Although they occurred over a month ago, the impact of last May’s European elections will only begin to be felt in the autumn.

Like other representative bodies, the German-Irish Chamber faces a new parliament, fragmented by two dominant blocs – the European People’s Party and the Socialists and Democrats – who lost their collective majority for the first time. Nearly three quarters of seats still be held by pro EU parties, however, there will also be significant continuity. The European People’s Party – including Angela Merkel’s CDU and Fine Gael – remains the largest bloc with one quarter of seats, while the Socialist and Democrat bloc hold one fifth, the liberal alliance “ALDE” (including Fianna Fail) and the Greens (including two newly elected Irish Green MEPs) just above and below, respectively, one tenth of representation. Irish and German MEPs continue to be strongly represented in these four key blocs, ensuring strong access for the Chamber to key committees. Against this pro-European majority a group of “Euro sceptic” groups make up a remaining quarter of representation including ECR, EFDD, ENF and GUE groups.

Meanwhile – three months past the 29th March deadline – the Brexit process now draws closer to its new extended deadline of 31 October. As shown by Figure 1, the process has had a profound impact on British politics with the strong performance of both the Brexit party but also the pro Remain Liberal and Green parties. The poor performance of the Conservative party and the resignation of Theresa May has produced a two horse race that will see either former Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson or his successor in that role Jeremy Hunt win. With the former looking on balance likely to win, the likelihood of a hard Brexit by 31st October appears to be rising.

In Brussels the process to select a new EU Commission President has resulted in the nomination of Germany’s current Defence Minister Ursula von der Leyen as part of a broad agreement on key positions in Europe. Other key nominations are IMF Director Christine Lagarde for the position of European Central Bank President, sitting Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel for the position of EU Council President and as the new EU high representative on foreign and security policy, Spanish socialist Josep Borrell. With Germany providing the largest body of MEPs and Ireland’s government remaining one of Europe’s most stable administrations, one thing is clear: The German-Irish Chamber remains in a strong position to influence opinion in Brussels, working both with Berlin and Dublin.

Figure 1: European Election results: UK 2019
Percentage change in party support from 2014

Figure 2: Pro EU versus EU Sceptic party support

Graph sources: European Parliament in collaboration with Kantar
Welcome from President Sheamus Causer

Dear members, business partners and friends,

I am delighted to introduce the German-Irish Chamber’s new quarterly bulletin. Given the increasingly rapid rate of change in the European and broader global business environment, we have launched this initiative to provide you with a means of keeping up to date on the Chamber’s activities on an even more regular basis. On every level – business to business, government to government and person to person – the Chamber is delivering excellent engagements and events on your behalf. Along with our new website this bulletin – which will be available in both online and print forms – will be a key form of communication to you our valued Members and also to our wider stakeholder community. We welcome your comments and feedback on it and look forward to it playing a vital role in serving your interests.

Best wishes,

Sheamus Causer, President, German-Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce

Chamber brings Brexit message to Brussels

A delegation from the European Chamber of Ireland held a series of high level meetings in Brussels on 27th February. The aim of the mission – to communicate the Brexit challenge for Irish business to key EU decision-makers – was strongly underpinned by the Chamber’s publication last year of “Ireland, Germany and the EU: Meeting the Brexit Challenge” and among the participants were co-authors Ralf Lissek, CEO of the German-Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce and Dr Brian Murphy, Lecturer at DIT.

The delegation met with senior figures including EU Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources Guenther Oettinger, Ambassador and Permanent Irish Representative to EU Declan Kelleher, Head of the Commission’s Brexit Preparedness Unit Dorthe Christensen, Deputy Director Brexit Unit Amal Koaua, and with leading MEPs including Vice President of the European Parliament Rainer Wieland and Irish EPP MEP Deirdre Clune.

