

# WILLIAM FRY

## Summer Government Legislation Programme: Industry & Sector Breakdown

Summer 2024

The Government Legislation Programme for the Summer 2024 session has been published. The Cabinet has approved 29 bills for priority publication and 24 bills for priority drafting. Priority legislation includes the Defamation (Amendment) Bill, the Companies (Corporate Governance, Enforcement and Regulatory Provisions) Bill, the National Cyber Security Bill, and the Access to Cash Bill.

Click on the relevant link to view a selection of bills and proposals by industry or sector.

- [Asset Management & Investment Funds](#)
- [Aviation & Transport](#)
- [Banking & Finance](#)
- [Corporate](#)
- [Employment & Pensions](#)

- [Energy & Natural Resources](#)
- [Environment & Planning](#)
- [Financial Regulation](#)
- [Life Sciences & Healthcare](#)
- [Insurance & Reinsurance](#)
- [Intellectual Property, Technology & Data Protection](#)

- [Litigation & Dispute Resolution](#)
- [Real Estate & Construction](#)
- [Retail, Food & Agribusiness](#)
- [Sports & Leisure](#)
- [Tax](#)
- [Telecoms & Media](#)

## ASSET MANAGEMENT & INVESTMENT FUNDS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Miscellaneous Provisions (Transparency and Registration of Limited Partnerships and Business Names) Bill	To reform the Limited Partnership Act 1907 and the Registration of Business Names Act 1963, strengthening Ireland's regulatory framework and responding to concerns raised in relation to the transparency of Limited Partnerships.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2023	To amend the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) Act 2017 to take account of the Zalewski ruling and update elements where the FSPO could be viewed as administering justice.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee stage.  (Dáil)
Companies (Corporate Governance, Enforcement and Regulatory Provisions) Bill	To enhance and strengthen enforcement and regulatory provisions in the Companies Act 2014. Amendments largely relate to four distinct areas of company law: corporate governance, company law enforcement and supervision, administration, and insolvency.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill approved.  (Priority Publication)

**Your William Fry contacts:**  
Vincent Coyne, James Phelan

## AVIATION & TRANSPORT

Bill	Purpose	Status
Merchant Shipping (International Conventions) Bill	To provide for the national implementation of certain International Maritime Conventions, the updating of statutes in respect of other conventions and provision of some miscellaneous maritime safety amendments. The Conventions in the Bill concern safety standards, training and working conditions for fishing vessels and personnel (fishers).	Heads of bill being prepared.
Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Accidents) Bill	Allows for the establishment of a fulltime Marine Accident Investigation Unit in the Department of Transport (similar to Air Accident Investigation Unit and Railway Accident Investigation Unit for air and railway accidents) and the eventual dissolution of the Marine Casualty Investigation Board. It also provides for powers to make regulations for offshore service vessels and the carriage of industrial personnel.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)
Air Navigation and Transport (International Aviation Agreements) Bill	To make legal provision for the Beijing Convention 2010 and the Montreal Protocol 2014 and the Beijing Protocol 2010 in Ireland in advance of ratification.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Vehicle Roadworthiness Bill	To merge provisions for periodic roadworthiness inspections into a single Act and to update the existing provisions governing roadworthiness testing.	Work is underway.

