

Paul Hand

A long-standing and active member of the Institute, I was elected to the National Council in December 2022. Following the requirement for rotation of one-third of Council Members and the drawing of lots at the November meeting, I am seeking your support for re-election to the National Council at the upcoming 2023 AGM. I do so on the basis of a significant record of achievement and contribution to National Council through 2023. I thank PRII President David Geary for nominating me.

Having been appointed by Council to the role of Hon Treasurer, I closely monitored the financial administration of the PRII through 2023, delivering a comprehensive monthly report on its real-time finances and budgets at each Council meeting. I provided the link between the Council and the Executive team, providing challenge as appropriate in the allocation of Institute resources. I oversaw a solid financial performance for the Institute for 2022/23, which included significant investment in a new digital project and good governance.

In addition, I helped host an expert briefing on AI by keynote speaker Andrew Bruce Smith attended over 100 PRII Members at ESB Head Office in June, which proved to be a timely and thought-provoking event. The event was part of the PRII's 70th anniversary programme, with a nod to ESB's (and Ireland's) first PRO Ned Lawler as one of the founding fathers of the PRII – a link that I would dearly wish to sustain.

As Senior Press Officer at ESB, I developed and deployed media engagement strategy across its diverse business units, with sustainability at its heart. I lead in communicating the company's Net Zero by 2040 targets, which will help underpin a future powered by clean electricity for the communities we serve. My 18-year communications career spans key media relations roles at other high profile public institutions in Ireland and abroad, including the Houses of the Oireachtas and the Department of the Taoiseach. Should I be re-elected, I would continue to bring energy, enthusiasm and insight in bolstering the professional practice of PR and communications in Irish life.

I can be contacted on [LinkedIn](#) and [email](#).

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