



**An Roinn Iompair
Turasóireachta agus Spóirt**

**Department of Transport,
Tourism and Sport**

Post Enactment Report

Sport Ireland Act 2015 (No. 15 of 2015)

(Dáil Eireann – Standing Order 141A)

(Seanad Eireann – Standing Order 137A)

June 2016

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Sport Ireland Act 2015 (No. 15 of 2015)

Background

The Sport Ireland Act 2015 was signed into law by the President on 13 May 2015.

The main purpose of the Act was to establish a new non-commercial State agency, Sport Ireland, merging the Irish Sports Council and the National Sports Campus Development Authority. The Act made provision for the dissolution of the Irish Sports Council and the National Sports Campus Development Authority on the establishment of Sport Ireland.

The Act also updated the law in relation to doping in sport.

Current Status

Sport Ireland was established on 1 October 2015. In accordance with Section 30 of the Act, the Irish Sports Council and the National Sports Campus Development Authority were dissolved with effect from 1 October 2015.

Sport Ireland was established with a Board comprised of 13 members, including the Chairperson. The Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport appointed Mr Kieran Mulvey as Chairperson of the Board.

The Act combined and updated the main provisions of the Irish Sports Council Act, 1999 and the National Sports Campus Development Authority Act 2006. Sport Ireland now has responsibility for the relevant functions previously performed by the Council and the Authority and it is continuing the important work done by the two former agencies.

The Act also took account of the substantial developments in the area of doping in sport in the years since the Irish Sports Council Act, 1999 was enacted. It ensured the statutory underpinning of the existing national Anti-Doping Programme and the Irish Anti-Doping Rules which underpin the Programme. It also provided for information-sharing with certain bodies for the purpose of combating doping in sport. Sport Ireland's Anti-Doping Programme is an essential ethical foundation to Irish sport and a central pillar of Sport Ireland's work.

Conclusion

The main purpose of the Act was to establish Sport Ireland as the single statutory agency with responsibility for sport. The establishment of Sport Ireland has resulted in a more streamlined organisation for the development of sport and the implementation of sports policy by bringing responsibility for sports matters together under one agency.

In its first year of operation, Sport Ireland's key priorities include increasing the levels of participation in sport, supporting high performance sport and continuing the development of the National Sports Campus at Abbotstown, Blanchardstown.

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport is currently developing a new National Sports Policy to provide a framework for sport in Ireland over the next ten years. When it is completed, the new National Sports Policy will set the agenda for Sport Ireland.

Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.