Important discussions also took place on critical technical issues with Ireland’s Permanent representative to the EU and on specific policy topics such as taxation and financial services, with Werner Langen (MEP and former Chair of the Panama Papers Committee); agriculture and food exports, with Dermot Ryan (Senior Adviser and Communication Adviser to Phil Hogan).
German-Irish Chamber Wind Energy Conference planned for October

Between 21st and 24th October the German-Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce will host a free one day conference on renewable energy. German and Irish experts from the sector will provide insights, information and advice on the latest innovations in energy efficient products and services. Particularly after the “green wave” that swept over Europe during the last elections, this is becoming a particularly important area for business. At this event your company can attend individually arranged meetings with representatives of companies active in this sector, along with bilingual support from the Chamber. To book your place please contact (for the Trade Mission) Lukas Kortenhaus, +353 (0)87 252 8886, lukas.kortenhaus@german-irish.ie and (for the Conference) Helen Dunne 087 3168343 helen.dunne@german-irish.ie

Dussmann Group acquires STS group

Dr. Wolfgang Haefele (pictured below), Dussmann Group Executive Board spokesman and Vice-President of the German-Irish Chamber, has welcomed the agreement by Dussmann Group, Berlin to acquire the multinational Irish headquartered specialist engineering company STS group. Dussmann has recently established a new business unit, Dussmann Technical Solutions, DTS. From technical engineering services in refrigeration, elevator systems and air-conditioning, the group aims to expand its technical engineering services through strategies and synergies achieved through its new Irish acquisition. The transaction is subject to approval by German antitrust authorities and is expected to be concluded very soon. Dr. Haefele said the move would take Dussmann Group to a new level of performance, “This business will be the cornerstone for the creation of DTS and complement our existing technical engineering services offering”. 

Dussmann Group
Deutscher Gruppe
Acquires
STS group

Q2 2019
Brexit election results strengthen Irish-German partnership

In the aftermath of May’s European elections political attention has understandably focused attention on the growth in populist parties.

But while the two dominant blocs in the European parliament have lost their combined majority for the first time, this largely reflects trends in national parliaments rather than trends specific to Europe. A strong majority – nearly three quarters – of MEPs have a pro-EU position. So while more complicated and challenging, the Chamber’s mission of lobbying on behalf of its members in Brussels is far from daunting.

There are several other reasons for this. Compared to more Eurosceptic groupings, the EU parliament’s mainstream MEPs are more stable and boast more experience and cohesion. In terms of the work of key committees, new perspectives will emerge. But there will be much continuity also. The impact of Brexit on the parliament will also reduce the number of Eurosceptic MEPs in Brussels. It will have another noteworthy impact: eliminating the British voice in key areas where it was constructive and welcome from a business point of view. Here the voice of Ireland, in partnership with Germany, can emerge as a strong and influential one. Even before its finalisation, anticipation of Brexit has led to a significant influx of inward investment to Ireland by corporates seeking a common law English speaking location within the EU. With its new found concentration of intellectual property and emerging excellence in professional and financial services, Ireland has a major opportunity to partner with Germany in helping to shape post Brexit Europe.

Chamber President Sheamus Causer and Chamber CEO Ralf Lissek comment on election results

The voters have spoken, the votes have been counted and in almost all cases the MEPs have been elected. For the German-Irish Chamber, these elections are an opportunity for us to renew our engagement with Brussels on behalf of your membership. Our excellent and long standing relationships with German representatives in Germany and the EU was demonstrated in our recent successful visits to Brussels and Dresden, as highlighted in this Bulletin.

Germany’s importance is underlined by the fact that two main parties (and parties of government) in Germany form the largest components of the European parliament’s two largest blocs. And as the Green wave sweeps over Europe, we should remember that this movement started in Germany, a country where it has played a significant role in government at national and regional level. We pride ourselves on strong links with all key political leaders at the highest level. We are particularly delighted to welcome Finance Minister Pascal Donoghue T.D. as our guest on the 10th of July.

Through its initiative “Ireland Germany, A Wider and Deeper Footprint” the Irish government is strengthening its footprint in Germany. Together with Germany’s central political importance and increasing economic importance for Ireland post Brexit, the German-Irish Chamber can be an increasingly valuable resource for your company. We would be delighted to serve your interests as we face into the challenges ahead. Finally we note that Ireland finally takes its place on the European Central Bank’s Frankfurt based Executive board with the appointment of Professor Philip Lane as the bank’s new Chief Economist. We offer him our full congratulations on a deserved appointment. It is a good omen for Ireland’s growing importance in Europe.
Chamber trip to Dresden a huge success

The German-Irish Chamber is famous for the quality of its business trips to Germany and the last trip to Dresden on 23-25 May was no different. On the way to Dresden, the delegation made a stopover in Berlin, the capital of the Federal Republic of Germany, to meet MdB Joachim Pfeiffer, who represents the state of Baden-Wuertemberg. Further high level engagements included a dinner with the President of Saxony Michael Kretschmer and the President of the Saxon Parliament Matthias Roessler. The event also involved important networking opportunities with regional leaders of business and media. It was kindly sponsored by Allianz, Koenig & Kollegen, Ornua, Sächsische Aufbaubank and Wirtschaftsförderung Sachsen GmbH. Plans are already underway for the next visit to Hamburg.

