**20-Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010 - 2030**

**Progress Report: 2010 - 2015**

**Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine**

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is currently in the process of finalising a new Irish Language Scheme under the Official Languages Act 2003. The scheme has been prepared with a view to developing and advancing the level and quality of service which the Department provides to Irish language speakers. In addition to meeting its obligations under section 10 of the Official Languages Act 2003 to publish certain documents in both official languages simultaneously, the Department will publish other corporate documents, such as the Customer Charter and Customer Action Plan, the Farmers’ Charter of Rights and the Schemes and Services booklet, in both Irish and English.

**Measures for Irish in the Public Service**

In the context of Government policy for enhanced provision of services in Irish, the Department has identified six posts which require functional bilinguals. Five of these posts are currently filled by officers with competence in Irish and every effort is being made to fill the remaining position by the end of quarter 4 of 2015, having regard to recruitment policy. These designated posts will enhance the ability of the Department to provide services in Irish, particularly in Gaeltacht areas. In accordance with Government policy, future language schemes of the Department under the Official Languages Act will specify the posts/areas that have an Irish language competency requirement.