



Press Statement - for Immediate Release

Monday 3rd September 2018

5 Oireachtas members selected Retail Advocates for their contribution to the Industry

Coffey, Calleary, O'Sullivan, Healy-Rae and Quinlivan make the Top 5

Retail Excellence, Ireland largest retail representative body, today recognised five members of the Oireachtas for their support of retail industry priorities including insurance, online, employment challenges, infrastructural investment and resources for the authorities.

The Retail Advocate award was created by Retail Excellence this year to recognise Members of the Oireachtas for their outstanding support of the retail industry's public policy priorities. These "Advocates" have supported retail policies and initiatives over the course of 2018 that recognise the significant contribution of the retail industry and its tens of thousands of businesses.

The Retail Advocate award winner will be announced at Retail Excellence's annual Awards which will be held in Killarney in November.

CEO of Retail Excellence Lorraine Higgins said "This cross-party group of Oireachtas members through their work has shown that they care about retailers big and small and value the role these businesses play in their local communities across Ireland".

"We appreciate their support on behalf of the industry, their support for the sustained growth of it and their recognition of retail's role as the largest private industry employer in the country. The bipartisan group has worked to encourage a vibrant, sustained and healthy retail industry which we appreciate and value" Lorraine Higgins concluded.

Recipients include Senator Paudie Coffey (FG), Dara Calleary TD (FF), Jan O Sullivan TD (Labour), Michael Healy Rae TD (Ind) and Maurice Quinlivan TD (SF).

Editor's notes

- Retail Excellence selected one representative per political grouping to mark their outstanding contribution, support and assistance given to the industry over the course of this year.
- All finalists will be invited to a black tie gala ball in the Great Southern Hotel in Killarney on November 10 which will be attended by 600 industry leaders.