**O K T O B E R F E S T  2 0 1 9**

Friday, 11th of October | Sponsorship Opportunities

**Platinum Sponsors — €10,000 *limited to 2 Premium sponsors**
- Excellent brand visibility at key Oktoberfest event including venue stall, event screens and displays
- Prominent listing as Platinum Sponsor on all Oktoberfest marketing and promotional material including invitations, tickets, press releases, newsletters to members, menus and Chamber website
- Media exposure pre and post event
- Opportunity to speak at event e.g. to host welcoming remarks
- Includes 40 tickets with VIP reserved seating

**Gold Sponsors — €5,000 *limited to 5 Gold sponsors**
- Strong brand visibility at the event including event screens and stall in venue
- Listing as Gold Sponsor on all Oktoberfest marketing and promotional material related to event including invitations, press releases, tickets, newsletters to members, menus and Chamber website
- Includes 20 tickets with VIP reserved seating

**Silver Sponsors — €1,500**
- Brand exposure and logo visibility at event
- Listed as Silver Sponsor in event promotional material, newsletters, menus and Chamber website
- Includes 5 tickets with VIP reserved seating

For custom sponsorship packages please e-mail ellen.mcgrath@german-irish.ie or call 086 4667390
No Deal Brexit planning underway

Last December the government published a detailed contingency plan to prepare for the UK’s withdrawal from the EU\(^1\). While frustrating in terms of the continued uncertainty it creates, the delay in finalising Brexit beyond 29 March gives Ireland more time to prepare.

As well as committing Ireland to continued support for the EU, the key priorities of plan are as follows:

- To continue the Common Travel Area
- To ensure the best outcome for trade
- To protect the peace process and Good Friday Agreement

In relation to the Common Travel Area, it has already been included in the Withdrawal Agreement and a Memorandum of Understanding between Irish and British governments commits both governments to undertake all the work necessary to protect CTA rights and privileges.

As far as trade and the Good Friday Agreement are concerned, however, significant uncertainty remains. In relation to trade, a seminal report published by the Department of Business Enterprise and Innovation (DBEI) “Ireland and the impact of Brexit”\(^2\) shows that the sectors hardest hit by Brexit will be food, fisheries, aviation and road transport, pharma chemicals and retail. In its own report on Brexit the German-Irish Chamber last year detailed the economic and also logistical challenges of Brexit including the risk of escalating border and custom costs, inspection and handling delays and longer transport times for Irish exports, a very large proportion of which are perishable goods\(^3\).

As the DBEI report makes clear, a sterling devaluation is an added risk. Some 50% of Irish food exports go to the UK. As well as being relatively low value added and therefore vulnerable to currency fluctuations they are more indigenous industries in which the employment intensity is strong. In several rural and regional areas the community impact of Brexit will therefore be much greater than in the country as a whole.

---

ESG and Sustainable Finance at a Glance

Climate change and social inequality are two of the most significant challenges of our time. Increasingly, asset managers and institutional investors are being asked to consider their impact on the environment and society, and to place a greater emphasis on incorporating sustainability into their operations.

In 2015, the UN adopted the UN 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals to promote sustainable growth and sustainable consumption. In addition to this, representatives from 195 nations came together to commit to changes and measures to combat climate change (the “Paris Agreement”).

There has been a renewed legislative focus, both at a national and EU level, on encouraging investors to consider environmental, social and governance factors (“ESG factors”) when investing in businesses and funds, with the aim of reaching tangible results in the fight against climate change and social inequality.

