

WILLIAM FRY

Spring Government Legislation Programme Industry & Sector Breakdown

Spring 2025

The Government Legislation Programme for the Spring 2025 session has been published. The Cabinet has approved 21 bills for priority publication and 29 bills for priority drafting. Priority legislation includes the EU Data Regulation Bill, the Media Regulation Bill and the Protection of Employees (Employers' Insolvency) (Amendment) Bill. In addition, as of 18 February 2025, 11 bills have been restored to the Dáil Order Paper, and three bills have been restored to the Seanad Order Paper.

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

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ASSET MANAGEMENT & INVESTMENT FUNDS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Miscellaneous Provisions (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. See our briefing here .	Heads of bill approved in July 2024.
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 here .	At Committee stage. (Dáil)
Restrictive Measures Bill	To create a mechanism by which persons would be obliged to adhere to the asset freezing requirements of certain UN Security Council Resolutions in the period prior to their incorporation in an EU legislative act, i.e. a 'bridging measure', in order to meet Ireland's international obligations and prevent sanctions evasion.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Violation of Restrictive Measures Bill	A Bill to transpose EU Directive 2024/1226 on the definition of criminal offences and penalties for the violation of Union restrictive measures.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

Your William Fry contacts:
[Vincent Coyne](#), [James Phelan](#)

BANKING & FINANCE

Bill	Purpose	Status
Personal Insolvency (Amendment) Bill	To update aspects of personal insolvency legislation, following statutory review of the Personal Insolvency Acts.	Work is ongoing.
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 here .	Work is ongoing. (Priority Drafting)
Miscellaneous Provisions (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. See our briefing here .	Heads of bill approved in July 2024.
Credit Review Bill 2024	To put SI 127/2010 that established the Credit Review Office on a statutory footing.	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
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 here .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)

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 Second Stage. (Seanad)
Conclusion of IBRC Special Liquidation and Dissolution of NAMA Bill	To effect the conclusion of the Irish Bank Resolution Corporation (IBRC) Special Liquidation and the dissolution of the National Asset Management Agency by the end of 2025. To implement appropriate arrangements to manage any remaining residual activity of both entities following the respective conclusion of their work mandates, including through the creation of a new Resolution Unit within the National Treasury Management Agency to manage any remaining residual activity from 2026 onwards.	Pre-legislative scrutiny is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Restrictive Measures Bill	To create a mechanism by which persons would be obliged to adhere to the asset freezing requirements of certain UN Security Council Resolutions in the period prior to their incorporation in an EU legislative act, i.e. a 'bridging measure', in order to meet Ireland's international obligations and prevent sanctions evasion.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Violation of Restrictive Measures Bill	A Bill to transpose EU Directive 2024/1226 on the definition of criminal offences and penalties for the violation of Union restrictive measures.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

Your William Fry contacts:David Maughan, Lyn Brennan & Padraic Kinsella

CORPORATE

Bill	Purpose	Status
Industrial Development (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	The primary purpose of the Bill is to amend the Industrial Development Act 1986 to strengthen IDA's provision of (i) environmental aid grants and (ii) consultancy grants. It will also provide that IDA Ireland be permitted to establish jointly owned Designated Activity Companies, with the sole purpose of developing critical industrial and commercial property and infrastructure. This Bill also contains unrelated amendments in respect of Enterprise Ireland (re FOI) and the Health and Safety Authority, related to the length of appointments to the board, and technical enabling amendments to the Dangerous Substances Act 1972 and the Chemicals Act 2008.	Revised heads of bill being prepared.
Co-operative Societies Bill	<p>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.</p> <p>See our briefing here.</p>	Work is ongoing. (Priority Drafting)
Miscellaneous Provisions (Registration of Limited Partnerships and Business Names) Bill	<p>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.</p> <p>See our briefing here.</p>	Heads of bill approved in July 2024.
Restrictive Measures Bill	To create a mechanism by which persons would be obliged to adhere to the asset freezing requirements of certain UN Security Council Resolutions in the period prior to their incorporation in an EU legislative act, i.e. a 'bridging measure', in order to meet Ireland's international obligations and prevent sanctions evasion.	Heads of bill being prepared.

