

● **Greens claim that certain road projects may not be funded despite being included on the National Development Plan**

● **and IGH and IGH claim victory over the Greens**

**Eddie O'Connor on the energy crisis, his new business, and why he has no plans to slow down**

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Philippa

stretched beyond capacity due to the unprecedented growth in demand from the facilities, as well as the wider electrification of the economy.

The Planning and Development Act allows for strategic infrastructure to access a "special planning application process", where plans are submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála rather than

priorities within the department the commencement of this provision will be considered at an appropriate time," he said.

As previously reported by the Business Post, Taoiseach Micheál Martin told Ánaíon, the US tech giant, that the government would seek to "streamline" the planning and judicial review process to page 2

## 2 NEWS

In this week's paper

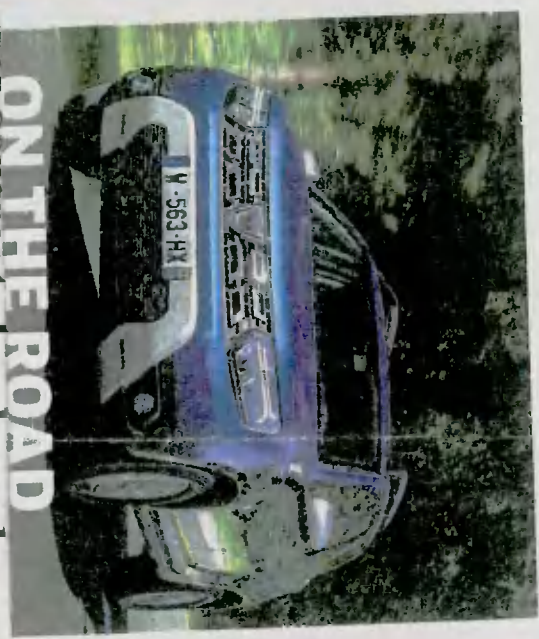


**SUNDAY INTERVIEW**  
Killian Woods meets Karen

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**ON THE ROAD**  
Data centres to be classed as 'strategic infrastructure' despite

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es for data centres, which the industry has complained is holding up development of new facilities.

In meeting notes released to the Business Post under Freedom of Information from March this year, the Taoiseach told John Bournphrey, the head of Amazon in Britain, that the government was aware of the obstacles presented by planning and judicial reviews in Ireland, and that the government would work to overcome them.

"We realise the significant role that judicial review can play in the progress of devel-

opments like these, and government will try to streamline the process," Martin's speaking notes said.

"We are committed to ensuring that IDI foreign direct investment continues to be supported and encouraged, and that Ireland remains a welcoming and attractive place in which to do business. In relation to data centres, the government notes the significant economic investment they represent, but is mindful of the impacts they can have in terms of grid infrastructure and network planning."

The government is also examining further reforms to

**There was growing discontent at a political level a few years back that the Central Bank was not doing enough to attract financial institutions leaving London because of Brexit**

the judicial review process in Ireland, so that only "mat- ters of substance" would be heard before the courts, and those taking challenges on environmental grounds will have to take on a much greater financial risk. It hopes that such reforms will reduce the volume of planning objections to large scale developments.

The move to designate data centres as strategic infrastructure comes as Eirgrid, the electricity grid operator, last week released its generation capacity statement showing that, without further interventions, Ireland will have a power supply deficit of 260 MW (megawatts) by winter 2022, 1050 MW by winter 2023, and 1850 MW by winter 2024.

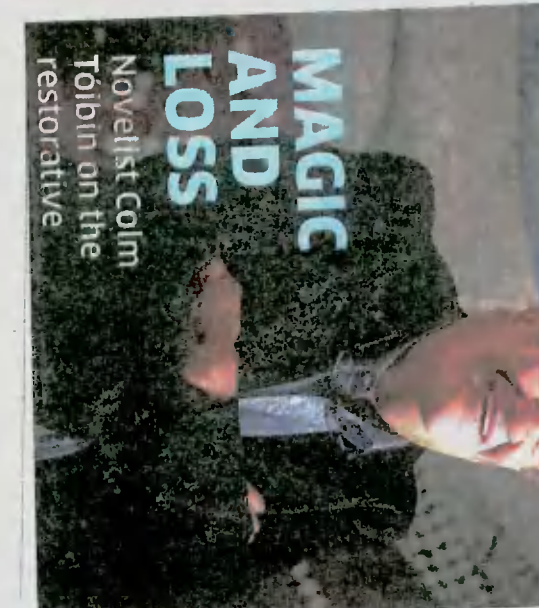
To cope with demand, the country will rely on emer-

gency power generators and delay the retirement of larger, less environmentally friendly power stations to plug the projected gap in electricity supply and demand.

The government has already signed off on plans to import 300 MW of emergency power generators for next winter at an expected cost of hundreds of millions of euros.

Eirgrid said the government would also need to delay the retirement of Tarbert oil fired power station in Kerry and Moneypoint coal fired power station in Clare, which are among the most carbon-intensive in the country.

The grid operator said it expected the number of system alerts warning of tight power supplies that could cause blackouts to increase substantially this winter and



**MAGIC AND LOSS**  
Novelist Colm Toibin on the restorative

in the winters ahead.

"We expect system alerts to be a feature of the system over the coming winters, and this winter is likely to be challenging," Mark Foley, chief executive of Eirgrid, said.

The primary driver of growing demand is data centres. In the last four years, data centre demand has grown by 2,400GW, which is equivalent to the power demands of 560,000 homes. Eirgrid is projecting that data centre demand could double in the next four years, and could result in the facilities accounting for over 40 per cent of peak energy demand by 2030.

**SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

We, Eamonn & Erica Hickey, are applying for full planning permission for development at 60 Ballyryan Road, Templeogue, Dublin 16, D16 V1V6. The proposed development will consist of: 1) Construction of a single storey extension to the rear with 2no. rooflights, 2) Demolition of existing chimney to the side, 3) Raising the existing single storey roof to the side with addition of 2no. rooflights, 4) Construction of 2no. bay windows to the front with associated lean-to-roof and all associated site works.

This application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of South Dublin County Council during its public opening hours of 9am - 4pm, Mon-Fri, and a submission or payment of the prescribed fee (€20.00) within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by South Dublin County Council of the application.

Signed on behalf of the applicant [www.joefallon.com](http://www.joefallon.com)