The European Commission is looking to make the consideration of these ESG factors mandatory for certain types of financial services providers. ESG factors encompasses a wide variety of areas:

i) **Environmental** – issues relating to the quality and functioning of the natural environment and natural systems. This may include company’s energy use, pollution, natural resource consumption etc.;

ii) **Social** – issues relating to the rights, well-being and interests of people and communities; and

iii) **Governance** – issues relating to governance of companies and other investee entities. This may encompass transparency in respect of accounting and voting, and the avoidance of conflicts of interest and illegal practices.

A high level expert group comprising 20 senior experts from various sectors has recommended a shared EU classification of sustainable activities applying to all types of assets and capital allocation (“taxonomy”), labelling for green financial products, measures to identify duties of asset managers and institutional investors in respect of sustainability, and further reporting requirements to make companies’ ESG policies more transparent.

The European Parliament has recently endorsed regulations on disclosures relating to sustainable investments and sustainability risks, which will apply to all “financial market participants”, including UCITS management companies, AIFMs and investment funds that offer certain types of products which are marketed within the EU. Following extensive consultation, changes to the Solvency II Directive, the Insurance Distribution Directive, AIFMD, the UCITS Directive and MiFID to incorporate sustainability measures are also being progressed.

We await the adoption and implementation of final rules; however, the ongoing work in this area demonstrates a real commitment at EU level to the development of a sustainable finance regime and is one that asset managers and institutional investors should start to prepare for now.

**Authors**

1. Aisling O’Mahony, Associate, Asset Management and Investment Funds, Arthur Cox. aisling.omahony@arthurcox.com
   +353 1 920 1436

2. Dara Harrington, Partner, Asset Management and Investment Funds, Arthur Cox. dara.harrington@arthurcox.com
   +353 1 920 1206
DEinternational Ireland takes over the fiscal representation for EVONIK

Fiscal Representation for Evonik Industries AG
Evonik Industries AG is one of the world’s leading companies in the Specialty Chemicals, headquartered in Essen, North Rhine-Westphalia. The corporate strategy focuses on attractive specialty chemicals businesses, customer-focused innovation, and a trusting and result-oriented corporate culture. The specialty chemicals group Evonik Industries is the first since 2007, but the historical roots of the company are varied and reach back to the beginnings of the German industrial society in the first half of the 19th century. Evonik has more than 35,000 employees in more than 100 countries in the world and benefits in particular from its proximity to customers and its leading market positions. With more than 1,400 employees, the company is steeped in tradition. Essen plant is now the largest production plant in the city, and the center it immediately adjoins.

Cooperation with DEinternational Ireland AHK Dublin
Due to its activities in Ireland, DEinternational Ireland took over for Evonik Industries AG as the fiscal representative in Ireland and introduced the corresponding VAT reports to the tax authorities. DEinternational Ireland thus ensured that the company had all the requirements of Irish tax law.

Patrick Bamming
AITI Chartered Tax Adviser (CTA)/ Diplom Kaufmann/ TMITI with Irish Tax Institute Tax and Legal Department DEinternational Ireland, consultancy wing of German-Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce
Phone: +353 (0) 86 0478 222/ +353 (0) 1 6424 399
E-Mail: patrick.bamming@german-irish.ie

New face: Thorsten Godulla, Director of Audi Ireland
Thorsten Godulla has been the Director of Audi Ireland since October 2018. He has enjoyed a successful 25-year career at Audi encompassing management and leadership positions in the UK, Germany and at the Headquarters before he moved to Ireland.

He covered positions in Finance and Sales. Thorsten’s last role was Director of Overseas Sales for the Africa and Near Middle East region based in Ingolstadt, Germany. It meant full responsibility from a Sales, Aftersales and Network Development perspective for 26 countries. In this role he had to work closely with the local importers.

Thorsten’s hobbies are football (just passive) and running. Despite being based in Dublin, he takes the occasional opportunity to visit his favourite team, FC Nuernberg. Thorsten was born in 1968 and has three children.
Irish-German solution to Life Science’s laboratory demands

Ireland’s strong tradition of Life Sciences operational excellence has been attracting manufacturing facilities from major Life Sciences companies for over 50 years now, expanding the cluster of global names in manufacturing, process development and high-value services serving global markets. According to the IDA, Ireland is now home to all 10 of the top 10 global pharma companies; 14 out of the world’s top 15 multinationals have operations in Ireland, most of whom are large employers in regional locations.

