

IGB Talking Dogs - Irish Greyhound Board

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Geraldine Larkin has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Irish Greyhound Board in succession to Adrian Neilan who vacated the position in January.

The following statement was issued by the IGB today:

IGB STATEMENT

The Irish Greyhound Board are pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Geraldine Larkin as Chief Executive Officer. Ms Larkin is currently the Chief Executive of the Private Security Authority where she has been in charge since January 2005.

Geraldine successfully established the Private Security Authority and introduced regulation to the private security industry. That industry currently has an annual turnover of circa €500m with 800 businesses and in the region of 28,000 individuals licensed. The services provided range from traditional security guarding through electronic security to high value cash transportation services.

Geraldine's background was formerly in the civil service where she has experience in a number of key posts in the Department of Justice, Equality and Law reform, including areas such as Courts Policy, International Policy, Security and Northern Ireland, Criminal Law Review and Human Rights. Geraldine holds a degree in Public Administration from the Institute of Public Administration and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the Open University.

Phil Meaney, Chairman of IGB, in commenting on the appointment said that he was delighted that someone with Geraldine's very impressive background and experience of regulatory and compliance affairs both in the Department of Justice and latterly in a leadership role with the Private Security Authority was joining the greyhound industry at leadership level.

Speaking after her appointment Ms Larkin said that the role is a very exciting one at this stage of the development of the greyhound industry which has been making significant progress on all fronts since it was first founded on a statutory basis in 1958.

She added that she saw the recently published Five Year Business Strategy as being a road map for future business success especially with regard to international opportunities. Ms Larkin went on to say that she was also mindful of the current business challenges in what are still recessionary times and where IGB are competing for discretionary spending in the entertainment space. She also said that she understood and appreciated that sustainable breeding levels and the availability of world class greyhounds was also of critical importance to the future of the industry.

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