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LIT to host conference on sustainable development

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LIMERICK Institute of Technology is the venue for a two-day conference on sustainable development that takes place on June 17 and 18.

Entitled *Planning and Building for Sustainability*, the conference will feature several big names from the worlds of construction, politics, planning, architecture and environmentalism. Speakers include Tom Parlon, president of the Construction Industry Federation; Hugh Murray of Murray O'Laoire Architects, Minister for the Environment John Gormley and Prof Owen Lewis of

University College Dublin, among others.

The conference is being hosted by **BRE Ireland**, an organisation based at LIT that is dedicated to promoting sustainability in the built environment. A collaboration between LIT, the University of Limerick and the British-based BRE (Building Research Establishment), its work involves consultancy services, training and research on how to make the best use of resources, while also improving the quality of life for individuals and communities. The group is advising on the Moyross regeneration project.

According to its director, Dr Colm Cryan, part of BRE Ireland's mission is to "make it so that a more sustainable lifestyle is the natural choice for people".

Ultimately the aim of BRE Ireland is to become a national centre of excellence in the area of sustainability. Plans for the future include opening a Dublin office, although the centre in the innovation centre in LIT will remain the headquarters of the organisation. That centre will also become a model of sustainability itself.

For information on the conference or to book, contact BRE Ireland at 061-448509.