

Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of the Irish Judicial Studies Journal for 2021.

In what has been a difficult period in so many ways, and in the context of the new world of remote hearings, new technology, and new ways of doing things more generally, it is fitting that the articles in this edition, for the most part, concentrate on very recent issues in the law and are also forward-looking, concentrating on reform and on implications for the future arising out of recent developments.

Max Barrett begins this edition with an assessment of the views expressed recently by the UN Human Rights Committee in the *Teitiota* application and in the context of climate change migration issues more generally. David Culleton then provides an overview of the law relating to Norwich Pharmacal Orders, including recent decisions of the superior courts on this issue and he considers the most appropriate direction for reform in this area. Marie Quirke and Katie Winder examine the issue of the platform economy, the difficulty and consequences of defining the employer-employee relationship, and whether the recent case law has provided clarity on the complications arising from trying to define workers in this context. The recent Uber case is discussed and the authors question whether current legislation offers adequate protection for those dependant on the platform economy. Finn Keyes analyses the recent, tragic case of Re JJ and issues surrounding end-of-life decisions and childrens' rights under Article 42A. He points out that, contrary to what may have been thought previously as to the likely effect Article 42A, this decision clearly signals that the constitutional addition did create a significant change in the law in the delicate area of child and family rights. In the final article, Peo Mosepele asks whether Ireland should prohibit contemporaneous reporting of trials involving children. She examines this issue in the context of the Ana Kriégel case and the recent controversy surrounding Section 252 of the Children Act 2001, which seeks to protect the anonymity of children during trials.

In the book review section, Mary Laffoy looks at the latest edition of *Byrne and McCutcheon on the Irish Legal System* and Saoirse Enright considers Brian Barry's new monograph on *How Judges Judge*.

As always, I would like to thank our editorial team at the University of Limerick, our Judicial Board, our copy-editor – Bláithín O'Shea, our copy-writer – Bríana Walsh, and all of the authors who contributed to this edition.

Bain taitneamh as.

Dr Laura Cahillane

Editor in Chief