**Your William Fry contacts:**  
David Maughan & Mary Ward

## BANKING & FINANCE

Bill	Purpose	Status
Personal Insolvency (Amendment No. 2) Bill	To update aspects of personal insolvency legislation, following statutory review of the Personal Insolvency Acts.	Work is underway.
Co-operative Societies Bill	To place the co-operative model on a more favourable and clearer legal basis, thereby creating a level playing field with companies and encouraging the consideration of the cooperative model as an attractive formation option for entrepreneurs.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place.
Miscellaneous Provisions (Transparency and Registration of Limited Partnerships and Business Names) Bill	To reform the Limited Partnership Act 1907 and the Registration of Business Names Act 1963, strengthening Ireland's regulatory framework and responding to concerns raised in relation to the transparency of Limited Partnerships.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Credit Review Service Bill	To put SI 127/2010 that established the Credit Review Office on a statutory footing.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Publication)
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2023	To amend the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) Act 2017 to take account of the Zalewski ruling and update elements where the FSPO could be viewed as administering justice.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee stage. (Dáil)
Companies (Corporate Governance, Enforcement and Regulatory Provisions) Bill	To enhance and strengthen enforcement and regulatory provisions in the Companies Act 2014. Amendments largely relate to four distinct areas of company law: corporate governance, company law enforcement and supervision, administration, and insolvency.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Publication)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Microenterprise Loan Fund (Amendment) Bill 2024	This new legislation is to provide for ownership of Microfinance Ireland (MFI) to pass from its current parentage, the Social Finance Foundation to the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment and to put in place the related governance structures. It will give greater oversight to a body which is responsible for an increased amount of state sponsored lending than its original mandate. Furthermore, it will create a more established and regular relationship between the funding Department and the body delivering the funding directly to recipient businesses. This will assist the start-ups, micro businesses, and the body itself in giving certainty to the continued existence and development of MFI.	At Committee Stage (Dáil)
Conclusion of IBRC Liquidation Bill	Bill to conclude the liquidation of IBRC in 2024, to enable the transfer of residual activity from IBRC in SL to NAMA in 2024 and the establishment of a business resolution unit in the NTMA to acquire residual activity from NAMA in 2025.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

David Maughan, Jason Hollis, Padraic Kinsella

## CORPORATE

Bill	Purpose	Status
Industrial Development (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	To amend the Industrial Development Act 1986 to provide for additional scope to allow the IDA provide (i) environmental aid grants, (ii) training aids, and (iii) consultancy grants under certain conditions to ensure long term viability for IDA companies while increasing Ireland attractiveness for FDI, and to equip IDA Ireland with the legislative powers it needs to establish a body corporate with a third party for the specific purpose of developing or procuring new industrial or commercial buildings or infrastructure. The Bill also contains minor amendments in respect of Enterprise Ireland's FOI obligations, three technical enabling amendments to the Dangerous Substances Act 1972 and necessary amendments to the Copyright Act following a CJEU judgment.	Revised heads of bill being prepared.
Co-operative Societies Bill	To place the co-operative model on a more favourable and clearer legal basis, thereby creating a level playing field with companies and encouraging the consideration of the cooperative model as an attractive formation option for entrepreneurs.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place.
Employment (Collective Redundancies and Miscellaneous Provisions) and Companies (Amendment) Bill 2023	To implement the outstanding company law and employment law commitments set out in the Plan of Action on Collective Redundancies following Insolvency, by amending the Companies Act 2014 and the Protection of Employment Act 1977 and to establish an Employment Law Review Group.	At Second Stage. (Seanad)
Miscellaneous Provisions (Transparency and Registration of Limited Partnerships and Business Names) Bill	To reform the Limited Partnerships Act 1907 and the Registration of Business Names Act 1963, strengthening Ireland's regulatory framework and responding to concerns raised in relation to the transparency of Limited Partnerships.	Heads of bill being prepared.

Bill	Purpose	Status
Charities (Amendment) Bill 2023	To strengthen the charities sector, ensuring greater transparency, clarity and fairness, which will serve to enhance public confidence in the sector.	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Companies (Corporate Governance, Enforcement and Regulatory Provisions) Bill	To enhance and strengthen enforcement and regulatory provisions in the Companies Act 2014. Amendments largely relate to four distinct areas of company law: corporate governance, company law enforcement and supervision, administration, and insolvency.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Drafting)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

