

Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Management Board Meeting 30 May 2011

Attendance: Mr. Watt, Mr. McNally, Mr. Moloney, Mr. Duggan, Mr. Errity, Ms. Coleman, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Kelly, Dr. O'Reardon, Mr. O'Brien, Ms. Mulvihill, Ms. Loughman.

Apologies: Mr. McGrath

The Secretary General welcomed Mr. O'Brien, who was recently appointed special advisor to the Minister, to the meeting.

1. Minutes of last meeting – the minutes were agreed with some minor changes. The minutes will also be published on the Department's website on a monthly basis.

2. Events for Week

- **Minister's Diary:** -

- The Department is co-hosting a Fiscal Reform Seminar with Dept. Finance.
- The Minister is meeting Minister Hayes for a general discussion regarding public sector reform this week; the Secretary General will attend.
- Exchequer returns will be published on Thursday. Live Register figures remain the same; they have stabilised but have not fallen. Health figures are generally in line with expectations. Activation measures are still at piloting phase. The Secretary General is meeting representatives from D/Social Protection this week and will discuss this with them. **Action: Briefing material required.**
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Infrastructure will meet on Thursday. Dermot Nolan is taking the lead in relation to this matter. The meeting was informed that there was good discussion at the Senior Officials Group meeting and that the main focus of the meetings initially will be on progressing NewERA and capital issues. **Action: Marie McLaughlin to provide briefing for the Minister on water services.**
- There will be a Cabinet level meeting with the regulators on Thursday. Mr. Kelly is putting material together for a press statement. Mr McNally will attend.
- There has been some media interest in relation to the Review of State Assets. Departments have to end May to submit their responses. The Minister is keen to bring a memo to Government soon.

- **Dáil Business:** -

- Clarification is required regarding Statements on Dáil Reform scheduled for Thursday. This may be private members' business. **Action: Ms. Mulvihill to check with Minister if he wishes to respond. If so, draft material will be required.**
- The Department's legislation will go through the second stage in the Dáil this week, will be at committee stage by 9 June and should be enacted by end June/1 July. **Action: Ms. Coleman to meet with Minister, Secretary General and Mr. O'Brien to discuss.**
- The Smithwick Tribunal is also of note on this week's schedule. The Government has requested a report on the matter by end June.

- **Government Meeting:** - An instruction regarding delivery of memos has been circulated by the Secretary General.

3. **Progress on New Department** – A new logo has been chosen (samples were circulated). Nameplates will be in place in two weeks. Plans regarding the movement of staff for payroll purposes and cost centres etc. have yet to be finalised.
4. **Update from Each Member on Key Policy Issues** –
 - **Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR):** The Department is identifying areas where savings can be made quickly. There has been significant interest in Business Process Reengineering. *Action: Mr. Kelly, Mr. Duggan, Mr. Errity, Mr. Ronnie Downes and Mr. David Denny to form a group on the CSR.*
 - **Croke Park:** The due date for the submission of the Implementation Body Review of Croke Park is Tuesday. It is envisaged that there will be sign off by the end of the week and, following submission to Government, the review will be published by end June.
 - **Public Sector Reform:** Mr. Kelly's area is putting together a draft implementation plan of key decisions which are required in relation to this matter. This is due to be completed over the next few weeks. The exercise will pull together all elements of reform and form the basis for an implementation plan.
 - **Memo on Higher Pay:** Currently with the Minister. The Secretary General thanked Mr. Errity for the work done on this. *Action: Memo to be circulated to MAC members. Secretary General and Mr. Errity to discuss with the Minister this week.*
 - **Memo on Appointments to Boards:** The Minister is keen to deliver the Memo by end June. A draft will be circulated soon. The item was placed on the agenda for next week's meeting. *Action: Ms Coleman to circulate a draft memo.*
5. **Pensions Bill Update** – Deferred to next meeting.
6. **Presentation next week on Croke Park** – A discussion on Employment Policy will take place at next week's meeting and the item on Croke Park will be deferred. *Action: David Denny to present a paper to the Board and attend the meeting to discuss.*
7. **AOB** – none.

Next meeting – Tuesday 7 June at 3pm.