

Regional

Studies

Association

**THE GLOBAL FORUM FOR CITY
AND REGIONAL RESEARCH,
DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY**

REGIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION IRISH SECTION

Seminar

**Second floor, Iontas Building,
Maynooth University (North Campus)
Thursday 23rd May 2019, 15.30**

MR. NIAL CUSSEN

**Chief Executive of the Office of the Planning
Regulator**

Mr Niall Cussen, who was appointed by Government as the Planning Regulator and Chief Executive of the OPR earlier this year will outline the work of his team in establishing and building the functionality of the OPR as well as setting out key milestones and issues to be addressed. (abstract attached)

**Opening address: Prof. Linda Connolly (MUSSI)
Respondent: Prof. Jim Walsh (Maynooth University)**

Online Free Registration Required (spaces are limited):

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/rsa-irish-section-seminar-mr-niall-cussen-tickets-61288501558>

For further information: chris.vanegeraat@mu.ie

The event is supported by the Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute

Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute

Abstract

The Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) has been established by Government to oversee the functioning and policy consistency of Ireland's planning process to ensure the effective delivery of planning services by local authorities and An Bord Pleanála and quality outcomes in relation to proper planning and sustainable development.

The Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2018 established the legal basis for the OPR and its functions, which include the following:

- assessment of all local authority and regional assembly forward planning functions, including development plans, local area plans and regional spatial and economic strategies;
- organisational review of the systems and procedures used by any planning authority, including An Bord Pleanála, in the performance of any of their planning functions, including assessing risks of maladministration or corruption.
- driving national research, training, education and public information programmes. The OPR will establish best practice in planning matters and highlight the role and benefit of proper planning.

Mr Niall Cussen, who was appointed by Government as the Planning Regulator and Chief Executive of the OPR earlier this year will outline the work of his team in establishing and building the functionality of the OPR as well as setting out key milestones and issues to be addressed.