Stephen Keogh, Barbara Kenny & Ronan Shanahan

## EMPLOYMENT & PENSIONS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Protection of Employees (Employers' Insolvency) (Amendment) Bill	To address a number of issues identified with the operation of the Protection of Employees (Employers' Insolvency) Act 1984 governing the protection of employees during their employer's insolvency: Addressing Supreme Court judgment by fully transposing Article 2(1) of Directive 2008/94/EC; Incorporating various technical amendments to improve the operation of the Act.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Registration of Trade Unions Bill	To modernise and consolidate the existing legislation in respect of the registration requirements for trade unions.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Employment (Collective Redundancies and Miscellaneous Provisions) and Companies (Amendment) Bill 2023	To implement the outstanding company law and employment law commitments set out in the Plan of Action on Collective Redundancies following Insolvency, by amending the Companies Act 2014 and the Protection of Employment Act 1977 and to establish an Employment Law Review Group.	At Second Stage. (Seanad)
Civil Service Regulation and Public Service Management (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Civil Service Regulation Acts 1956–2005 and the Public Service Management Act 1997 to provide that disciplinary action up to and including dismissal in the Civil Service can be assigned below the level of the head of the organisation (Appropriate Authority) and other miscellaneous amendments to modernise the legislation based on the General Scheme, including the establishment of a Senior Post Remuneration Committee.	Work is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Employment Permits (Consolidation and Amendment) Bill 2022	To consolidate the Employment Permits Acts and to make certain amendments to modernise the employment permits system and increase its responsiveness.	At Committee Stage. (Seanad)
Construction Safety Licensing Bill 2023 <sup>1</sup>	To provide for the establishment of a statutory licensing system for construction and related activities.	At Report Stage (Dáil)

<sup>1</sup> This is referred to as the "Licencing [sic] of Construction Activity Bill 2023" in the Government Legislation Programme.



Bill	Purpose	Status
Automatic Enrolment Retirement Saving System Bill	Auto-enrolment is a quasi-mandatory pension system where employees, subject to certain parameters, are auto-enrolled into a quality-assured retirement savings system, with freedom to opt-out. Its purpose is to increase supplementary pension coverage.  See our <a href="#">article</a> for further details.	At Second Stage (Dáil)
Equality Acts Amendment Bill	To provide for legislative amendments arising from the review of the Equality Acts.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Employment (Restriction of Certain Mandatory Retirement Ages) Bill	To introduce measures that allow, but do not compel, an employee to stay in employment until the State Pension Age.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill approved. Undergoing pre-legislative scrutiny.
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2023	To amend the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) Act 2017 to take account of the Zalewski ruling and update elements where the FSPO could be viewed as administering justice.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Social Welfare (Pay-Related Social Insurance and Jobseeker's Pay-Related Benefit Provisions) Bill	Legislation to provide for PRSI increases as recently approved by Government. The Bill will also provide for the Jobseeker's Pay-Related Benefit scheme.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

Ian Devlin, Nuala Clayton & Alicia Compton

## ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES

Bill	Purpose	Status
Inland Fisheries (Consolidation) Bill	To modernise and consolidate all enactments since the Fisheries (Consolidation) Act, 1959 - itself a consolidation of legislation dating back to the 1800s. The required provisions are highly technical in nature and existing legislation is concentrated on a small number of species. The need is to encompass all species with a very wide cross section of needs and habitat/ecological/water quality/climate change imperatives.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Gas (Amendment) Bill 2023	To facilitate the integration of Ervia and Gas Networks Ireland (GNI) and to provide for the transfer of functions and assets from Ervia to GNI.	At Report Stage. (Seanad)
Heat Bill	To establish a regulatory model for district heating that ensures consumer protection and the delivery of a vibrant district heating industry, and to mandate all Public Sector buildings and facilities to connect to district heating where it is available and is technically, and economically feasible.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Gas Safety (Amendment) Bill	To provide number of specific amendments to the existing Electricity Regulation Act 1999, focused on ensuring that third party operators of Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) networks are fully incorporated into the CRU's regulatory regime.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)
Gas (Amendment) Bill	To amend GNI functions and introduce regulatory framework, as required in 2024, to support strategic gas emergency reserve development.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

