Circular 20/1934:– Civil Servants as Candidates for seats on Local Councils

Dhuine Uasail,

I am directed by the Minister for Finance to refer to Circular No. 23/25 of the 3rd July, 1925, on the above-named subject, and to state that the Minister has decided that the instruction given in that Circular is now to be modified to the extent that members of the departmental classes of the Post Office will be permitted to become candidates at any election held for, or to serve on, a County Borough Council, Borough Council, Urban District Council or Town Commission.

The Minister directs me to state that this concession will apply subject to the following conditions which must be observed in all cases:-

(1) That the duties involved in candidature for the Local Body or service thereon do not conflict with the officer’s duties to his Department.

(2) That he applies for and receives the permission of the Head of his Department before he can avail of the concession.

(3) That this permission is to be subject to the condition that the official resides in the Local Government area served by the Local Body of which he desires to become a member.

(4) That the hours of meeting of that Local Body are held at times outside the normal official hours of duty of the official.

(5) That if at any time an official who succeeds in his candidature feels that a discussion at the proceedings of, or a decision to be arrived at by, the Local Body of which he is a member would be likely to place him in a position in conflict with his duties in his Department, or generally with his position as a member of the Civil Service, he will inform his official superior of the circumstances, and abide by any such direction as may be given to him officially.

The Minister directs that these conditions be accepted, in writing, by any official before he goes forward as a candidate for election.

The decision given by this Circular will be subject to review at any time should the Minister for Finance consider it necessary.

Mise, le meas,

H. P. Boland