

# Meeting Record

## Details

- Date: Thursday 19 June 2025, 12:00
- Location: Minister's office, Kildare Street, Dublin
- Duration: 45 minutes (allocated)
- Organised by: Deputy Gillian Toole's office (Liz Rigby)
- Attendees: Minister Darragh O'Brien (Transport), Gareth O'Brien (NRTG), Bryan Beggan (NRTG), Deputy Gillian Toole (Meath East)
- Pre-meeting with Toole: 11:15, Coffee Dock, Leinster House

## Agenda (sent to Minister's office in advance)

1. The Minister's dual obligations, both as shareholder representative for daa and as the head of the Department responsible for providing oversight to the aviation bodies: daa, IAA and AirNav
2. Concerns about the technical competency and independence of the daa board, particularly in areas such as aviation safety, environmental compliance, and engineering oversight
3. The ongoing and confirmed breach of planning permission at Dublin Airport, where unauthorised departure routes are being used in direct contravention of the 2007 approval granted by An Bord Pleanala
4. The effective invalidation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which undermines the legal basis for current operations and obstructs daa's efforts to lawfully raise the passenger cap
5. The withholding of accurate noise data from ANCA, contrary to statutory obligations
6. daa's continued dissemination of misleading public statements, which raises broader questions about institutional disinformation and the role of State entities in preserving public trust

## Key exchange: noise data withholding

On agenda item 5, the Minister stated words to the effect: "daa can't release the noise info while the RA is live."

Gareth O'Brien interrupted and corrected him: "They can, they choose not to."

The Minister did not argue the point. He appeared exasperated and moved on without responding substantively.

Source: first-hand account, Gareth O'Brien (attendee).

## Significance

The Minister repeated daa's own claim (that the ABP appeal on the Relevant Action prevented release of noise data to ANCA) as if it were established fact. This is the same claim documented in the Deputy CEO briefing note (source: 2025/Deputy CEO/Briefing Note for Engagement with DAA Deputy CEO.docx). There is no statutory basis for this claim: nothing in the 2019 Act or in the ABP appeal process prevents daa from supplying noise data to ANCA.

The agenda was sent to the Minister's office in advance. The Minister's officials had advance notice that the noise data withholding would be raised. Despite this, the Minister repeated daa's position rather than an independent Departmental assessment.

The noise data was not supplied to ANCA until November 2025, five months after this meeting.

## Source emails

- 69521 Meeting with Min.eml: Liz Rigby to Gareth O'Brien, 13 June 2025, initial meeting invitation
- 69524 RE Meeting with.eml: Agenda items sent (attachment had failed on first email)
- 69526 RE Meeting with.eml: Gareth to Liz, noting agenda too long for 45 minutes
- 69532 Re Meeting with.eml: Liz to Gareth/Bryan, will confirm duration
- 69533 Re Meeting with.eml: Bryan Beggan confirms attendance
- 69567 RE Meeting with.eml: Liz confirms 45-minute duration
- 69568 RE Meeting with.eml: Liz books both in at security gate
- 69582 RE Meeting with.eml: Gareth sends revised running order
- 69632 Re Meeting with.eml: Liz confirms revised agenda sent to Minister's office
- 69636 Meeting with Min.eml: Liz, eve-of-meeting logistics (Coffee Dock, Kildare Street gate)
- 69640 Re Meeting with.eml: Bryan Beggan thanks Liz
- 69642 RE Meeting with.eml: Gillian Toole, "Looking forward to meeting you tomorrow and that we get a successful outcome"

## Source email chain

The email chain underlying this meeting record is held in the NRTG repository at `correspondence/minister-meeting-2025-06-19/`. The following files are the source messages, listed in order of receipt:

- 69521 Meeting with Min.eml
- 69524 RE Meeting with.eml
- 69526 RE Meeting with.eml
- 69532 Re Meeting with.eml
- 69533 Re Meeting with.eml
- 69567 RE Meeting with.eml
- 69568 RE Meeting with.eml
- 69582 RE Meeting with.eml
- 69632 Re Meeting with.eml
- 69636 Meeting with Min.eml
- 69640 Re Meeting with.eml
- 69642 RE Meeting with.eml

The messages are logistical (invitation, attendance confirmations, agenda circulation, venue and security arrangements). The substantive content of the meeting is captured in the Meeting Record above.