

# **Minister Flanagan launches Property Services Regulatory Authority's 2018 Annual Report**

**18<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

The Minister for Justice and Equality, Charlie Flanagan, T.D., today launched the Property Services Regulatory Authority's (PSRA) 2018 Annual Report at the National Ploughing Championships in Ballintrae, Fenagh, Co Carlow.

In launching the PSRA's annual report the Minister highlighted key events and milestones for the Authority in 2018 including a comprehensive survey of licensees concerning the impact of regulation on the sector, which saw a 25% response rate. Further the implementation of the online Licensing System for new licence applications was successfully launched. All new and renewal licence applications are now submitted online, leading to a more streamlined application process, while also reducing the PSRA's carbon footprint.

2018 proved to be another busy year for the PSRA, with statistics from the licensing and compliance departments showing some 465 new licenses issued. The number of new licences granted in 2018 showed an increase on the previous year, continuing an overall trend since the establishment of the PSRA and demonstrating continued interest in the property sector. Notably, the level of complaints received concerning the sector decreased by 17% from 329 in 2017 to 274 complaints in 2018.

Minister Flanagan also highlighted the PSRA's Residential Property Price Register, quoting an impressive 1.9 million visits made to the online database in 2018. The Register provides relevant information for those considering purchasing a home or investment property by providing the price, address and date of sale of properties. "The continuing high level of visits to the Register indicates the relevance of the Register to consumers," said the Minister.

Also speaking at the launch of the Annual Report, Ms Maeve Hogan, CEO of the PSRA stated, "We are delighted to have Minister Flanagan here with us today to launch our Annual Report. 2018 was another very productive year for the PSRA in maintaining and further developing standards in the property services sector".

The PSRA was delighted to be involved in the Property: Homes, Buildings and Lands Centre in the Government Village at the National Ploughing Championships 2019 and to have the opportunity to engage with so many members of the public.