Bill	Purpose	Status
Violation of Restrictive Measures Bill	A Bill to transpose EU Directive 2024/1226 on the definition of criminal offences and penalties for the violation of Union restrictive measures.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

Your William Fry contacts:
Barbara Kenny, Ronan Shanahan & Andrew McIntyre

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.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)
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.
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 and certain terms and conditions for Secretaries General.	Work is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Licensing of Construction Activity Bill 2023	To provide for the establishment of a statutory licensing system for construction and related activities.	At Report Stage. (Dáil)
Employment (Contractual 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 here .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)

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 here .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Pay Transparency Bill	A Bill to transpose the EU Pay Transparency Directive.	Heads of bill being prepared.

Your William Fry contacts:

[Nuala Clayton](#), [Ian Devlin](#), [Alicia Compton](#) & [Louise Harrison](#)

ENERGY, RENEWABLES & UTILITIES

Bill	Purpose	Status
Heat (Networks and Miscellaneous Provisions) 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. See our briefing here .	Heads of bill approved in October 2024. (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)
Strategic Gas Emergency Reserve (Amendment) Bill	To amend Gas Networks Ireland functions and introduce regulatory framework, to support strategic gas emergency reserve development.	Heads of bill being prepared.

Your William Fry contacts:
Fergus Devine, Maire O'Neill & Jarleth Heneghan

ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING

Bill	Purpose	Status
Just Transition Commission Bill	To establish a statutory Just Transition Commission.	No update provided.
Marine Protected Area Bill	To provide for the designation and effective management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Irish maritime area.	Work is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Aarhus Legal Costs Bill	To extend the revised legal costs provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2024 to some twenty other environmental consent regimes.	Work is ongoing.
Energy Performance of Buildings Bill	To partly transpose the requirement of the recast Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EU) 2024/1275. See our briefing here .	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Environment (Miscellaneous Provisions) 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. See our briefing here .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Drafting)
Air Pollution (Amendment) Bill	To provide for necessary updates to the Air Pollution Act (1987) to support enhanced enforcement and the implementation of the Clean Air Strategy.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Publication)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Building Standards Regulatory Authority Bill	To establish a Building Standards Regulatory Authority to strengthen the oversight role of the State in respect of the design and construction of buildings and the marketing and use of construction products.	Heads of bill being prepared.
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. Ensuring the comprehensiveness of legislation and its fitness for purpose in an evolving aquatic, riparian and marine environmental / ecological backdrop and emerging challenges for biodiversity is a key challenge.	Heads of bill being prepared.

Your William Fry contacts:Liam McCabe & Jarleth Heneghan

FINANCIAL REGULATION

Bill	Purpose	Status
Credit Review Bill 2024	To put SI 127/2010, which established the Credit Review Office, on a statutory footing.	At Committee Stage (Dáil)
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 here .	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 here .	Work is ongoing. (Priority Drafting)
Finance (Provision of Access to Cash Infrastructure) Bill 2024	To provide for access to cash, the regulation of ATM developers and Cash-in-Transit firms.	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Criminal Justice Act 2010 to ensure that Crypto Asset Service Providers are covered by national law in relation to Ireland's Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing regime.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Publication)
Asset Covered Securities (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Asset Covered Securities Act 2001 to facilitate the issuance of asset covered securities (covered bonds) either by specialist covered bond subsidiary entities under a specialist banking model (the "SBM") or from non-specialist credit institutions operating under a universal banking model (the "UBM") and related matters.	Heads of bill being prepared.

Your William Fry contacts:

Shane Kelleher, Louise McNabola & Patricia Taylor

LIFE SCIENCES, MED TECH & HEALTHCARE

Bill	Purpose	Status
Health (Adult Safeguarding) Bill	To underpin a planned national health policy for adult safeguarding in the health and social care sector.	Work is ongoing.
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 in February 2021. (Priority Publication)
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 2024	To update and replace the Mental Health Act 2001 to give effect to recommendations of an Expert Group Review on mental health legislation.	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
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.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Drafting)
Health Information Bill 2024	To provide a robust legislative infrastructure for the processing of Health Information support a modern integrated health service. See our briefing here .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Regulated Professions (Health and Social Care) (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005, the Medical Practitioners Act 2007, the Dentists Act 1985, and the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011. These amendments are intended to enable agreed Departmental policy on advanced practice for HSCPs, and on Fitness to Practice, as well as creating other internal operating efficiencies to support the regulators in fulfilling their public protection objectives.	Revised Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Patient Safety (Licensing) Bill	The Patient Safety (Licensing) Bill will, for the first time, introduce a licensing requirement for all hospitals, public and private, and certain designated high-risk activities in the community.	Work is ongoing.

