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## Seamus is Conroy golden boy

THE Punt was taken by surprise yesterday when it read of Seamus FitzPatrick's appointment as non-executive deputy chairman of Conroy Gold and Natural Resources.

Mr FitzPatrick - who was already a non-executive director with Conroy - is chief executive of CapVest, the private equity firm which among other interests owns Valeo Foods, the parent of the likes of Bachelor's Beans, and is chairman of the Mater Private Hospital.

For a man who made his name in the City of London, a board position with a

company that has been looking for gold in Co Monaghan for years without much notable success is surprising to say the least.

This won't be Mr FitzPatrick's first adventure in the mining business. He already sits on the board of Karelian Diamonds.

His appointment is a coup for company chairman Richard Conroy, who was effusive in his praise for Mr FitzPatrick. "I am delighted that he has agreed to become deputy chairman. I look forward to his advice and support in future years as the company moves from exploration to production."

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