

## Adventure Activities Working Group: Consultation Process

The Irish Sports Council was established in 1999 under the Irish Sports Council Act and is a statutory authority with responsibility for planning, leading and co-ordinating the sustainable development of competitive and recreational sport in Ireland.

In 2013 Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Michael Ring T.D. asked the Irish Sports Council to examine the issues associated with safety and standards in the adventure activities sector and the development of a register of adventure activity providers.

In light of the Minister's request, an Adventure Activities Working Group was established by the Irish Sports Council to examine the issues. This group will make their recommendations to the Minister by mid 2014 on a system to safeguard, strengthen and promote current good practice within the sector and provide assurance to potential clients regarding the safe commercial provision of higher risk adventure activities.

The Minister is keen that consultation takes place with key stakeholders so that we can consider a wide range of views and take account of them in whatever proposals emerge. The consultation with the commercial<sup>1</sup> adventure activities sector is an important part of the Adventure Activities Working Group process.

This consultation process provides an opportunity for the adventure activities sector to consider and comment on the means by which current good practice in the sector might be consistently achieved, and to support the safe and sustainable commercial provision of higher risk adventure activities.

### Consultation Process

The consultation process includes a series of adventure activity provider meetings, as well as the opportunity for written submissions.

Consultation meetings:

Location	Date	Time
Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan	Tuesday, May 6 <sup>th</sup>	11 am – 1pm
Glasshouse Hotel, Sligo	Tuesday, May 6 <sup>th</sup>	6pm - 8pm
Maldron Hotel, Oranmore, Co. Galway	Wednesday, May 7 <sup>th</sup>	11am - 1pm
Castle Hotel, Macroom, Co. Cork	Wednesday, May 7 <sup>th</sup>	6pm – 8pm
Ashling Hotel, Parkgate St, Dublin 8	Friday, May 9 <sup>th</sup>	10am – 12 noon
Seven Oaks Hotel, Carlow	Friday, May 9 <sup>th</sup>	3pm – 5pm

Written Submissions:

The Irish Sports Council also welcome written submissions about how current good practice in the safe commercial provision of higher risk adventure activities might be supported through legislation. Submissions can be sent up to 9<sup>th</sup> May to:

Email: [adventure@irishsportsCouncil.ie](mailto:adventure@irishsportsCouncil.ie)

Post: Adventure Consultation, Irish Sports Council, Top Floor, Block A, Westend Office Park, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15

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<sup>1</sup> It is proposed that Clubs or individuals taking part in adventure activities will not fall under any potential legislation, rather the focus is on the commercial provision of these activities.

This consultation process will enable adventure activity providers to engage with the Adventure Activities Working Group on the following issues:

- The current safety good practice within the adventure activities sector.
- The role of any potential future safety legislation and adventure activity provider register.
- Which types of activities and providers might be within the scope of any future safety legislation.
- The potential structure and oversight of an adventure activity provider register.
- The potential additional benefits to the sector which might accrue from such a register.
- Other relevant issues.