

IPFMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2009

Experts show clear focus on MUD

The 7th Annual Conference of IPFMA took place in Croke Park Conference Centre and in a departure from previous years, the 2009 conference was residentially themed. "Seeing through the MUD - Multi-Unit Development & Management" was seen as particularly timely and topical given the publication of the Multi-Unit Developments Bill 2009 earlier in the year.

The full-day event, organised by Siobhan O'Dwyer and Jennifer Dosch, focused not only on residential multi-unit management, but also on the entire process leading up to the completion of the development and handover to the occupier. A panel of distinguished professional experts was assembled providing practical insights and solutions from the initial planning, architectural, engineering and building stages through to the legal process covering the many areas giving rise to difficulties in development and management of apartment and multi-unit residences.

Chaired by IPFMA Junior Vice-Chair Siobhan O'Dwyer of O'Dwyer Property Management, the conference was mounted to examine the areas of deficiencies in the MUD Bill in an inter-professional context. Joining Siobhan on the day was Thomas Lynch, chief executive designate of the Property Services Regulatory Authority, Patricia Rickard-Clarke, Law Reform Commissioner, Dublin solicitor Ailbhe Rice, principal of Rice.Jones Solicitors and Jim Keoghan, executive manager of Dublin City Council's Planning Department.

Other eminent speakers included Hubert Fitzpatrick, of the Irish Home Builders Association, building surveyor Pat McGovern, Colm Traynor, former assistant chief fire officer with the Dublin Fire Brigade, Jack Kavanagh, past president of both Engineers Ireland and Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland and architect Toal Ó Muiré, a past president of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland.

The conference was opened by IPFMA Chairman Tom Dunne and was well attended by over 150 delegates. Once again, there was a comprehensive exhibition area with 12 companies showcasing



Top – left to right: Conference speaker Pat McGovern, with IAVI senior vice president Kersten Mehl and IPFMA junior vice chair Siobhan O'Dwyer: IPFMA chairman, Tom Dunne, with speakers Thomas Lynch of the Property Services Regulatory Authority and architect Toal Ó Muiré

their products and services this year and we would like to thank all involved for their support in these challenging times.

The overwhelming outcome from the panel of speakers was that although the various inter professional organisations welcome the new Multi-Unit Developments Bill, it is widely believed that the current proposals are deficient and do not go far enough to protect owners of future multi-unit developments by providing an effective and workable mechanism.

This was the first year that the conference was recorded and video links to the conference presentations are available in the Latest News & Events section of www.ipfma.com. The presentations are available to download in the Members' Area of the website.

Annual Members' Lunch 2010

We are delighted to announce that the ever-popular IPFMA Annual Members Lunch will be returning to its traditional venue of The Burlington Hotel in Dublin 4 in 2010.

On the eve of the Six Nations Championship clash with Scotland at Croke Park, Friday, 19 March 2010, we will be welcoming members, their clients and guests alike. Bookings are now being accepted and we would urge our members to support this important social and networking event in the IPFMA calendar.

The booking form and further information is available on the www.ipfma.com/social-annual-members-lunch-2010.htm

NEW MEMBERS

IPFMA is delighted to welcome the following new members to the association:

Anthony Barron Paramount Estates Limited
David Carberry Ivernia Property Management & Consultancy
Liam Dempsey Cadbury Ireland
Alan Nolan Falcondale Properties Limited
James O'Connor O'Connor Property Management
Adrienne Storey