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 here .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)

Your William Fry contacts:

Eoin Caulfield, Ian Murray, John Larkin & Niall Campbell

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 ongoing.
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 ongoing.
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 ongoing.
National Cyber Security Bill	<p>The Bill will transpose the Directive (EU) 2022/2555 of the European Parliament and of the Council on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union. It will also incorporate the relevant provisions to establish the National Cyber Security Centre 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.</p> <p>See our briefings here and here.</p>	Pre-legislative scrutiny is ongoing. (Priority Publication)

Bill	Purpose	Status
The Forty-first Amendment of the Constitution (Agreement on a Unified Patent Court) Bill 2024	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 here .	At Committee Stage. (Seanad)
EU Data Regulation Bill	The overarching purpose of the Bill is to support innovation and economic growth, by creating a harmonised framework on fair access and use of data and clarifies who can create value from data and under which conditions. The Bill will designate the National Competent Authorities responsible for implementing and enforcing the EU regulation and will provide for penalties for non-compliance. It will also provide for a levy in respect of ComReg's regulatory role. See our briefing on the Data Act here .	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill	To update the Freedom of Information legislation arising from the review of the Act.	Work is underway.
Copyright and Related Rights (Amendment) Bill	The Bill encompasses the necessary amendments to the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000 (as amended) following a CJEU judgement in September 2020 and subsequent High Court judgement in February 2021.	Heads of bill approved in July 2024. (Priority Publication)
Regulation of Artificial Intelligence Bill	To give full effect to EU Regulation 2024/1689 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence (Artificial Intelligence Act). The Bill will designate the National Competent Authorities responsible for implementing and enforcing the EU regulation and will provide for penalties for non-compliance. See our guide to the AI Act - William Fry AI Guide .	Heads of bill being prepared.

Your William Fry contacts:

[David Cullen](#), [John O'Connor](#), [Leo Moore](#), [Rachel Hayes](#) & [Barry Scannell](#)

LITIGATION & INVESTIGATIONS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Personal Insolvency (Amendment) Bill	To update aspects of personal insolvency legislation, following agreement on new EU Insolvency Directive (currently under negotiation).	Work is ongoing.
Defamation (Amendment) Bill 2024	To update aspects of defamation law, following statutory review of the Defamation Act 2009. See our article here .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Intoxicating Liquor Bill	Condensed Bill to introduce certain key reforms from the Sale of Alcohol Bill 2022.	Work is ongoing.
Civil Reform Bill	To give effect to recommendations arising from the Administration of Civil Justice (Kelly Review) including Judicial Review, Discovery and civil procedural reform to improve the efficiency of the Courts. See our briefing here .	Work is ongoing.
Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill	To update the Freedom of Information legislation arising from the review of the current Act.	Work is ongoing.
Equality and Family Leaves (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	A Bill providing for amendments to the Employment Equality and Equal Status Acts, arising from a review of the Equality legislation. It is proposed that this Bill would also be used to provide for Surrogacy Leave and leave for pregnancy loss.	Revised heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

Your William Fry contacts:

[Garrett Breen](#), [Laura Murdock](#), [Paul Convery](#) & [Fergus Doorly](#)

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.	Work is ongoing. (Priority Drafting)
Licensing of Construction Activity Bill 2023	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 ongoing.
Apartment and Duplex Defects Remediation Bill	The Bill puts in place a statutory scheme to establish supports for the remediation of fire safety, structural safety and water ingress defects in purpose-built apartment buildings, including duplexes, constructed between 1991 and 2013.	Heads of bill approved in September 2024. (Priority Publication)
Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) (No 2) Bill	Amendments and additions to the Housing Acts in respect of social housing eligibility, specifically, making statutory arrangements for residency requirements; and amendments to the Building Control Acts.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)
Building Standards Regulatory Authority Bill	To establish a Building Standards Regulatory Authority to strengthen the oversight role of the State in respect of the design and construction of buildings and the marketing and use of construction products.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Energy Performance of Buildings Bill	To transpose the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EU) 2024/1275. See our briefing here .	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Remediation of Dwellings damaged by the Use of Defective Concrete Blocks (Amendment) Bill	Amendments to the Remediation of Dwellings damaged by the Use of Defective Concrete Blocks Act 2022 to provide for maximum grant payable under the Scheme and the associated square metre grant rates.	Heads of bill being prepared. (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.	Work is ongoing.
Public Health (Nicotine Inhaling Products) Bill	To provide for the regulation of nicotine-inhaling products such as e-cigarettes.	Heads of bill approved in September 2024. (Priority Drafting)
Communications Regulation and Digital Hub Development Agency (Amendment) Bill	To address the use of in-contract price increase clauses by electronic communications service providers to increase prices.	Heads of bill being prepared.

