

## INTRODUCTION

**T**his handbook has been produced as a foundation guide to the formation, structure and operations of the Peoples Tribunal of Ireland ('PTI') which came into being on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.

The contents herein are subject to revision and amendment by majority vote of the PTI Council at any time\* (\*after the 12-month initiating phase which will be directed by the Executive) in line with Tribunal Rules and after putting the issue (if required) to the PTI Panel and/or in consultation with PTI Operations Officers.

Accordingly, this handbook serves only to compliment the authority of the elected PTI Council. In the event of any conflict between the contents of this Handbook and any formal decision or declaration of the *elected* Council, the decision of the *elected* Council has priority.

Subject to any such authorised revision(s), the terms of this guidebook will in the interim serve as; (i) the rulebook, (ii) the constitution, and (iii) the operations manual of the Peoples Tribunal.

For ease of reference and understanding the relevant Sections are arranged by numbered Articles (i.e. by numbered paragraphs). Any amendments, alterations or additions to this original text will be incorporated into the main text in future printings under sub-paragraphs (*or via footnotes or endnotes*) with the same initiating Article Number (e.g. 1a, 1b, etc) to include a reference to whichever Council altered or amended the original text.

*PTI Executive July 2020*

## **UPDATED INTRODUCTION - FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup> 2021**

**On February 14<sup>th</sup> 2021, a Motion was put to PTI Council to voluntarily disband the 1<sup>st</sup> PTI Council due to; “a log-jam of indecision, confusion and consternation” arising, in part, out of different interpretations of Version 1 of the Handbook. The vote was carried by 12 votes to 1.**

It was understood by this near-unanimous vote, that the primary objective of the 1<sup>st</sup> (appointed) PTI Council was to ‘prepare the way’ for the election of the 2<sup>nd</sup> (elected) PTI Council on-or-around July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 (as laid out in v.1 of the Handbook) and to this end, that an Administrator would now be appointed to guide Council towards that goal; in the clear understanding that no major decisions could, or would be made in the interim, without majority PTI Council approval.

The 1<sup>st</sup> (reformed) PTI Council was then reappointed by invitation by the newly-appointed PTI Administrator from members of the previous Council who had demonstrated commitment to the stated aims, principles and ethos of the PTI and who were willing to continue that work in collaboration with others, based upon majority decisions.

It was further understood that Council would, in the short term busy itself with the important work of producing PTI Determinations with the option of undertaking other tasks and processes by majority Council decision, as-and-when the necessity arose.

Accordingly, this ‘Version 1a’ of the Handbook of the PTI has been commissioned for this express purpose, and will be available as updated PDF sections on the new official PTI website: [www.thepeopletribunalofireland.ie](http://www.thepeopletribunalofireland.ie).