



An Coimisiún um  
**Rialáil Cumarsáide**  
Commission for  
**Communications Regulation**

# Establishment of the Independent Oversight Body (IOB)

## Information Notice

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**Commission for Communications Regulation**

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## Additional Information

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In December 2018<sup>1</sup> ComReg and Eircom agreed a set of commitments which, when fully implemented, will result in the establishment and operation of an enhanced Regulatory Governance Model (“RGM”) in Eircom.

As part of this agreement Eircom agreed to create an Independent Oversight Body (“IOB”), which it has now done.

The IOB is charged with, among other things, overseeing and assessing Eircom’s regulatory governance arrangements. The IOB consists of five members who will work collaboratively to deliver its mandate. The majority of its members including its Chairperson are independent and appointed by ComReg, with two further members appointed by Eircom.

The ComReg and Eircom appointees are as follows:

**ComReg Appointees:**

**Mr Bob Downes, IOB Chairperson.**

Bob is the current chairman of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and of CENSIS, an innovation centre for sensors and imaging systems. He is also an advisor to a number of small technology businesses. He spent 12 years with the BT Group, during this time he set up Openreach in Scotland in 2006 after the Ofcom Telecommunications Strategic Review in 2005 and left BT in 2011 as Director of Network Investment for Openreach in London. He was appointed to the Ofcom Board in February 2018.

**Mr Kevin O’Donovan, IOB member.**

Kevin is a risk management and corporate governance consultant and an independent non-executive director. Previously, Kevin had a 38 year career in KPMG covering audit partner roles in KPMG Ireland, including a term as Head of Audit, and subsequently, risk management partner roles in KPMG’s Global Risk Management Team. He is a former board member of the Irish Auditing & Accounting Supervisory Authority and the Auditing Practices Board (UK) and a former Chair of the Audit Committee of Arts Council Ireland.

**Mr Lakh Jemmett, IOB member.**

Lakh has built and lead international Telecommunications Businesses for the past 30 years in Europe, Asia and the US. He has a track record of P&L leadership within incumbent and competitor providers. In addition to 10 years with Colt Telecom plc., latterly as CEO Major Enterprise Division, during which time he also had P&L responsibility for Ireland, Lakh spent three

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<sup>1</sup> ComReg 18/110, 10 December 2018, “Wholesale Compliance Litigation Update - Outcome of Cases 481 and 568 and related litigation” <https://www.comreg.ie/publication/wholesale-compliance-litigation-update/>

years with Alcatel Lucent before moving to BT, where he was CEO BT Managed Services Ltd and Managing Director BT Wholesale.

**Eircom Appointees:****Ms Rose Hynes, IOB member.**

Rose Hynes is a non-executive director of Eircom Holdings Ltd. She is also Chairman of Shannon Group plc and the Chairman of Origin Enterprises plc. Rose is a non-executive director of a number of other companies in various sectors including Total Produce plc and IPL Plastics plc. Rose, a qualified lawyer was a long standing member of the senior management team in GPA and is also a former Chairman of Bord Gais /Ervia and a former non-executive director of Bank of Ireland, Fyffes plc and Aer Lingus.

**Ms Fiona Tierney, IOB member.**

Fiona was appointed non-executive director of Eircom Holdings Ltd. in July 2018. She was previously CEO of the Public Appointments Service and has been a member of the Civil Service Management Board. Fiona has a career history of successful leadership in senior executive positions in both the private and public sector. She is a Chartered Director of the Institute of Directors. She is a member of the Board of the Irish Management Institute. She is also on the Board of Trocaire. She is a non-executive director of the Irish Management Institute and of Pieta House.