1

- 9.30 **Registration with Tea and Coffee**
- 10.15 **Welcome and Introduction to Conference**
Seamus Neely, Chairperson, LDGA

SESSION 1:

*Chaired by Mr Tom Curran,
County Manager, Kerry County Council*

- 10.30 **Presentation 1:**
*Mr Des Dowling, Assistant Secretary General,
Department of Environment Heritage and Local
Government (DEHLG)*
**The need to become more effective while
maintaining quality output and effective
outcomes– The DEHLG's perspective**
- 11.00 **Presentation 2:**
*Professor Erwin Schwella, School of Public
Management and Planning, Stellenbosch
University, South Africa*
**The need for effective leadership in driving
change and efficiency – An international
perspective**
- 11.30 **Presentation 3:**
*Mrs Kathleen O Toole, Chief Inspector of the Garda
Inspectorate*
**The value of Innovation in a public sector
context – A practitioner's perspective**
- 12.00 **Questions and Answers to Session 1**
- 12.30 **Lunch**

SESSION 2:

*Chaired by Mr Martin O Riordain,
County Manager, Cork County Council*

- 2.00 **Presentation 4:**
Mr Peter Mc Loone, General Secretary, IMPACT
**Making the best use of resources in a
challenging environment – A union
perspective**

- 2.30 **Presentation 5:**
Mr Shane Mohan, Partner, Deloitte & Touche
**Delivering efficiency through innovation –
A private sector perspective**
- 3.00 **Questions and Answers to Session 2**
- 3.30 **Tea and Coffee**

SESSION 3:

*Chaired by Mr Joe Gavin,
City Manager, Cork City Council*

- 3.45 **Presentation 6:**
*Mr Tom Curran, County Manager,
Kerry County Council*
**Health and Safety – Construction Skills
Certificate Scheme**
- 4.15 **Current innovative practice being applied to
local authorities**
- 4.45 **Questions and answers to session 3**
- 5.00 **Conference Close**
- 8.00 **Evening Dinner**
(Formal dress; Black Tie is not required)

Programme Day 2

- 9.30 **AGM of the Local Government Directors
Association**
- 11.00 **Tea and Coffee**
- 11.15 **AGM of the Local Government Directors
Society**
- 1.00 **Conclusion**

**Mr. Des Dowling**

Des Dowling has been an Assistant Secretary in the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government since 2002 during which period he has been responsible for Housing and more recently Local Government. Prior to joining the Department, he worked in the Departments of Finance and Defence and the Revenue Commissioners.

**Mr. Erwin Schwella**

Erwin Schwella holds a Ph.D degree in Public Administration which he obtained from Stellenbosch University in 1998. After having served as the Director of the School of Public Management and Planning of the University of Stellenbosch since 1992 he currently holds a full professorship in Public Leadership in the School. During his career, spanning over 26 years, he has held positions in national and local government. For the largest part of his career he has been an academic. Erwin Schwella is author and co-author of more than 30 academic publications in the fields of governance, leadership, organisation development and public management.

**Mrs. Kathleen O'Toole**

Kathleen O'Toole took up her position as Chief Inspector of the Garda Inspectorate in July 2006. Prior to this she held the position of Boston Police Commissioner. The Boston Police Department is the largest municipal police force in the New England region and the 14th largest in the US. In 1998 Ms. O'Toole was selected to serve on the Independent Commission on Policing in Northern Ireland - The Patten Commission - which developed a new framework for policing and security in the North.

**Mr. Peter McLoone**

Peter McLoone is the General Secretary of Ireland's largest public sector trade union, IMPACT, which has over 58,000 members in health, local government, education, the civil service, semi-state companies, the community sector, aviation and telecommunications. Mr McLoone chairs ICTU's Public Service Committee, and leads the union team in negotiations on public service modernisation and pay. He is also the Chairman of FÁS and has been a member of the Labour Relations Commission since March 2000. He is one of the ICTU representatives on the National Economic and Social Council (NESC) and has been a member of the Sports Council since March 2000.

**Mr Shane Mohan**

Shane Mohan is a Partner in Deloitte Consulting. He has worked extensively with public sector organisations in Ireland including local authorities, Government Departments and multiple agencies. He specialises in financial management, efficiency and value for money. Shane is a member of the Deloitte Global Public Sector Team and regularly contributes to its research programmes, most recently the "Mastering Finance in Government" which examined how the finance function can contribute to major public sector transformation. Shane is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland, and holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree and a Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting from University College Dublin.

**Mr. Tom Curran**

In June 2007, Tom was appointed as Kerry County Manager. Tom is currently the Chair of the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) Committee which was established to co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of the CSCS training in local authorities. Tom joined Kerry County Council in 1997 as County Engineer. Following the reform of staffing structures under the Better Local Government programme, he was appointed Director of Roads, Transportation & Safety & Killarney Town Manager.



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BOOKING FORM

Please complete in **BLOCK CAPITALS**

Name

Organisation

Address

Telephone

E-mail

Send Invoice to (Name & Address):

Purchase Order Number

(Bookings will not be accepted without an order number)

Fee - €400 per person

The fee to include documentation, morning coffee, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner is €400.

Please note, overnight accommodation is NOT included and delegates are required to book their own accommodation.

Please complete and return this booking form, **before 18th September 2008** to:

Caroline Doyle,
Institute of Public Administration,
57-61 Lansdowne Road,
Dublin 4.

Telephone: 01 240 3637

Fax: 01 668 9135

E-mail: cdoyle@ipa.ie

Cancellation Policy Please note, that in the event of a cancellation less than 48 hours before the commencement of this Conference, a 15% cancellation fee will be charged. Cancellation fee will also apply to non arrivals on the day.