Due to the exponential growth in the market, opportunities for product and service suppliers have arisen due to increasing demands for lab facilities. A partnership has formed in order to deliver these services, providing these companies with an all-encompassing comprehensive solution for laboratory facilities.

The MCR Industrial Engineering & Cleanroom Equipment Division (part of the MCR Group) are proud to officially launch the partnership between Wesemann, a global leader in the provision of laboratory products and services. Headquartered in Germany, Wesemann are a leading producer of high-quality laboratory furnishings for the Life Science industry. The international alliance with Wesemann further develops the product portfolio for MCR’s Project partners as well as End user clients. By partnering with the leading suppliers in this field, the continuous exchange of knowledge will generate innovative developments for the industry. This Irish-German business partnership will ensure the products required are available, to meet the market’s special demands.

As a direct result of the partnership, MCR Industrial Engineering & Cleanroom Equipment will become a top competitor within the laboratory commissioning sector. From 23 years of experience in the BioPharma, Pharma and Life Science sector MCR Group hold long-established relationships with industry clients, which will be coupled with Wesemann’s technical knowledge of laboratories. Together, MCR Industrial Engineering & Cleanroom Equipment and Wesemann have the ability to consolidate an offering that serves all needs and requirements in regard to laboratory facilities. The aim is to become the provider of choice for laboratory solutions. This innovative venture sets out to increase efficiency, develop new relationships and ultimately contribute in Wesemann’s quest in making daily laboratory life easier for users.

The alliance further exemplifies the positive relationship existing between Germany and Ireland, in terms of business networks. Additionally, the enterprise proves the capabilities of Irish companies to serve the business growth in the Life Science industry, both on a national and an international scale. Companies, both in Ireland and abroad, can be assured if they wish to establish research, chemistry or educational science facilities that they will have access to world-class resources and services for these purposes. This can all be accomplished, thanks to the partnership formed by MCR and Wesemann.
Mr Brok, do you regret your resignation from politics? The fact that I did not run for re-election to the EU Parliament was a deliberate decision after a personal consideration process. I have been a member of the EP since 1980 and have thus represented the interests of my East Westphalian homeland in Brussels and Strasbourg for 39 years. At some point you have to say: Now is a good time and the family comes first.

The EPP group remains the largest group after the election, but must now compete with other groups. What impact will this have on Parliament? Fortunately, the bitter predictions that anti-European forces could win a majority in Parliament have not been confirmed. Now all democratic, pro-European groups are called upon to work together. Everyone should be aware that the EPP, as the largest group, has a special mediating role to play.

What role can Europe play in the continuing tensions in trade relations between the US and China? The EU needs to rethink its own working capacity. Only if we act together and speak with a strong voice will we be perceived in the globalised world between China, Russia and the USA. It is important that we always remain a serious interlocutor for all parties, while remaining true to our own line, for example on the issue of Russia’s sanctions.

What do you think of Manfred Weber’s chances of becoming President of the EU Commission? Manfred Weber’s chances of becoming the next Commission President are increasing day by day. Weber achieved an excellent result with the CSU in his home country and clearly won the election. The EPP, whose top candidate is Manfred Weber, also won the election overall. Therefore we can appear self-confidently and lead the discussions with the other parliamentary groups. I am sure that Manfred Weber could become a good President of the Commission. But even outsiders have a chance.

After these elections, can Ireland continue to rely on the support of the EU in the Brexit negotiations, or will these election results complicate Europe’s position on them and, if so, how? Believe it or not, the EU has rarely been as united on such a crucial issue as this one. With the exception of Great Britain, all nations are united in all decisions on Brexit. We must not allow ourselves to be divided by new fires, but we must continue to stand united against the London decision-makers.

What role can Ireland play in the future of Europe? Ireland has been a reliable and stable partner in the EU since 1973. There will continue to be close membership involvement in the future. In addition, Ireland will retain its link to the EU internal market, as already established by the existing Schengen framework.

What are your personal intentions now? First, I will enjoy the “more” time with my family. After 8 years as Vice-Chairman and 39 years as a member of the EP, I am delighted to be back in charge of my own calendar. Beyond that, I will of course remain a politically thinking and active person. Many tasks and challenges await me or find a more significant weight now. It was not until December 2018 that I was elected to the CDU Federal Executive Committee with a very good result.
October event for German and Irish companies on wind energy

On behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy, the German-Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce will organise a conference and trade mission on the topic of “Wind Energy Onshore and Offshore including Maintenance” to support cooperation of German and Irish companies within the wind energy market.

