

Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Management Board Meeting 21 November 2011

Attendance: Secretary General, Mr. Beausang, Mr. Duggan, Mr. Errity, Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Costello, Mr. Reid, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. McGrath, Ms. Buckley, Ms. Mulvihill, Ms. Morgan.

Apologies: Mr. Moloney, Ms. Coleman, Ms. Hanlon.

- 1. Minutes of Last Meeting** – The minutes were agreed with one minor amendment to the EU Presidency Costs under AOB.
In relation to item 6, the main work on the review will begin in January 2012. *Action: The Secretary General will inform the Minister that the Department will formally review its systems.*
In relation to item 4, all costings of opposition party Budget proposals must be cleared through the Secretary General's Office.
- 2. Events for the Week** – The Minister is scheduled to appear before the Committee on Finance and Public Expenditure on the Medium Term Capital & Expenditure Reviews on Wednesday. The Minister is scheduled to address UK and German journalists on Thursday morning on Ireland's progress. Minister Noonan has a similar engagement. *Action: The Press Office will offer an informal briefing from the Secretary General instead given the pressure of Budget work this week.* The Minister will attend an informal meeting of Cohesion Ministers in Poland on Thursday and Friday. The Minute of the Minister on the PAC Report on the 2007 Appropriation Accounts and C&AG Annual Report is on the Government Agenda this week. There are two more outstanding Minutes to be cleared before they can be brought to Government. They will be cleared this month.
- 3. Estimates** – The Estimates for 2012 have been settled with a few outstanding items which will be resolved this week.
- 4. EU/IMF Update** – Latest position noted.
- 5. AOB:**
 - There was a discussion on the EU Commission draft EU Budgetary Framework proposals. This could mean implications for the domestic budgetary process. *Action: Mr. McGrath to brief the Management Board on the proposals and their possible impact.*
 - E-Government will be discussed by the Management Board in the coming weeks. *Action: Mr. Duggan to discuss with the Secretary General.*
 - The reaction to the Public Service Reform announcements was discussed. The media reaction focused on the Croke Park Agreement.
 - Standardisation of Annual Leave – Mr. Errity informed the Management Board that the review is due back from the public service unions next week.

Next meeting – Monday, 28 November, 3pm