

Minister Coughlan announces Pensions Ombudsman

Mary Coughlan TD, Minister for Social and Family Affairs, today announced her appointment of Mr Paul Kenny as the Pensions Ombudsman.

"The appointment of the Pensions Ombudsman is another important element in the reform process which commenced with the passing of the Pensions (Amendment) Act 2002, last year. Mr Kenny will be taking up office just after Easter and I expect his Office will be open for business in July" said Minister Coughlan.

The Pensions Ombudsman will be legally independent under the Pensions Act and will have power to investigate and determine complaints in relation to occupational pension schemes and Personal Retirement Savings Accounts (PRSAs).

Mr Kenny is a former Chairman of the Retirement Planning Council of Ireland. He has worked with Irish Pensions Trust/Mercer Human Resources Consulting and is currently Head of Retirement Research. He holds a B.Comm (NUI) and is a Fellow of the Pensions Management Institute and of the Irish Institute of Pensions Managers.

ENDS

6th March, 2003.

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