



Invitation

Informal Meeting of Employment and Social Affairs Ministers

5 – 6 July 2026

Dear Minister

Dear Colleagues

It is my great pleasure to invite you to attend the Informal Meeting of Employment and Social Affairs Ministers taking place on the 5th & 6th July in Ballina, Co Mayo. Located along the Wild Atlantic Way, Ballina provides an inspiring backdrop for our upcoming discussions.

On the evening of the 5th of July, I will host a cultural event and reception that will be held at a venue renowned for its role in Ireland's craft heritage. The event will celebrate the country's cultural traditions and will include an exhibition of traditional Irish music and dance.

On the 6th of July, discussions will be held on *approaches to addressing and preventing poverty through the lifecycle*, on *effective enforcement in a Changing World of Work - supervisory system for employment, labour inspection and the protection of workers'* and on *addressing the disability employment gap for a more inclusive and competitive EU*. The meeting will be followed, that evening, by a Gala dinner in the Mount Falcon Hotel, where you will be staying.

Please find attached the preliminary agenda of our meeting and the Practical Information Note containing accreditation, accommodation and other logistics. Steering notes about the topics for discussion will be sent closer to the meeting date.

Ballina is accessible for traveling delegations, with convenient flight options into Ireland West Airport (NOC), particularly via routes from London airports. Of course, transport to Ballina will also be provided for all delegations who travel to Dublin and Shannon airports.



I look forward to welcoming you to my hometown for this Ministerial meeting, presenting a valuable opportunity to discuss our shared experiences and challenges as we seek to protect the most vulnerable across our nations.

Yours Sincerely,

Dara Calleary TD
An tAire Coimirce Sóisialaí
Minister for Social Protection

*The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015
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