



## Annual Conference 2009

# “Transforming Public Services (TPS) – The Role of the Director”

The Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, County Offaly  
Thursday 24th and Friday 25th September 2009

It is a pleasure for me to welcome you to the sixth annual conference of the Local Government Directors Association. I have no doubt that you will be actively involved in the programme where we aim to build on the success of our previous conferences.

The theme of this conference is entitled **“Transforming Public Services (TPS) – The Role of the Director”**. The conference will address some of the key issues identified in the 2008 OECD Review “Ireland - Towards an Integrated Public Service”, in the *Report of the Task Force on the Public Service “Transforming Public Services: Citizen Centred - Performance Focused”* and also in the “Government Statement on Transforming Public Services”. The conference will address the contribution that senior management, in the Local Government sector, has made to transforming public services and the major challenges that lie ahead, particularly in the context of the recent *McCarthy Report and the Commission on Taxation Report*.

The conference will conclude with the Annual General Meeting of LGDA and LGDS and the involvement of all Directors is crucial to the success of our organisation in the coming year.

I would like to thank all of the Directors, especially the members of the Executive Committee and the Conference Sub-group who have organised this conference. A special word of thanks to the IPA and in particular Dr. Philip Byrne for his guidance and assistance.

Katherine Walshe,  
*Chairperson,*  
*Local Government Directors Association.*



### **Ms. Katherine Walshe, Chairperson, Local Government Directors Association.**

Katherine is currently a Director of Services for Organisational Development in Cork County Council. Prior to this, she was Director of Services for Community and Enterprise which followed her initial posting as Director of Services for Environment. She previously worked with Limerick City Council and has also worked with Kerry, Waterford and Limerick County Councils and in the private sector. Katherine graduated as a Civil Engineer from UCC and has an MBA from DCU. She is a Fellow of the IEI and a member of the most recent EPA Advisory Committee.

# "Transforming Public Services (TPS) – The Role of the Director"

## Programme Day 1 Thursday, 24th September

9.30 **Registration with Tea and Coffee**

10.15 **Welcome and Introduction to Conference**  
*Ms. Katherine Walshe, Chairperson, LDGA*

### SESSION 1:

*Chaired by Ms. Martina Moloney  
County Manager, Galway County Council*

10.30 **Presentation 1:**  
*Ms. Geraldine Tallon, Secretary General, Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government.*  
**TPS – The DEHLG's perspective in terms of the Local Government Sector: value for money; measuring and managing performance of people and organisations; engaging and empowering citizens and; efficient use of ICT and shared services.**

11.15 **Questions and Answers**

11.30 **Tea/Coffee and Networking Break**

### SESSION 2:

*Chaired by Mr. Pat Gallagher,  
County Manager, Offaly County Council*

11.45 **Presentation 2:**  
*Ms. Lena Langlet, SALAR*  
**TPS - A Swedish local government perspective of their Transformation Programme.**

12.15 **Questions and Answers**

12.30 **Lunch**

### SESSION 3:

*Chaired by Mr. Eddie Sheehy, County Manager, Wicklow County Council and Chair of CCMA*

2.00 **Presentation 3:**  
*Mr. Conn Murray,  
County Manager, Louth County Council*  
**TPS – A Manager's perspective in terms of the Local Government Sector providing greater value for money, and a range of measures ultimately delivering more efficient and effective services.**

2.40 **Questions and Answers**

2.50 **Presentation 4:**  
*Councillor Denis Landy,  
South Tipperary County Council*  
**TPS – An Elected Member's perspective in terms of engaging with the citizen, and honouring promises and commitments to the Public.**  
3.20 **Questions and answers**

3.30 **Tea/Coffee Break**

3.45 **Presentation 5:**  
*Mr. Frank Kelly, Head of Human Resources,  
Dublin City Council*  
**TPS – The HR challenges facing Local Authorities in the current environment.**

4.00 **Workshops (based on CCMA sub-committee structure) – Choose one of six group exercises to stimulate discussion on:**

