

Key Governance Topics for 2019

Thursday, 31 January 2019, 8.00am – 10.30am

Institute of Public Administration, 57-61 Lansdowne Road, Dublin D04 TC62
A light breakfast will be served at 8am and the proceedings will commence at 8.30am

At the outset of each year, we look ahead to some of the key challenges, risks and opportunities facing public and state bodies and public benefit entities over the coming 12 months and beyond. Possibly key amongst these is the **Irish economic and fiscal outlook**, particularly in the context of an uncertain Brexit outcome. Early 2019 is likely to provide greater clarity as to what shape Brexit will take and the likely implications for Ireland. In May last year, GDPR took effect across the European Union and has consumed much time and energy in terms of preparation and implementation. But GDPR is just part of a broader emphasis on **data and information governance**, which is of growing importance to organisations, senior teams and boards – especially in the context of cyber security, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, FOI, records management, IT innovations (incl. remote devices) and indeed GDPR. Finally, public and state bodies and public benefit entities have done much over recent years to build and in some cases rebuild trust with key stakeholders. A key aspect of this is effective performance. We will consider Irish **Public Sector Trends**, including comparative performance of the public sector with other jurisdictions.

This first important Forum session will hear from three expert speakers on these three topics, with a particular focus on some of the key issues for public and state bodies and public benefit entities. The agenda will consider key questions, such as:

- What is the outlook for the Irish economy and fiscal policy in 2019 and beyond?
- What impact will various Brexit scenarios have on the Irish economy?
- What do Boards and senior executives need to focus on to ensure effective data and information governance is in place?
- What are the key areas of exposure and opportunity in terms of data and information?
- How does the Irish public sector compare with other jurisdictions in terms of size, scale, performance and trust?
- What are the key areas for public service reform focus?



Professor Alan Ahearn is Director of the Whitaker Institute and Professor of Economics at the National University of Ireland, Galway. He is a member of the Commission of the Central Bank of Ireland, and Chairman of the joint ESRI and Department of Finance Research Programme on the Macroeconomy, Taxation and Banking. He is also a member of the External Advisory Group to Ireland's Parliamentary Budget Office. He has served as adviser to the IMF, as research fellow at Bruegel, as a consultant to the UK's Department for International Development, and as economic adviser to Ireland's former Minister for Finance, Brian Lenihan. Before joining NUI Galway, he was Senior Economist at the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, DC, where he worked for seven years.



Terry Landers is Chief Standards Officer (EMEA) at Microsoft, where his main interests centre on the standards and policy agenda around cyber security/cryptography, IT governance, AI and blockchain. He joined Microsoft in 2003 as Head of Legal/Corporate Affairs for Northern and Central Europe. Terry has worked in the IT sector for over 30 years in Europe and the US, including in Digital Equipment/Compaq, Ericsson Ireland and Forfás. Terry is a member of the Board of the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) and Enable Ireland. He is Chairman of NSAI Inc., and Chairman of Ireland's ICT Standards Consultative Committee, as well as its mirror committee for Cybersecurity.



Dr Richard Boyle is Head of Research, Publishing & Corporate Relations at the Institute of Public Administration (IPA), and has been the IPA's lead researcher for many years, with a particular interest in public service modernisation, managing for results and developing and implementing effective performance management and evaluation systems. Richard has worked widely with Irish central and local government, the OECD and the World Bank, and has published numerous books and papers on public service management, including the annual IPA Public Sector Trends report. He is a member of the International Evaluation Working Group on policy and programme evaluation, whilst also being on the board of the European Evaluation Society (2002-2005), and chair of the Irish Evaluation Network.

* The event will be chaired by **Dr. Marlan O'Sullivan**, Director General of the IPA

Time & Location

The briefing will take place on Thursday, 31 January 2019 at the IPA, 57-61 Lansdowne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin D04 TC62.

A light breakfast will be served from 8.00am. The presentations and open forum discussions will commence at 8.30am and conclude at 10.30am.

Cost and Bookings

Members of the Forum may nominate up to two participants to the briefing without charge. The cost for additional nominees is €100 per person. The cost for non-forum members is €250 per person but subject to availability. Bookings can be made using the attached booking form or by contacting Jane Greer (jgreer@ipa.ie)