



## APPOINTMENT OF NEW CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE DEFENCE FORCES

The Government this morning has accepted the recommendation of the Minister for Defence, Mr. Simon Coveney T.D., to nominate Major General Seán Clancy for appointment by the President as Chief of Staff of the Defence Forces. He will succeed the current Chief of Staff, Vice Admiral Mark Mellett, who will retire as the current holder of the appointment on 29th September 2021.

Minister Coveney said “I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Major General Clancy on his new appointment and I look forward to working closely with him in the future.”

Major General Seán Clancy joined the Irish Defence Forces in 1984 as a cadet and commenced his flight training in 1986. He has flown both fixed and rotary wing aircraft and has accumulated nearly 5,000 flight hours.

Major General Clancy has been a driver of change and a champion for innovation within the Defence Forces. He played a central role in the development of the Ireland’s first Emergency Aeromedical Service established in 2012. He has been a strong advocate for Leadership and was the co-author of the Defence Forces Leadership Doctrine published in 2016. He subsequently led the team who developed the current vision and values-based strategy for the Defence Forces post the publication of the White Paper on Defence.

### Military Experience

Major General Clancy served in appointments including Senior Staff Officer Operations, Senior Staff Officer Personnel, Chief of Air Staff Support in Air Corps Headquarters and Director of Strategic Planning Branch on the Chief of Defence’s Staff, Defence Headquarters. Prior to promotion he served as General Officer Commanding, Irish Air Corps and Director of Military Aviation.

Major General Seán Clancy has spent a considerable period of his career as a Search and Rescue pilot and was the commander of the crew who received the Marine Medal for Meritorious Service in 2002.

Major General Clancy has served for a year with the European Union Force in Bosnia as the military advisor to the Force Commander and spent two years as air advisor to the permanent element of SHIRBRIG, the UN standby Brigade.

DF Internal Communications Team.

