



An tÚdarás Pinsean
The Pensions Authority



IOPS International Seminar

23 February 2018
Dublin, Ireland

Organisation

The International Seminar, organised by the International Organisation of Pension Supervisors (IOPS), the Pensions Authority and the OECD will take place on 23 February 2018 in Dublin.

Registration

Please note that participation is by invitation only. If you have been invited to register, please do so by filling out the registration form attached.

Delegates are kindly requested to liaise directly with their chosen hotels. Participants are encouraged to complete their hotel reservation for their stay as soon as possible. Room availability may be limited as there is a Six Nations rugby match (Ireland -v- Wales) scheduled to take place on 24 February in Dublin.

Venue

The International Seminar will take place in the Hibernia Conference Centre at [Dublin Castle](#), Dame Street, Dublin 2. Dublin Castle is in the heart of the city and is adjacent to the bustling tourist centre, Temple Bar. Dublin Castle is one of Ireland's premier cultural sites and is used by the Government for prestigious functions of State, most significantly the inauguration of the President.

Please see map of Dublin Castle attached where you will note that the Hibernia Conference Centre can be found at point number 9.

Please note that there is no visitor car parking at the venue however there are a number of public multi-story car parks within walking distance.

Accommodation

We have obtained three special accommodation rates:

- [The Spencer Hotel](#) - €150.00 per night including breakfast,
- [The Fitzwilliam Hotel](#) – €189.00 per night, and
- [The Westbury Hotel](#) – €250.00 per night including breakfast.

There are also a number of other accommodation options ranging from €85.00 to €215.00 per night. Please see attached document which was previously circulated to delegates.

Airport transfer

The conference venue is 40 minutes drive from the airport by taxi which will cost approximately €25.00.

The conference venue can also be accessed by bus number 16 or 41 which takes approximately 1 hour (possibly more during peak rush hour) at a cost of €3.30. There is a more direct bus (number 757) at a cost of €7.00 which stops at Trinity College (5-10 minutes walk from the conference venue). Please note that buses do not provide change and require the exact amount when boarding.

Social events

Conference refreshments

- Lunch and morning and afternoon refreshments will be provided at the conference venue.

Evening refreshments

- A cocktail reception will be hosted by the Pensions Authority at the conference venue on the evening of 23 February 2018 following the Regional Seminar.

Working languages

The meetings and presentations will be conducted in English.

Documentation and website

Additional information on the meetings and the seminar, including the documents and presentations will be available to the delegates through the [IOPS website](#). For further information or enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the IOPS Secretariat or the Pensions Authority via phone or e-mail:

IOPS Secretariat	Phone number	E-mail address
Ms. Caroline Lam	+33 1 45 24 82 50	caroline.lam@oecd.org

Pensions Authority	Phone number	E-mail address
Jenny Robinson	+353 1 613 1920	jrobinson@pensionsauthority.ie

Visas

For some delegates, a [conference visa](#) may be required to enter Ireland. Delegates are strongly recommended to check on visa formalities with the Irish embassy in their country or the [Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service](#) in Dublin. Please note that you must submit any visa application at least 8 weeks before the event date.

Please also note that if your application for a visa is approved, you must get travel/medical insurance before you travel. You will not be allowed to enter Ireland without it.

In order to obtain the official letter to support your visa application process, please contact:

Pensions Authority	Phone number	E-mail address
Jenny Robinson	+353 1 613 1920	jrobinson@pensionsauthority.ie

Practical information

Language

Irish (Gaeilge) is the first official language of Ireland. English is considered the second official language however it is more commonly spoken than Irish.

Time

Ireland is on Greenwich Mean (GMT) in the winter and GMT plus 1 hour in the summer.

Currency

The official currency of Ireland is the Euro (€).

Exchange

The rate of 1 Euro is equal to approximately \$1.18 USD and £0.88 GBP.

Bank opening hours are generally 09.00 – 16.00 hours. All major credit cards are accepted in Ireland.

Climate

Ireland has a temperate oceanic climate which is influenced by the Atlantic Ocean. This results in mild, moist and changeable weather. January and February are the coldest months of the year with mean daily air temperatures of between 4 and 7 °C (39.2 and 44.6 °F).

When travelling to Ireland, you should pack warm clothes and a rainproof coat.

Electricity

Ireland's standard domestic electricity supply is 230V AC (frequency 50Hz) and the sockets take socket type G. Please check [this website](#) to see what type of plug adaptor you may need.

VAT

There are various rates of VAT in Ireland ranging from 9% to 23%, depending on the type of goods or services purchased. The majority of goods and services quote prices inclusive of VAT.

Communications

Ireland has a good communications network with three main operators namely Vodafone, Three and Eir.

Emergency phone numbers

Ambulance, Fire or Police can be contacted by dialling 999 or 112 (from a mobile phone).