

*Welcome to the 2nd edition of PSA Watch in 2016,
the ezine of the Private Security Authority.*

Training Providers Forum

The PSA has established a Training Providers Forum for PSA approved training providers. The aim of the Forum is to provide a communications channel on regulatory matters. The inaugural meeting was held on the 14th of September in Portlaoise and was attended by 13 providers. The meeting was opened by the PSA's Chief Executive, Paul Scallan and there was a discussion on PSA requirements for training providers and the development of new training courses for the Door Supervisor, Event and Security Guarding sectors. The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled for November and thereafter every quarter.

It is essential that you use a Training Provider offering courses validated by QQI (Quality & Qualifications Ireland). The PSA does not run courses or award qualifications

There are a minimum number of training hours required for each course, if your training provider is not adhering to the requisite hours your certificate may be rejected when you apply for a licence. The directed learning hours for Security Skills Guarding is 30 hours and is also 30 hours for Door Supervisor.

eVetting

To co-incide with the commencement of *The National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016*, An Garda Síochána have launched a new eVetting system.

First time applicants for a Private Security Authority (PSA) licence will be vetted by the National Vetting Bureau (NVB) as part of their application. PSA policy is to re-vet licence holders at least once every 5 years with existing Licence holders randomly selected for re-vetting.

The eVetting process works as follows:

1. The PSA will send you an email with a link to the NVB eVetting application.
2. You complete the vetting application online.
3. The PSA will review your vetting application and submit it to the National Vetting Bureau.
4. The National Vetting Bureau will process the application and send a vetting disclosure to the PSA.

The PSA will review the vetting disclosure and uses the information provided to decide on license issue based on the PSA's Fit and Proper guidelines

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Latest News**

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Feedback

We welcome your feedback on our ezine and its contents. We also welcome any suggestions for future issues. You can contact us at info@psa.gov.ie.

If you wish to unsubscribe or a colleague wishes to have their name added to our distribution list please let us know at info@psa.gov.ie

Thank You

New Online Renewal System

As part of our commitment to improving services to licence holders, the PSA launched the first phase of its' new online application service on the 25th of May 2016. It provides for an online renewal system for employee licensing. You will now receive an email with a PIN in advance of the expiry of your licence. Using this PIN you will then be able to log into the renewal system and apply and pay for your licence online.

Licence holders can update contact information, employer information, and add or remove sectors to their licence and pay for their licence using a debit or credit card. The online service is available 24-7. The new system has been a great success and to date 1,375 licence holders have renewed their licence online.

Renewal Dates

Upcoming Renewal Dates

The next dates for renewal of Individual licences are –

6th November 2016 and 8th December 2016

Licence holders will receive an e-mail notification with log-in details one month in advance of the expiry of their licence. Licence holders can then log in the renewal system at www.psa.gov.ie.

To renew your licence you must have:

- A current Debit or Credit card, authorised by your Bank or Building Society for online purchases
- Your current eircode

If you wish to add a new sector to your licence you must have an electronic copy (.pdf, .jpeg or .png) of your training document.

Licensing of Locksmiths Contractors Announced

Following the signing of Regulations by the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality, Frances Fitzgerald, TD, the PSA announced that the critical date for the licensing of contractors in the locksmith sector would be the 1st February 2017. Announcing the introduction of licensing the PSA's Chief Executive, Paul Scallan said *"The extension of licensing to locksmiths is another major milestone in the regulation of the private security industry. I would like to thank all those involved in the process over the past 2 years and in particular the members of the working group who developed the standard for licensing, PSA 55:2016."*

The PSA will start accepting applications from contractors for this new sector from 1st November 2016. In order to obtain a licence, contractors will require a certificate from a PSA approved certification body certifying compliance to PSA 55:2016.

PSA Contact Details

An tÚdarás Slándála Príobháidí
The Private Security Authority
Davis Street, Tipperary, Co.
Tipperary, E34 PY91

T:062-31588 (Switch)
F:062-31591
E: info@psa.gov.ie

Contractor Division

Contractor Licensing
T: 062-32612
062-32614
062-32624
062-32606
062-32627
062-32631
F: 062-31731
E: contractors@psa.gov.ie

Individual Licensing Division

(First Names Beginning A-J)
T: 062 - 32621
062 - 32625
062 - 32632
062 - 32636
062 - 32638
F: 062-31591
E: licensing@psa.gov.ie

(First Names Beginning K-Z)

T: 062 - 32609
062 - 32626
062 - 32628
062 - 32648
062 - 32658
062 - 32690
F: 062-31591
E: licensing@psa.gov.ie

Inspectorate Division

T: 062-32609
062-32629
062-32658
F: 062-31731
E: enforcement@psa.gov.ie

Corporate Affairs Division

T: 062-31516
062-32617
F: 062-31731
E: info@psa.gov.ie

Visit us on our website at
www.psa.gov.ie

Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Workplace Relations Commission

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the PSA and the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC) has come into operation following the signing of the memorandum at the WRC's offices in Carlow.

At the signing ceremony Mr Scallan said *“This MOU provides a platform for closer co-operation between our organisations including the exchange of information and the undertaking of joint operations where they are considered of mutual benefit. The signing of the MOU gives a clear signal that those who seek to evade their legal obligations to their employees will receive the full attention of both our organisations.”*

While the operation of the MOU is expected to be largely in the area of pay there will also be a focus on the areas of work permits and other employment rights.

**CEO of the PSA Paul Scallan (left) and Pádraig Dooley,
Director & Chief Labour Inspector of the WRC**



One of the aims of the WRC is to ensure that both employers and employees are aware of the meaning and application of employment law and, when necessary, ensure that it is enforced. A key role is one of carrying out inspections of employer records with a view to determining compliance with employment rights legislations. This also encompasses an information function.

[Visit the Workplace Relations Commission Website](#)