The main highlight of the delegation trip from 21 to 24 October 2019 will be a full day conference on Tuesday 22nd October in Dublin city. Admission to the conference is free and you will be able to hear industry insights from experts as well as government bodies and get access to an in-depth target market analysis. Use this chance also to get to know industry players and expand your network.

What our research results about the Irish wind energy market show

Economic growth, and in particular the expansion of data centres for large IT companies such as Facebook, Google, Apple and Microsoft, is leading to a massive increase in demand for electricity. Experts expect an increase of 60%, with the main reason for this growth being the use of data centres for many of the IT companies based in Ireland. In response to rising energy demand, the Irish government is relying on a massive expansion of renewable energies. The government has set itself correspondingly high targets for 2050: “70 by 50” – i.e. 70% of Ireland’s electricity from renewable sources. The driver of these energetic targets will be wind power, as wind power remains the most efficient form of sustainable energy generation for Ireland. As a concrete government measure, the Renewable Energy Support Scheme is currently being implemented. At the end of the year, the first auctioning of subsidies will take place, with a total of four or five rounds expected to take place at regular intervals until 2023. While the Irish onshore market is at an advanced stage, offshore wind power is still in its infancy. Definitely both markets offer a variety of market entry opportunities due to the government’s energetic project.

What to expect:

- 4-day business trip from 21 to 24 October 2019 to Ireland
- Expert conference on Tuesday 22nd October 2019 on “Wind energy generation onshore and offshore including maintenance” with references and participants from business, science, politics and associations
- Individually arranged appointments with potential business partners, accompanied by an employee of the German-Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce, tailored to the business interests.
- Visits to companies, relevant (research) facilities and production sites on site

For more information visit our website www.german-irish.ie. To book your place please contact for the trade mission Lukas Kortenhaus, +333 (0)87 252 8886, lukas.kortenhaus@german-irish.ie; for the conference, Helen Dunne + 333 (0) 87 3168 343, helen.dunne@german-irish.ie

Figure 3: Installed capacity in the renewable energy scenario (RIO)

Source: Barings (2018): „Installed capacity in the renewable energy scenario (RIO)” in “70 by 30“
### Upcoming events

#### July

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lunch with Minister Paschal Donohoe</td>
<td>Paid Event</td>
<td>EM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>European Chamber Golf Outing to K Club</td>
<td>Paid Event</td>
<td>EM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Council Meeting and patrons lunch hosted by BSH</td>
<td>Councillors/ Patrons</td>
<td>EM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oktoberfest, at the Ballsbridge Hotel</td>
<td>Paid Event</td>
<td>EM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Golf outing to Island Golf Club</td>
<td>Paid Event</td>
<td>EM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Council Meeting and Patrons Lunch</td>
<td>Councillors/ Patrons</td>
<td>EM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Chamber Christmas lunch sponsored by AUDI IRELAND</td>
<td>Paid Event</td>
<td>EM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More events will be scheduled over the upcoming months. List updated 24/06/2019. Please check our homepage www.german-irish.ie

### Contacts

Helen Dunne (HD) +353 (0)87 316 8343
Helen.dunne@german-irish.ie
Ellen McGrath (EM) +353 (0)86 466 7390
Ellen.mcgrath@german-irish.ie

### Patrons 2019:


### Patron of the Year 2019

AUDI IRELAND

---

**New face: Simon Dauber, COO of Allianz Global Life**

Simon Dauber is Chief Operating Officer since 2017 at Allianz Global Life, a cross border Life insurance company with branches in Germany, France, Italy and Greece, based in Blackrock, Dublin.

After completing a Master in Economics, Simon started his career at Mercedes in Stuttgart and Lyon where he studied an MBA at Ecole de Management Lyon. He subsequently joined Allianz in 2005 as an Executive Assistant where his career progressed over the following years with various management roles in Sales, Operations, Project Management and Strategy at Allianz SE Munich. In 2015 he moved with his wife to Ireland, where he is living since with his three children.

Simon is a member of the German National Scholarship Foundation and speaks German, English, French and some Italian.