

New Environmental Report launched

Detailed information available on New Website and 7th Edition of Dublin City & District Street Guide

Farmleigh House, , 15th July 2008

Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, **Seán Power, T.D.** today launched a new Environmental Report developed by **Ordnance Survey Ireland**. This report will, for the first time, provide users with consolidated data currently retained by three organisations - **Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi)**; the **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** and the **Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI)**. The report will be of interest to anyone who owns or intends on purchasing a property, and should also prove to be of immense importance to professional users such as planners, architects, engineers, and the legal profession.

Speaking at the launch, Minister Power said *"This report is an excellent example of what can be achieved when agencies get involved in a collaborative initiative to meet the needs of their customers. This type of initiative endorses what the Taoiseach said recently in relation to the OECD Review of the Public Service, which recommends a greater sharing of information between public bodies. Working together in this way leads to an improvement of services which ultimately makes a very effective contribution to the infrastructural base of business in the economy."*

Minister Power also launched the new corporate website for the OSi (<http://www.osi.ie/>). Highlighting a greater reliance on the Internet by the public for sourcing products and services, Minister Power said: *"Again I think this demonstrates the acute awareness that the organisation has of who its customers are, and what their requirements and expectations are for the future. I was particularly impressed by the educational section of the website which recognises the need to nurture even the most embryonic interests in mapping and spatial information"*

Commenting also on the launch of the 7th Edition of the organisation's bestselling *"Dublin City and City Street Guide"* the Minister noted the significantly extended scope of this new edition, which covers 12 new towns including *Balbriggan, Rush* and *Skerries* on the Northside to *Greystones* and *Delgany* on the Southside and as far west as *Kilcock*. Minister Power concluded by saying that *"It gives me great pleasure to see that the OSi is an organisation priding itself on being to the forefront of change and development and in passing the benefit of that to its customers as quickly as possible. , so as to facilitate more informed decision-making, at both public and professional user level"*

~ New Environmental Report:

Background:

Agencies such as the *Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)*, the *Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI)* and *Ordnance Survey* have, over a long number of years, gathered extensive information on their respective specialist areas resulting in the creation of national datasets of incomparable extent and quality. The task however that faced an individual, whether that be a private user or the highest level of professional customer, to identify, acquire and collate these various datasets to provide a complete picture and indeed for them then to interpret the final result, proved a challenge for many.

This single report, the Environmental Report developed by Ordnance Survey Ireland, will for the first time and for a user selected geographic location, provide and consolidate data currently retained by the three organisations - *Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi)*; the *Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)* and the *Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI)*.

The report will contain detailed information on:

- a) **Land Use** e.g. mines, quarries, Gravel Pits, etc
- b) **Site History** e.g. Seasonal Lakes, Rail/Tram Lines, Historic Wells, Historic Flood Plains, etc
- c) **Stability:** e.g. Sub soils, Landslide locations, etc.
- d) **Water History** e.g. Ground Water Quality, Springs, Karst Information, reservoir locations, etc
- e) **Statutory Licences:** e.g. Active Integrated Pollution Control (IPC) licences, active EPA Waste Licences.
- f) **Aerial Photography:** i.e. Aerial Photography captured by Ordnance Survey Ireland from 2004-2006.

Who will use the product?

OSi see this product being of use to both the private and professional sector. It is considered that a significant number of the professional sectors including Environmental Planners, Architects, Engineers, Construction, Auctioneer and Solicitor/Legal will welcome this report. Insurance Companies may also place some reliance on elements of the data e.g. flood plains, etc for risk identification/mitigation.

How will a user order the product?

The report is purchased through *OSi's* online website (<http://www.osismartmaps.ie/>)

where it is possible to purchase a number of mapping/imagery products.

The Environmental Report will be delivered by email as a .PDF or by post depending on the customer requirements.

It is also possible to purchase an Irish version of the Environmental Report.

The report can be purchased in three formats a 400metre, 600metre or a 1000metre radius search from the selected location.

OSi have a professional report which also includes extracts of the 1830's 6inch and 25inch mapping from *OSi's* historic database as well as the other information included in other reports. *OSi* then search the various datasets for results.

The '*osismartmaps*' website uses *OSi's* own aerial imagery in the background with some mapping to assist users locating their preferred site and has complete address and coordinate search functionality.

~ **New Corporate Website** (<http://www.osi.ie/>)

History of existing Website:

The existing website <http://www.osi.ie/>

was first launched in 1999. In its day it was considered to be a very modern and dynamic site but both technology & design have (and also customer expectations) have moved on. To date the website focused more on the professional user but the aim of the new Website is to cater for all users and all ages of users, both home and abroad.

What is different about this the new site?

This site recognises the customer classification e.g. member of the public, business & industry, educational and provides information for them that focuses on their particular user

requirements. It is structured to ensure that relevant information is easier to find. It now has an educational users section which it is hoped will assist everyone from primary school children to the academic community.

Is there an e-delivery element?

The new website will have links to OSi's existing

<http://www.osismartmaps.ie/>

and

<http://www.irishhistoricmaps.ie/>

where it is possible to order products online.

These products include Environmental Reports, Orthophotography (geo-rectified photography) Land Registration Maps in ITM (Irish Transverse Mercator) and wind speed maps from the OsiSmartmaps website and Historic maps including 1st edition 6inch and 25inch mapping as well from the 1830s.

There will also be links to our partner <http://www.irishmaps.ie/> where OSi paper products can be purchased online. In addition, OSi's network of 15 PLACE Map Agents strategically located throughout the country will be available to respond to enquiries and to process orders from customers.

~ Dublin City and District Street Guide:

New 7th Edition:

This is the 7th Edition of the Guide to be launched which currently is revised approx every 12-18 months with this Edition containing a number of significant enhancements:

- there are an additional 16 map pages covering the North County Dublin towns of *Balbriggan, Donabate, Lusk, Rush and Skerries* and the Satellite towns of *Ashbourne, Blessington, Clane, Dunshaughlin, Greystones /Delgany, Kilcock and Ratoath*.
- the mapping presentation has been modified to improve the clarity and legibility of the street names.
- the city centre mapping has been enlarged by increasing the scale. This coupled with a new fresh cartographic presentation improves clarity and the additional inclusion of 900 street names.
- the index has been updated and revised.

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