



# THE Herald

## BANKING

# €8.5m upgrade for Irish Mint building

**Laura Larkin**

THE Irish Mint is set for an €8.5m upgrade to modernise it and enhance security.

The Central Bank's Currency Centre in Sandyford is where the country's euro are produced and stored.

It is the second-most secure complex in the State and has a constant garda and Army presence.

A design team is being sought to design an overhaul of the centre, which was built in the 1970s. The building was previously awarded a prestigious architecture award.

The original architect, Sam Stephenson, was awarded the **RIAF's** Gold Medal for a building complex of outstanding merit.

The work will include a number of substantial upgrades in the centre, including a new control room.

### CHECKPOINT

A new two-storey office and checkpoint building is planned for the site. Installation of two-way remote monitoring and control functions between the control room in the centre and the one in the bank's new headquarters in North Wall Quay is also planned.

Given the nature of the building, anyone selected to work on the project will need to be Garda vetted.

Other changes to be made to the centre will include modifications to the car park and roads along with new entrances, bollards and high-security fences.

A tender for the modernisation was published recently and firms have until August 28 to apply to take charge of the works.

Details are subject to strict confidentiality rules. The currency centre will continue to operate during the works.