**Your William Fry contacts:**  
Fergus Devine & Claire Waterson

## ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING

Bill	Purpose	Status
Aarhus Bill	To consolidate certain existing statutory measures implementing the access to justice provisions of the Aarhus Convention and related EU Directives, giving greater clarity and to address issues raised by national and CJEU jurisprudence and decisions of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Planning and Development Bill 2023	To review and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000 with a consolidated Bill improving the clarity and structure of the current code. See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Land Value Sharing Bill	To permit the State to secure a proportion of the uplift in land values resulting from zoning and designation to facilitate provision of infrastructure.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)
Just Transition Commission Bill	To establish a statutory Just Transition Commission.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Future Ireland Fund and Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund Bill 2024	To provide for the establishment of the Future Ireland Fund and the Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund.	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Marine Protected Area Bill	To provide for the designation and effective management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Irish maritime area.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Environment Protection Agency and Waste Management (Amendment) Bill	To enable the EPA to be more efficient and effective in its determinations by providing a stream-lined approach for decision making and shortening the period for final determinations of the Agency. The Bill will also include some further minor miscellaneous provisions under the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

Liam McCabe, Conor Linehan & Jarleth Heneghan

## FINANCIAL REGULATION

Bill	Purpose	Status
Credit Review Service Bill	To put SI 127/2010 that established the Credit Review Office on a statutory footing.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Publication)
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2023	To amend the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) Act 2017 to take account of the Zalewski ruling and update elements where the FSPO could be viewed as administering justice.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Co-operative Societies Bill	To place the co-operative model on a more favourable and clearer legal basis, thereby creating a level playing field with companies and encouraging the consideration of the cooperative model as an attractive formation option for entrepreneurs.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place.
Access to Cash Bill	To provide for access to cash, the regulation of ATM developers and Cash-in-Transit firms.	Heads of bill approved.  Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)

### Your William Fry contacts:

[Shane Kelleher](#), [Louise McNabola](#) & [Patricia Taylor](#)

## LIFE SCIENCES & HEALTHCARE

Bill	Purpose	Status
Research and Innovation Bill 2023	As part of Impact 2030: Ireland's Research and Innovation Strategy, the Government has approved the creation of a new statutory research funding agency "Research and Innovation Ireland" (working title), under the aegis of the Minister for FHERIS by way of a landmark Research and Innovation Bill. This will involve amalgamating the functions and activities of the Irish Research Council (IRC) and Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) under D/FHERIS.	At Committee Stage. (Seanad)
Health (Assisted Human Reproduction) Bill 2022	To provide a legislative framework for the regulation of assisted human reproduction practices and associated research.	At Report Stage. (Dáil)
Health (Termination of Pregnancy Services (Safe Access Zones) Bill 2023	To ensure safe access to premises at which termination of pregnancy services may be provided.	At Committee Stage. (Seanad)
Health (Adult Safeguarding) Bill	To underpin a planned national health sector policy on safeguarding vulnerable or at-risk adults in the context of their interactions with the health sector.	Work is underway.
Health (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Health Act 2004 to provide for changes to corporate and service planning processes among other provisions. It includes new requirements on the Board and CEO in regard to appropriate systems, procedures and practices to exercise the highest standards of prudent and effective financial and budgetary management and that proposals for corrective action are put in place where expenditure levels have been exceeded.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Drafting)
Health (Amendment) (No 2) Bill	To provide amendments necessary to revise existing section 55 charges (inpatient services for patients who do not establish entitlement to such services under section 52 of the Health Act 1970).	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

