

Edgar Filing: ALLIED IRISH BANKS PLC - Form 6-K

ALLIED IRISH BANKS PLC
Form 6-K
August 24, 2006

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16
under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the date of 24 August, 2006

ALLIED IRISH BANKS, public limited company

Bankcentre, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Republic of Ireland

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F..X... Form 40-F.....

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No ..X...

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82- _____

For Immediate Release

24th August 2006

AIB ANNOUNCES SALE AND LEASEBACK OF 12 DUBLIN BRANCHES

Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. ("AIB") (NYSE: AIB) has today announced the sale and leaseback of 12 of its Dublin Branches through advisers Hamilton Osborne King. All of the buildings will be leased back to AIB and continue to operate as branches.

AIB's sale and leaseback of a number of its premises, including its Head Office building in Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, enables the bank to free up capital and use it to support continuing strong customer loan demand.

Edgar Filing: ALLIED IRISH BANKS PLC - Form 6-K

The 12 branches to be sold and leased back to the bank are:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Artane | Dundrum |
| Clonskeagh Road | Dun Laoghaire |
| Crumlin Road | 37/38 O'Connell Street |
| Dame Street | Ranelagh |
| Morehampton Road, Donnybrook | Stillorgan |
| Drumcondra | Tallaght |

-Ends-

For further information please contact:

Alan Kelly
General Manager, Group Finance
AIB Group
Bankcentre
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4
Tel: +353-1-6600311 ext. 12162

Maurice Tracey
Group Investor Relations Manager
AIB Group
Bankcentre
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4
Tel: +353-1-6600311 ext. 14191

Signatures

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

ALLIED IRISH BANKS, p.l.c.
(Registrant)

Date 24 August, 2006

By: _____
John O'Donnell
Group Director, Finance,
Risk and Enterprise
Technology
Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c.