



Review of Travel Trade Legislation in Ireland **CONSULTATION PAPER**

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2 September 2008

Ireland's regulator for the aviation sector

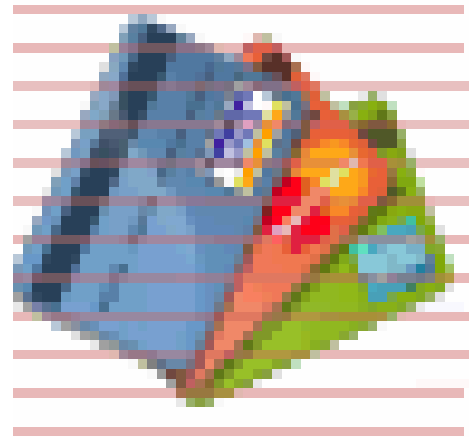
Roles and functions

1. To set maximum **aeronautical charges** at Dublin Airport
2. To set maximum Irish Aviation Authority **terminal charges**
3. To monitor and regulate **slots assignment** at Dublin Airport
4. To license **airlines** under EU rules
5. To approve airport **ground-handlers** under EU rules
6. To enforce **rights of air passengers & PRM** under EU rules
7. To license **travel agents and tour operators**

- Collapse of Bray Travel --> “1982 Act”
- Travel agents and tour operators need to be licensed and bonded
- Consumers will be refunded/repatriated following a collapse
- Claims paid from bond and, if necessary, Travellers Protection Fund (€6m)

Number of travel agents	290
Number tour operators	74
Total value of bonds	€137 million
Estimated costs of regime	€6 million

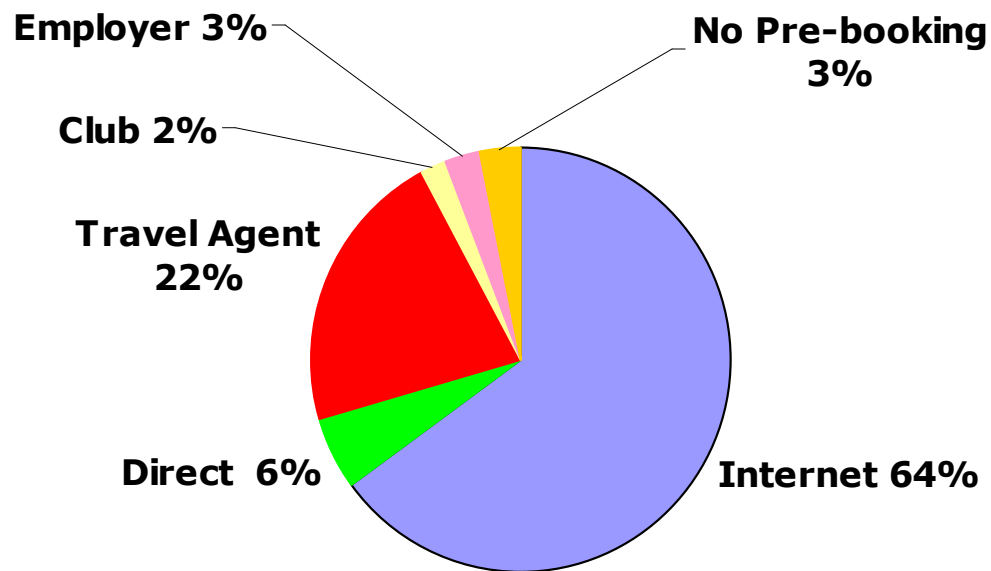
Developments since 1982



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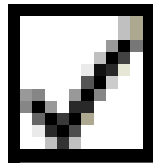
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Method of Booking International travel



Source: Central Statistics Office Ireland

Flight from Dublin to London



Booked flight
through
tour operator



Booked flight
on airline
website



Booked flight
from London
to New York at
travel agent

Questions to consider

- 1.** **Which** members of the travelling public should receive what financial protection?
- 2.** **What** requirements should licensees have to satisfy?
- 3.** **What** are the most suitable arrangements to ensure adequate financial protection?

Extend coverage

cover all trips out of the State

Reduce coverage

rely on credit-payment protection

Discontinue scheme

rely on market to provide protection

Cutting red tape?

- Remove need to verify business credentials
- Require audited accounts from large companies only
- Issue single licence
- Grant licences indefinitely
- Recognise licences from other jurisdictions

End bonding requirements

- rely on Travellers Protection Fund
- require escrow accounts

Reform bonding requirements

- assess on a case-by-case basis
- base on last year's turnover
- change % of licensable turnover
- redefine licensable turnover

Responses to consultation due 31 October

Report to the Minister end 2008



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