

## Public Sector

Mason Hayes & Curran is proud of its leading practice in public and administrative law. Our Public & Administrative Law team is dedicated to offering a comprehensive service in the area, including advising on:

- statutory interpretation;
- legislative drafting;
- statutory powers (*vires*) and jurisdictional error;
- public and administrative law principles;
- natural and constitutional justice and fair procedures;
- public sector governance;
- information law, including freedom of information, data protection and confidentiality;
- professional disciplinary and regulatory law;
- investigations and inquiries;
- evidential matters; and
- all public law litigation.

We act for a wide range of clients, including central and local government, statutory and chartered bodies, regulators, disciplinary bodies, charitable and voluntary organisations and public bodies generally. We also act for persons dealing with such bodies.

Our experience means that we understand the public sector environment. Our specialisation means that we can deal with any queries quickly, expertly and cost-effectively.

### *Public Sector Governance*

We have significant expertise in advising public bodies on their statutory responsibilities, and on the public sector governance measures and legislative requirements which apply to them. These include the Constitution; the European Convention on Human Rights; the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies; as well as legislation relating to Standards and Ethics in Public Office, Prompt Payment of Accounts, Official Languages, Safety, Health and Welfare at Work and Disability.

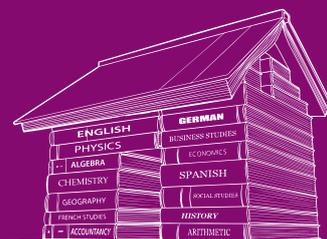
### *Public Affairs*

We recognise that navigating legislative and public policy can be a complex and politically-sensitive prospect. Our Public & Administrative Law team understands the legislative process. We can advise on how to bring about legislative and policy change, including drafting legislation, and also monitor emerging policies and proposals relevant to our clients. We regularly hold client seminars and offer bespoke training on new or existing legislation affecting our clients.

### *Information Law*

We advise extensively on Information Law, particularly Freedom of Information. We have been involved in more freedom of information appeals to the high and supreme courts than any other Irish law firm. We also advise on other information law affecting the public sector, including Access to Environmental Information, Re-Use of Public Sector Information, Data Protection, confidentiality, privacy, and disclosure and discovery processes in court and other proceedings.

*Dublin, London  
& New York*



## *Professional Discipline & Regulatory Law*

We have extensive experience of dealing with regulatory and disciplinary systems, codes and procedures. Our regulatory expertise stems, primarily, from our experience in advising regulatory and professional disciplinary bodies, and those regulated by such bodies, including:

- the Commission for Communications Regulation;
- the Commission for Energy Regulation;
- the Health Information and Quality Authority;
- the Health Insurance Authority;
- the Health and Safety Authority;
- the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority;
- the Medical Council;
- the Ombudsman;
- the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal; and
- the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland.

## *Investigations, Inquiries & Public Law Litigation*

This is a core practice area for the Public and Administrative Law team, and we frequently advise on:

- Judicial review, including public procurement judicial review;
- Statutory appeals and applications;
- Investigative processes (including tribunals, inquiries and Commissions of Investigation);
- Statutory notices and directions;
- Law of evidence;
- Civil enforcement;
- Prosecutions; and
- Injunctions.

We also advise on avoiding legal challenge and achieving objectives without resorting to the courts – something which is increasingly important in times of financial constraint – and have expertise in alternative dispute resolution in the public sector.

## *What others say about us...*

"Mason Hayes & Curran is well known for its work for ComReg and is representing the Department for Communications, Energy and National Resources on the implementation of Ireland's first national postcode system."

**Legal 500, 2013**

"Mason Hayes & Curran's large, dedicated team 'gets to the essence of the issue' for clients such as ComReg, State Claims Agency and the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland."

**Legal 500, 2012**

*For further information,  
please contact:*



**Finalist - Public Sector**  
Irish Law Awards 2013

**MHC.ie**



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