Bill	Purpose	Status
National Research Ethics Committee Bill	To provide a legislative framework for National Research Ethics Committees (NRECs) operating in key areas of health research.	Work is ongoing.
Northern Ireland (Planned Healthcare Scheme) Bill	To introduce statutory Scheme enabling persons resident in the State to access and be reimbursed for private healthcare in Northern Ireland by the HSE provided such healthcare is publicly available in Ireland.	Work is ongoing.
Mental Health Bill	To update and replace the Mental Health Act 2001 to give effect to recommendations of an Expert Group Review on mental health legislation.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. Drafting is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Health (Amendment) (Licensing of Professional Home Support Providers) Bill	A regulatory framework comprising of primary legislation for the licensing of home support providers, secondary legislation in the form of regulations, and HIQA national standards with the aim of ensuring that all service users are provided with high quality care. This is in line with Programme for Government and Sláintecare commitments.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Health Information Bill	To provide a robust legislative infrastructure for the processing of Health Information support a modern integrated health service.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

[Laura Scott](#), [Mark Quealy](#), [Charleen O'Keeffe](#), & [Mary Cooney](#)

## INSURANCE & REINSURANCE

---

Bill	Purpose	Status
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2023	To amend the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) Act 2017 to take account of the Zalewski ruling and update elements where the FSPO could be viewed as administering justice.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage.  (Dáil)
Motor Insurance Insolvency Compensation Bill	To transpose Article 10a and 25a of the 6th revised EU Motor Insurance Directive (Directive 103/2009/EC) as amended by Directive (2021/2118).	Heads of bill approved.  (Priority Publication)

**Your William Fry contacts:**  
[John Larkin](#), [Eoin Caulfield](#) & [Ian Murray](#)



## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, TECHNOLOGY & DATA PROTECTION

Bill	Purpose	Status
Criminal Justice (Protection, Preservation of and Access to Data on Information Systems) Bill	To give effect to a number of the provisions of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, the EU e-Evidence Regulation ((EU) 2021/784) and the EU Terrorist Content Online Regulation (EU) 2021/784).	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Drafting)
Interception of Postal Packets and Telecommunications Messages (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill	To amend various pieces of legislation in respect of electronic communications.	Work is underway.
Communications (Retention of Data) Bill	To replace the Communications (Retention of Data) Act 2011 to reflect advances in technology and consolidate the law on retention of and access to data for national security and prevention of crime purposes.	Work is underway.
Criminal Justice (Passenger Name Record) Bill	To comply with an EU Council commitment to extend the EU Passenger Name Record Directive to internal EU flights.	Work is underway.
National Cyber Security Bill	The General Scheme will transpose the Directive (EU) 2022/2555 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union, amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 and Directive (EU) 2018/1972, and repealing Directive (EU) 2016/1148 (also known as the NIS2 Directive) into national law, and to incorporate relevant provisions to establish the NCSC on a statutory basis and provide for related matters including clarity around its mandate and role in general and in relation to other actors in the cyber area.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Data Governance Bill	To assign certain enforcement powers on the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission in its role as designated Competent Authority for data intermediaries and data altruism organisations under the EU Data Governance Act.  See our briefing on the Data Governance Act <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill being prepared.
The Forty-first Amendment of the Constitution (Agreement on a Unified Patent Court) Bill 2024 <sup>2</sup>	Ratification of the Agreement on the Unified Patent Court (UPCA) necessitates a transfer of the judicial jurisdictional power outside of the State. As such, a referendum must be held to allow Ireland to ratify the Agreement. This entails holding a constitutional referendum to facilitate an amendment to Article 29 of the Constitution to include the Unified Patent Court Agreement as an international agreement recognised by the State.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage.  (Seanad)
EU Data Bill	The EU Data Act (Regulation) creates a harmonised framework on fair access and use of data, and clarifies who can create value from data and under which conditions, to ensure fairness in the allocation of the value of data among actors in the data economy and to foster access to and the use of data. DETE has received legal advice that primary legislation is needed to give effect to the Act in Ireland. This enabling legislation needs to be in place by 12 September 2025.  See our briefing on the Data Act <a href="#">here</a> .	Work is underway.
Digital Services (Levy) Bill	To extend Coimisiún na Meán's levy raising power to service providers in scope of (a) EU Digital Services Act & (b) EU Terrorism Content Online Regulation. To introduce a power for the CCPC to charge a levy on online marketplace providers in scope of the EU Digital Services Act.	Heads of bill being prepared.  (Priority Publication)
Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill	To update the Freedom of Information legislation arising from the review of the Act.	Work is underway.

