



Údarás Rialála Seirbhísí Maoine Property Services Regulatory Authority

CONSUMERS WARNED OF THE RISKS OF USING UNLICENSED PROPERTY SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Property Services Regulatory Authority (PSRA), the statutory body responsible for licensing and regulating the property services sector in Ireland, today launched a public awareness campaign to highlight to members of the public the risks of engaging unlicensed Property Services Providers (PSPs).

Under Irish law anyone **buying, selling, letting and managing property** on behalf of someone else **must hold a PSRA licence**. PSPs operating without an appropriate licence are breaking the law and provide no consumer protection. Holders of a PSRA licence can be found on the Register of Licensed Property Services Providers at www.psr.ie.

A person who engages a licensed PSP has access to the PSRA complaints process should they have an issue with their agent, as well as the right to make a claim on the sector-funded compensation fund if there has been a financial loss through the dishonesty of the agent.

Since its establishment in 2012 the PSRA has prosecuted several unlicensed PSPs. In 2019 to date, the PSRA has successfully prosecuted three unlicensed PSPs with a number of further prosecutions pending. The PSRA's Chief Executive, Ms Maeve Hogan, states "All Property Service Providers – auctioneers, estate agents, letting and management agents are required to hold a licence issued by the PSRA. There is a zero tolerance for PSPs operating without a licence. Anyone aware of unlicensed operators is advised to contact the PSRA immediately".

Anyone who wishes to report an unlicensed PSP or is in any doubt as to whether the PSP they wish to engage is licensed can contact the PSRA on 046 9033800 or info@psr.ie.