Your William Fry contacts:

Colette Brady, Nuala Clayton, Ciaran Herlihy & Kenneth Morgan

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 and Fiscal Responsibility) Bill	To amend the Finance (Tax Appeals) Act 2015; to make provision for different grades of Appeal Commissioners; to amend the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 to revise the law concerning the making of appeals in matters of taxation; to amend the Fiscal Responsibility Act 2012; and to provide for related matters.	Heads of bill approved in June 2024. (Priority Drafting)
Local Property Tax Bill	To amend the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act 2012, to amend the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, and to provide for related matters.	Work is underway.

Your William Fry contacts:
[Sonya Manzor](#), [Ted McGrath](#) & [Colin Bolger](#)

TELECOMS, DATA & COMMS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Interception of Postal Packets and Telecommunications Messages (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill	To amend various pieces of legislation in respect of electronic communications.	Work is ongoing.
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 ongoing.
Defamation (Amendment) Bill 2024	To update aspects of defamation law, following statutory review of the Defamation Act 2009. See our article here .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill	To update the Freedom of Information legislation arising from the review of the Act.	Work is ongoing.
Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill	To reform the legislative basis for the corporate governance of RTÉ and TG4, including assigning the C&AG as auditor of RTÉ and strengthening the role and duties of the RTÉ board, in line with the recommendations of the Expert Advisory Committee on Governance and Culture in RTÉ. Also to enhance the system of assessing the performance of RTÉ and TG4, and to provide for the establishment of a statutory media fund in line with the recommendations of the Future of Media Commission.	Heads of bill approved in October 2024. (Priority Drafting)
Media Regulation Bill	To transpose the European Media Freedom Act (EMFA). In particular, the Bill will amend the media merger regime under the Competition Act, establish rules in relation to transparency of state advertising and assign a number of functions required by EMFA, primarily to the media regulator, Coimisiún na Meán.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Gigabit Infrastructure Bill	To provide national standing for several provisions of Regulation (EU) 2024/1309 (Gigabit Infrastructure Act) including to designate a Dispute Settlement Body and to provide for exemptions to certain provisions.	Work is underway.
Communications Regulation and Digital Hub Development Agency (Amendment) Bill	To address the use of in-contract price increase clauses by electronic communications service providers to increase prices.	Heads of bill being prepared.

Your William Fry contacts:
David Cullen, Rachel Hayes, Ronan Shanahan & Claire Waterson

TRANSPORT & AVIATION

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), ship recycling and the removal of maritime wreck.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Accidents) Bill 2024	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.	At Report Stage. (Dáil)
Air Navigation and Transport (International Aviation Agreements) (Amendment) Bill	To provide for the offences contained within three international aviation treaties in Irish legislation – The Beijing Convention 2010, the Montreal Protocol 2014 and the Beijing Protocol 2010 - in advance of ratification.	Heads of bill being prepared.
National Vehicle and Driver File Bill	This Bill now incorporates the separate Roads Bill 2024 from the Autumn legislative session and contains five main elements: Strengthening of General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) for access to vehicle and driver data; abolition of the requirement to display a motor tax disc; removal of end date of declarations of non-use of a motor vehicle; amendment of provisions relating to variation of speed limits, and; providing a legislative basis so that local authorities, in their role as road authorities, may request, receive, and process road collision data.	Revised heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Dublin Transport Authority (Amendment) Bill	This Bill is an amendment to section 44 of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008 to enable the National Transport Authority to provide public transport infrastructure in the regional cities, as it can currently in the Greater Dublin Area.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting).

Your William Fry contacts:
[David Maughan](#) & [Mary Ward](#)

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