

AN ROINN DLÍ agus CIRT agus  
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE and  
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To whom it may concern,

I am directed by the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality, Frances Fitzgerald, T.D., to write to you regarding the upcoming vacancies on the Parole Board and to inform you of the change in the appointment process.

As you know, the Parole Board plays a key role in advising the Minister on the management of the cases of prisoners serving long sentences. The membership of the Board includes representatives of the Minister, the Prison Service, the Probation and Welfare Service, the psychiatric profession as well as those who represent community interests generally. This may include persons with experience of medical, legal, psychology, psychiatry, education, policing, prisons and probation matters relevant to the criminal justice area.

Previously, appointments to the Board would be selected by the Minister with no public competition. However, in keeping with the Government's commitment to create greater openness and transparency in relation to Board appointments, the Tánaiste has directed that the Department host a publicly advertised competition for upcoming vacancies on the Parole Board.

There is currently one vacancy on the Board and upcoming vacancies in 2017 include the position of the Chairperson and that of a psychiatric professional. Further details of the competition are available at [www.publicjobs.ie](http://www.publicjobs.ie).

Should you know of any person who may wish to apply to be a member of the Parole Board and has the requisite skill set I would be grateful if you could advise them of this competition.

Yours sincerely

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Jimmy Martin  
Assistant Secretary  
14 December 2016