

Our team



Dr. Des Hogan

Des Hogan was appointed as Commissioner for Data Protection and Chairperson of the Irish Data Protection Commission in February 2024. Prior to that he was Assistant Chief State Solicitor in the Office of the Chief State Solicitor in the period 2015-2024. He served as Acting Chief Executive in the Irish Human Rights Commission in 2007 and from 2012 to 2014. He previously worked for the Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and for Amnesty International in Australia and its International Secretariat in London. A solicitor by profession, Dr Hogan was awarded a Masters in European Law from University College Dublin and a PhD in Philosophy of Law from Trinity College Dublin.



Dale Sunderland

Dale Sunderland was appointed Commissioner for Data Protection in February 2024. Prior to his appointment he held the position of Director and Deputy Commissioner with responsibility for the Data Protection Commission's Supervision, Guidance and International Affairs functions. Dale joined the DPC as Deputy Commissioner in May 2016, having previously worked at Ireland's Department of Justice from 2002 to 2016. During his time at the Department Justice, Dale was Head Communications and Corporate Secretariat, and held various other positions working on Irish-British immigration cooperation, EU criminal justice and policing policy, corporate governance oversight, and international, parliamentary and media affairs.



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New Data Protection Commissioners take up their new roles

20th February 2024

Dr. Des Hogan and Mr. Dale Sunderland have today commenced their roles as Commissioners with the Irish Data Protection Commission. Dr Hogan will be the Chair of the Commission. Both appointments were announced by Government last week, with the Commissioners appointed for a five-year term.

Dr. Hogan: "I am delighted to be taking up the position of Commissioner for Data Protection, and Chairperson, following the Government decision to appoint two Commissioners and the formal appointment made by the Minister for Justice. It is a deep honour to be joining the Commission and its dedicated staff to serve the people of Ireland, and partner with our European colleagues in safeguarding data protection rights. The Commission will aim to build on its strong legacy over the coming years and I look forward to working with its many stakeholders."

Mr. Sunderland: "It is a privilege to be appointed to the position of Commissioner for Data Protection. I look forward to working closely with my fellow Commissioner Des Hogan, the Data Protection Commission's talented and dedicated staff, our European data protection authority colleagues and the wider global data protection and privacy regulatory community. We will continue to uphold data protection rights through guidance, engagement and the effective and fair supervision and enforcement of the GDPR and other data protection laws."

Dr. Hogan also paid tribute to the outgoing Commissioner, Helen Dixon, whose tenure came to an end yesterday, after almost 10 years in office. "I am deeply grateful to our predecessor Commissioner Dixon for her outstanding dedication and public service during her tenure. The Commission will strive to build on her legacy."

Your Data

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