**Your William Fry contacts:**

David Cullen, John O'Connor, Leo Moore & Laura Scott

<sup>2</sup> Coinciding with the publication of the Legislation Programme (16 April 2024), the Government announced that the referendum date has been postponed.

## LITIGATION & DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Bill	Purpose	Status
Personal Insolvency (Amendment) (No.2) Bill	To update aspects of personal insolvency legislation, following statutory review of Personal Insolvency Acts.	Work is underway.
Court Proceedings (Delays) Bill 2023	To provide for statutory compensation for breach of Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights – right to a fair trial within a reasonable time.	At Committee Stage. (Seanad)
Defamation (Amendment) Bill	To update aspects of defamation law, following statutory review of the Defamation Act 2009. See our article <a href="#">here</a> .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)
Family Courts Bill 2022	To establish a Family Court as a separate division within the existing court structures.	At Committee Stage. (Seanad)
Intoxicating Liquor Bill	Condensed Bill to introduce certain key reforms from the Sale of Alcohol Bill 2022.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. Drafting is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Civil Reform Bill	To give effect to recommendations arising from the Administration of Civil Justice (Kelly Review). See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Work is underway.
Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill	To update the Freedom of Information legislation arising from the review of the current Act.	Work is ongoing.
Equality Acts Amendment Bill	To provide for legislative amendments arising from the review of the Equality Acts.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Employment (Collective Redundancies and Miscellaneous Provisions) and Companies (Amendment) Bill 2023	To implement the outstanding company law and employment law commitments set out in the Plan of Action on Collective Redundancies following Insolvency, by amending the Companies Act 2014 and the Protection of Employment Act 1977 and to establish an Employment Law Review Group.	At Second Stage. (Seanad)
Seanad Electoral (University Members) (Amendment) Bill	To provide for amendments to the Seanad Electoral (University Members) Act 1937 following the Supreme Court judgment which declared that sections 6 and 7 of that Act are unconstitutional.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Publication)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

Garrett Breen, Laura Murdock & Paul Convery

## REAL ESTATE & CONSTRUCTION

Bill	Purpose	Status
Registration of Short-Term Tourist Letting Bill	To provide for new regulatory controls requiring short-term and holiday lets to register with Fáilte Ireland with a view to ensuring that houses are used to best effect in areas of housing need.	Heads of bill approved. Work is ongoing. (Priority Drafting)
Land Value Sharing Bill	To permit the State to secure a proportion of the uplift in land values resulting from zoning and designation to facilitate provision of infrastructure.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)
Planning and Development Bill 2023	To review and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000 with a consolidated Bill improving the clarity and structure of current code.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Construction Safety Licensing Bill 2023 <sup>3</sup>	To provide for the establishment of a statutory licensing system for construction and related activities.	At Report Stage. (Dáil)
Fire Services Bill	To consolidate and update the Fire Services Act.	Work is underway.
Residential Tenancies (Right to Purchase) Bill	To allow tenants in rental properties a first right of refusal to purchase a property when it is put forward for sale.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)
Remediation of Defects in Apartments and Duplexes Bill	To provide for the establishment of a remediation scheme for apartments and duplexes with fire safety, structural safety and water ingress defects constructed between 1991 and 2013.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

<sup>3</sup> This is referred to as the "Licencing [sic] of Construction Activity Bill 2023" in the Government Legislation Programme.

