

## Department of Defence

### Secretary General

The Department of Defence provides advice on all Defence matters including analysis, formulation and implementation of policy as directed by the Minister. The Department is responsible for ensuring the secure and stable environment on which national growth and development is built by ensuring the Defence Forces have the capacity to deliver on the roles assigned by Government, on the policy aspects of military operations and Civil Defence and Emergency Planning as well as policy input at a national level, the EU and internationally.

The Secretary General supports the Minister for Defence, developing a vision and implementing the strategy for the Defence sector in its entirety. Operating in the complex constitutional and legal structure underpinning defence, the Secretary General steers the Department's contribution to politically sensitive policy formulation and review. This strategic perspective includes the interplay with foreign policy and national security policy in particular, but also across all other aspects of Government policy. As Accounting Officer for all Defence Expenditure, the Secretary General oversees critical investment decisions and is personally responsible to the Oireachtas for all defence expenditure.

The successful candidate will have:

- A well-developed capacity to lead in a complex environment; a record of achievement in his/her career demonstrating excellent senior management and leadership experience in an organisation of significant complexity and scale;
- Very strong interpersonal skills, including the capacity to manage critical relationships using judgment, vision and leadership;
- The particular blend of resilience and flexibility needed to manage the challenges of the joint civil military environment.
- An understanding of, or an ability to quickly acquire an appreciation of delivery within the specific governance arrangements in the defence sector.

Applicants will also need to demonstrate an appreciation of security and military affairs and a capacity to provide calm assurance in response to the contingencies and crises that form part of the business of defence.

This is a Top Level Appointments Committee (TLAC) position.

**Closing Date:** 3pm, Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020

We are committed to a policy of equal opportunity and encourage applications under all nine grounds of the Employment Equality Act.

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