



Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



3 June 2014

LG 13/2014

Amendment of Section 47 (Effective Discharge of Business) of the Local Government Act 2001

Dear Chief Executive

I am directed by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to refer to the commencement of section 40 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, which amends section 47 of the Local Government Act 2001 (2001 Act) which provides for effective discharge of business at meetings.

Section 40 amends section 47 of the 2001 Act by substituting it with a new provision whereby meetings of the local authority, its committees and of municipal district members are to be established, organised and operate in a manner which promotes effectiveness and efficiency in the discharge of business generally.

This provision is intended to ensure that there will be coherence in the organisation of business between the different levels and in relation to the operation of committees, including avoidance of duplication, unnecessary meetings etc. An important benefit of the new municipal district arrangements will be to relieve the overall plenary council meetings of much local detail, especially as municipal districts will have power to perform a range of functions in their own right. This will assist in the reduction in the frequency of plenary meetings as the new arrangements have bedded down.

A copy of this circular, which is available on the SharePoint system, should be given to each elected member.

Any queries in relation to matters covered by this circular letter should be directed to Sean O'Suilleabhain (Tel. 01 888 2800 or email to sean.osuilleabhain@environ.ie). Local Government Policy Section, Custom House, Dublin 1.

Yours sincerely

Donal Enright
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To Chief Executive of each County, County and City, and City

Copy for information to: AILG