Bill	Purpose	Status
Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	Miscellaneous amendments and additions to the Housing Acts in respect of social housing; regulation of AHB and amendments to the Building Controls Acts.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Drafting)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

Liam McCabe, Lisa McCarthy, Brian O'Callaghan & Conor Treacy

## RETAIL, FOOD & AGRIBUSINESS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Intoxicating Liquor Bill	Condensed Bill to introduce certain key reforms from the Sale of Alcohol Bill 2022.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. Drafting is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Agriculture Appeals (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Agricultural Appeals Act 2001 to provide, inter alia, for the establishment of an independent Review Panel whose function will be to undertake independent reviews of decisions of appeals officers when requested to do so by the Minister or an applicant. The Bill will also make miscellaneous changes to the 2001 Act.	Heads of bill approved. Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)
Public Health (Tobacco Products and Nicotine Inhaling Products) Bill	To provide for the regulation of tobacco products and nicotine inhaling products such as e-cigarettes.	Work is underway. (Priority Drafting)

### Your William Fry contacts:

Colette Brady, Nuala Clayton, Ciaran Herlihy & Kenneth Morgan

## SPORTS & LEISURE

---

Bill	Purpose	Status
Gambling Regulation Bill 2022	To provide for a modern approach to the licencing of gambling activities and to establish a gambling regulator.	At Report Stage. (Dáil)
Fire Services Bill	To consolidate and update the Fire Services Act.	Work is underway.

Your William Fry contact:  
Leo Moore



## TAX

Bill	Purpose	Status
Taxation and Certain Other Matters (International Mutual Assistance) Bill	To transpose elements of the OECD Mutual Convention on Administrative Assistance and the EU/Switzerland Anti-Fraud Agreement, providing for mutual assistance or to the relevant provisions thereof: -The Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters done at Strasbourg on 25 January 1988 and amended by the Protocol done at Paris on 27 May 2010. Titles I, II and IV of the Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Swiss Confederation to combat fraud and any other illegal activity to the detriment of their financial interests, done at Luxembourg on 26 October 2004.	Work is ongoing.
Finance (Tax Appeals) Bill	To amend the Finance (Tax Appeals) Act 2015 to allow for the appointment of non-temporary Commissioners with different tiers of responsibility and potential amendments to address the Zalewski case. And to provide for changes to the budgetary ceiling and other administrative arrangements of the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council.	Head of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Finance Bill 2024	To give legislative form to taxation proposals in Budget 2025. It will also contain provisions which are consequential on the Budget measures and a number of other changes to the taxation code.	Work is underway. (Priority Drafting)

**Your William Fry contacts:**  
Sonya Manzor & Ted McGrath

## TELECOMS & MEDIA

Bill	Purpose	Status
Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2019	To amend the Broadcasting Act 2009.	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Interception of Postal Packets and Telecommunications Messages (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill	To amend various pieces of legislation in respect of electronic communications.	Work is underway.
Communications (Retention of Data) Bill	To replace the Communications (Retention of Data) Act 2011 to reflect advances in technology and consolidate the law on retention of and access to data for national security and prevention of crime purposes.	Work is underway.
Defamation (Amendment) Bill	To update aspects of defamation law, following statutory review of the Defamation Act 2009.  See our article <a href="#">here</a> .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place.  (Priority Publication)
Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill	To update the Freedom of Information legislation arising from the review of the Act.	Work is underway.

**Your William Fry contacts:**

[David Cullen](#), [Cormac Little SC](#) & [Claire Waterson](#)

# WILLIAM FRY

---

DUBLIN | CORK | LONDON | NEW YORK | SAN FRANCISCO | SILICON VALLEY

William Fry LLP | T: +353 1 639 5000 | E: info@williamfry.com

[williamfry.com](http://williamfry.com)

This briefing is provided for information only and does not constitute legal advice