

Press Release

Irish Internet Hotline designated as Trusted Flagger under EU Digital Services Act

Dublin, Ireland, 25th June 2026. Irish Internet Hotline (IIH) has been designated as a Trusted Flagger under the European Union’s Digital Services Act (DSA) by Comisiún na Meán.

The designation is made under Article 22 of the DSA and recognises IIH’s expertise, independence and proven track record in identifying and reporting illegal online content, reflecting more than 25 years of experience in supporting a safer online environment.

Established in 1999, IIH has worked continuously to combat illegal online content, with a particular focus on child sexual abuse material (CSAM), as well as other forms of illegal content within its remit. This includes Intimate Image Abuse (IIA), Financial Scams and Racism & Xenophobia. IIH operates independently of online platform providers.

To qualify for Trusted Flagger status, organisations must demonstrate subject-matter expertise, a consistent record of accurate, diligent and objective reporting and independence from online platform providers. For IIH, this designation formalises over two decades of operational experience in tackling CSAM and other illegal internet activity, reinforcing its mission to make the internet safer, particularly for children.

Trusted Flagger status will:

- Ensure that notices submitted by IIH are prioritised and processed without undue delay by online platforms operating within the European Union under the EU Digital Services Act
- Support faster assessment and removal of illegal content
- Strengthen cooperation between IIH, online platforms, regulators and other stakeholders
- Support the sharing of insights and best practices on emerging online threats and systemic risks

The designation represents a significant step in strengthening efforts to create a safer digital environment and further supports IIH’s operational capacity in the handling and escalation of reports relating to illegal online content.

Mick Moran, CEO of Irish Internet Hotline said, “We’re delighted to have been granted Trusted Flagger status by Comisiún na Meán. The designation reflects the expertise and experience our team has developed in identifying and reporting illegal content within our areas of competency. We’re proud of

Brian Nisbet (Chairman), Paul Cunnane, William McCoubrey (Treasurer), Gerard O’Hara, Tony Doherty, Aisling O’Donoghue, Carol McAlpine

the work we do and the standards we apply to it. Trusted Flagger status formalises an approach we've already been taking for nearly three decades and strengthens our ability to ensure that high-quality reports are prioritised and acted on appropriately. We welcome the recognition of Irish Internet Hotline as a knowledge and skills-based expert in this area and look forward to partnership with Comisiún na Meán in our shared mission to make the internet safer for all users, especially children.”

Notes to Editors

The Digital Services Act (DSA) is the European Union's regulatory framework for online intermediary services and platforms. It aims to create a safer digital environment by addressing illegal content online, strengthening platform accountability and protecting users' fundamental rights.

Trusted Flaggers are independent entities designated under Article 22 of the DSA based on their expertise in identifying and reporting illegal content. Online platforms are required to prioritise and process notices submitted by Trusted Flaggers without undue delay. For further comment regarding our Trusted Flagger status, members of the media may also contact the Comisiún na Meán press team (press@cnam.ie).

About Irish Internet Hotline

Irish Internet Hotline is Ireland's national reporting centre where members of the public can report suspected illegal and harmful online content in a secure and anonymous way, particularly child sexual abuse material. Irish Internet Hotline is a member of the INHOPE network, the Irish Safer Internet Centre and works closely with An Garda Síochána and international partners. The public is reminded they can report suspected illegal online content anonymously, securely, and confidentially at www.hotline.ie. Timely reporting prevents crime, revictimisation of children and helps bring offenders to justice.