

Transport Ireland[®] 2012

Towards a competitive and
efficient transport future



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An Roinn Iompair
Turasóireachta agus Spóirt

Department of Transport,
Tourism and Sport

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Transport Ireland, now in its fifth year, has firmly established itself as the annual conference event for Ireland's transport sector. The 2012 conference will once again bring together all the key players from across Ireland, north and south, to focus on the most important issues facing transport policy-makers and the transport industry. It provides a unique opportunity for all those operating within the sector to come together for a day of valuable business networking and discussion.

While there is no doubt that transport is a key economic driver, and will play an important role in facilitating Ireland's economic recovery, like other sectors, transport is facing a challenging budgetary period with reducing budgets set against the need to ensure our transport network remains fit for purpose. The Minister is facing a reduction in his capital budget in 2012 to €1.2 billion and in current expenditure, cuts of €45 million are being implemented. While the levels of investment are being reduced, it is important that maximum return for the taxpayer is generated from that investment which does still proceed.

Alongside this challenging budgetary environment, the transport sector is facing major policy changes – with the ongoing review of the future structure and role of state airports and a new ports policy to chart the way forward for the ports sector due to be published soon. In public transport, the operating companies face the challenge of trying to win back passengers while adjusting to reducing budgets and rising costs. Initiatives such as integrated ticketing and other 'smarter travel' incentives will play an important role in achieving this objective of facilitating more public transport journeys.

Transport Ireland 2012 will examine many of these issues through an expert panel of local and visiting speakers. Transport Ministers Leo Varadkar, TD and Danny Kennedy, MLA will open the conference and outline their relevant departments' key transport policies. Other key issues examined in the programme will include:

- Investing in roads infrastructure
- Ports and airports and economic competitiveness
- How public expenditure cuts will impact transport
- The role of technology in addressing transport challenges
- Obtaining best value from transport infrastructure
- Natural gas as a transport fuel.



Danny Kennedy, MLA was appointed Northern Ireland Minister for Regional Development in 2011, having previously been Minister for Employment and Learning. He was first elected as an MLA in the Northern Ireland Assembly in 1998 and represents the Ulster Unionist Party for the Newry and Armagh constituency. He was a councillor on Newry and Mourne District Council from 1985-2010.



Tom O'Mahony was appointed Secretary General of the Department of Transport in June 2009. He previously served as Assistant Secretary at the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, where he headed the Environment Division. His responsibilities at that Department included climate change policy and sustainable development. He has also worked in the Departments of Health, Finance and Agriculture.



Nigel O'Neill is Head of Commercial Operations, Procurement and Strategic Planning in the NRA. Nigel has twenty years' experience in transport infrastructure including twelve years in consulting engineering. He joined the NRA in 2006. The Commercial Operations, Procurement and Strategic Planning Division encompasses network tolling, service areas, public private partnerships, procurement support services, and strategic planning including transport modelling and the provision of project appraisal guidance.



Eamonn O'Reilly was appointed Chief Executive of Dublin Port Company in August 2010 having previously held the position of Chief Executive at Portroe Stevedores, the Dublin Port based cargo handling business, since 2005. Eamonn also held the role of group development manager of Portroe's parent company, Doyle Shipping Group, during that time. Eamonn is a chartered engineer having graduated from University College Dublin and holds an MBA from Trinity College Dublin. Eamonn is a member of Engineers Ireland.



Vincent Sheehan is Manager of Business Development at Bus Eireann, responsible for business and strategic planning, network and product development, sales, marketing and external communications. He joined the Bus Eireann team in 2006, and prior to that, Vincent worked 15 years for a wide range of public and private sector enterprises in the areas of business strategy, marketing consulting and management development. Vincent is a graduate of the MBS and BComm in UCD.



Matthew Shepherd is a Senior Consultant at Oxera, one of Europe's leading independent economic consultancies. He specialises in applying analytical techniques such as econometrics and other statistical tools across different sectors, and assisting clients in understanding the results of these analyses. Matthew has applied these techniques to a range of transport modes, having been involved in projects in the rail, aviation, bus and ferry sectors, in addition to projects in the financial services and energy sectors.



Professor Austin Smyth is Head of the Transport Department at the University of Westminster, London and Professor of Transport Economics at the Transport Research Institute in Edinburgh. In 2006 he completed his term as Director General at the National Institute for Transport and Logistics (NITL) in Dublin. He is a Fellow of the CILT and has twenty five years experience in transport consultancy and research worldwide.



Denis Twomey is the Commercial Manager for Bord Gáis Networks, responsible for commercial operations, market development and the development of the innovation function. His previous roles with the company include Transportation Services Manager and Development Manager when he was responsible for the development of market arrangements and connection policy. Prior to joining Bord Gáis in 1997, Denis worked in a variety of project management roles and at National Grid Transco in the UK. He is a Chartered Engineer and member of Engineers Ireland and holds an MComm from University College Cork.



Leo Varadkar, TD was appointed Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in March 2011. He is a TD for Dublin West. He was appointed a member of the Fine Gael Front Bench when first elected to the Dáil in 2007. He served initially as Spokesperson on Enterprise, Trade and Employment and in June 2010 he was appointed to the Communications, Energy and Natural Resources portfolio. Prior to his election to the Dáil, Leo Varadkar served as a member of Fingal County Council from October 2003.

Conference programme

09.00 Chairman's welcome and introduction
Tom O'Mahony, Secretary-General
Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport

MINISTERIAL ADDRESSES

> **Dr Leo Varadkar, TD**,
Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport

> **Danny Kennedy, MLA**,
Minister for Regional Development

Transport gateways and infrastructure

The future of Ireland's transport gateways in improving competitiveness
Professor Austin Smyth, University of Westminster

The role of Irish ports in facilitating a return to economic growth
Eamonn O'Reilly, Chief Executive
Dublin Port Company

Investing in Ireland's roads infrastructure
Nigel O'Neill, Senior Project Manager
Strategic Planning, National Roads Authority

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

11.00 Morning coffee / networking break

Getting more from transport networks

11.30 *Increasing the efficiency of Ireland's public transport system in an era of less resources*
Vincent Sheehan, Business Development Manager
Bus Éireann

Impact on transport infrastructure of cuts in public expenditure: The GB experience
Matthew Shepherd, Senior Consultant, Oxera

Implementing the European transport white paper: Towards a competitive and resource efficient transport system
Herald Ruijters, European Mobility Network
DG MOVE, European Commission (*invited*)

Looking to the future: Innovation in transport

Exploring the role of natural gas in fuelling Ireland's transport future
Denis Twomey, Commercial Manager
Bord Gáis Networks

Creating smarter cities: The role of technology in addressing urban transport challenges
Mark Kenny, Senior Client Manager, IBM Ireland

Obtaining best value from transport infrastructure: The role of Intelligent Transport Systems
Robert Mansell, City of Edinburgh Council

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

13.30 Chairman's summary and seminar close followed by networking lunch