#### TPS – The challenges that lie ahead for Directors in:

A. Finance

B. Housing

C. Community, Social and Economic Development

D. Land Use and Transportation (incl. H&S)

E. Environment

F. Water

4.45 **Workshops Feedback and Key Takeaways**

5.15 **Conference Close**

8.00 **Evening Dinner (Formal dress; Black Tie is not required)**

## Programme Day 2 Friday, 25th September

9.30 **AGM of the Local Government Directors Association**

11.00 **Tea and Coffee**

11.15 **AGM of the Local Government Directors Society**

1.00 **Conclusion**



#### **Ms Geraldine Tallon**

Geraldine Tallon, from Co Meath, is an arts graduate of University College, Dublin, and joined the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in 1980. She gained wide experience on many aspects of the Department's business before becoming an Assistant Secretary in 1997, with responsibility for policy development on environmental, climate change and sustainable development issues. In mid-2004 she assumed responsibility for local government and franchise matters. Ms Tallon was appointed by Government as Secretary General of the Department with effect from 1 July 2007.



#### **Ms Lena Langlet**

Lena Langlet is the senior adviser in the Finances and Governance Division and is also project manager for project "Civic participation" in the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions.

In the past Lena was special Adviser to Minister of Education, Special Adviser to Vice Mayor with responsibility for Education and Culture in the City of Stockholm and also Manager for Education and pre schools in different districts in Stockholm.



#### **Mr Conn Murray**

Conn Murray's career commenced 30 years ago in his native County of Meath. He has since worked in 9 different local authorities including Clonmel Borough Council, Limerick City, Cork City and was appointed City Manager in Waterford in September 2003. Conn took up his present appointment as Manager of Louth County Council in September 2007.

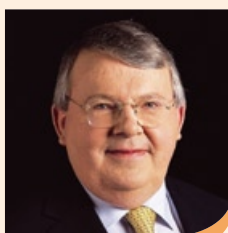
As a member of the County & City Managers' Association Conn serves on the Housing Committee, Working Group on Voluntary & Co-operative Housing, Affordable Housing Partnership, Ageing Well Network, Industrial Relations Committee of the Local Government Management Services Board, and the Local Authority National Council. Conn holds a MA (Local Government).



#### **Councillor Denis Landy**

Denis Landy is a member of Carrick On Suir Town Council since 1988 and South Tipperary County Council since 1991. Denis was Mayor of Carrick On Suir on two occasions and has served as Chairperson of the Strategic Policy Committee on Housing and Social Policy on South Tipperary County during the last term of the Council and is also the current Chair of this committee.

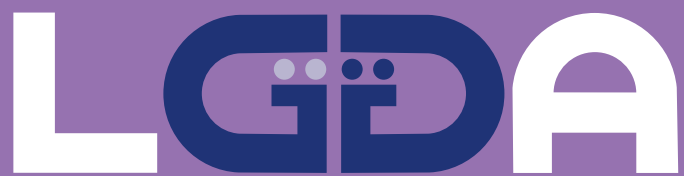
He is a past National President of the Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland, the body that represents Town and City Local Government and is currently The Labour Party Whip in the Association. Denis is a full time Public Representative for a number of years but previously worked in the telecommunications industry and also spent period working as a Community Development Officer.



#### **Mr Frank Kelly**

Frank Kelly is Head of Human Resources with Dublin City Council which is the largest local authority in the Republic of Ireland. (He is the current honorary chair of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development - CIPD). Dublin City Council has a revenue budget of almost €1B per annum and provides a wide range of services to the citizens of Dublin including water, waste management services, fire brigade and emergency ambulance, planning and development, roads and traffic and a whole range of social and community activities aimed at enhancing the social capital of the city. Human Resources strategy is a key component of service delivery and plays a vital role in delivering quality outputs for all the citizens of Dublin.

Frank holds a M.Sc. (Management) (Organisational Behaviour) from Trinity College Dublin, and advanced management diploma in Business and executive coaching from the Smurfit Business School, University College Dublin.



**Local Government Directors Association**  
Comhlachas Stiúrthóirí Rialtas Áitiúil

[www.lgda.ie](http://www.lgda.ie)

