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An Coiste um Chuntais Phoiblí
TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL 2022

Committee of Public Accounts
ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Table of Contents

Foreword by the Cathaoirleach	3
1. Content and Format of Report	5
2. Establishment and Functions	5
3. Cathaoirleach, Leas-Chathaoirleach and Membership	5
4. Meetings, Attendance and Recording	5
5. Meetings	6
6. Correspondence to the Committee	7
7. Witnesses attending before the Committee	7
8. Committee Reports Published	8
9. Financial Statements and Accounts presented to the Oireachtas Library	9
10. Travel	9
11. Report on Functions and Powers	9
APPENDIX 1: Establishment of the Committee	10
APPENDIX 2: Membership (at 31st December 2022)	13
APPENDIX 3: Meetings of the Committee	14

Foreword by the Cathaoirleach



On behalf of the Committee of Public Accounts, I am pleased to present its Annual Report for 2022, which sets out the work undertaken by the Committee in 2022.

The Committee has a key role to play in ensuring that there is accountability and transparency in the way Government agencies allocate, spend, and manage their finances, and in guaranteeing that the taxpayer receives value for money.

The Committee held 35 meetings in 2022, sitting for a total of over 146 hours. Arising from its examination of audited accounts and reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General, the Committee published six reports in 2022, of which five were concise recommendation-focused reports. The recommendations of the Committee reflect its principal concerns arising from its examinations of public expenditure.

The recommendations contained in the Committee's 2022 reports have given rise to a number of positive changes. For example, value for money concerns in relation to the use of prefabricated accommodation at schools resulted in the Department of Education undertaking a case-by-case assessment of the long-term accommodation requirements for 396 schools. The Committee also recommended a move away from posting paper payslips, which was costing the State almost €14 million annually, and which the Department has acted to address.

In 2022 the Committee also made recommendations in relation to expenditure on direct provision; the loss of revenue to the Exchequer through 'bogus self-employment'; expenditure on social housing supports; how the individual taxes included within the Excise Duty category are reported; and the loss of public funds due to the failure of building standards regulation.

Following its examination of the Comptroller and Auditor General's report on *Catering and ancillary services in prisons*, the Committee corresponded with the Minister for Justice who, at the Committee's behest, initiated an independent review of Voluntary Mess Committees in Irish prisons. Towards the end of 2022 the Committee also continued its focus on expenditure on the National Paediatric Hospital and reported on the matter in early 2022.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who participated in the Committee's hearings in 2022 and to all those who corresponded with the Committee and sought to assist it in its deliberations. I would also like to express my appreciation to the members of the Committee and the Secretariat for their work.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Brian Stanley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Brian Stanley, T.D.
Cathaoirleach, Committee of Public Accounts
11 July 2024

1. Content and Format of Report

This report has been prepared pursuant to Standing Order 218(9) of Dáil Éireann, which states:

“The Committee shall present an annual progress report to Dáil Éireann on its activities and plans.”

2. Establishment and Functions

The Committee of Public Accounts is a standing committee of Dáil Éireann¹, and is responsible for scrutinising departmental and certain other audited accounts and reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General. Please see [Appendix 1](#) on page 10 for the relevant extract from Standing Orders of Dáil Éireann relative to Public Business 2022.

The Committee plays an important role in ensuring accountability and transparency in the way government departments, offices and certain public bodies allocate, spend, and manage their finances. The Committee seeks to ensure that taxpayers receive value for money for every euro spent by the Exchequer. Further information on the role of the Committee can be found on the Oireachtas website [here](#).

3. Cathaoirleach, Leas-Chathaoirleach and Membership

Dáil Éireann Standing Order 104(2) provides for a proportion of Cathaoirligh to be allocated to each party or group by means of the D'Hondt System. Deputy Brian Stanley was appointed as Cathaoirleach of the Committee on 3 September 2020 by Order of Dáil Éireann. Deputy Catherine Murphy was elected as Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Committee on 24 September 2020.

The membership of the Committee, including any changes within the reported period, is listed at [Appendix 2](#) (page 13).

4. Meetings, Attendance and Recording

In 2022, Committee meetings continued, having regard to relevant public health guidelines on safe working (physical distancing etc.) arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. The length of meetings was restricted, and arrangements were made for witnesses to attend committee meetings via video link.

¹ A standing committee is a committee required by Standing Orders of the Dáil to be established after a general election.

Public meetings of the Committee continued to be broadcast from the Committee rooms in Leinster House, although physical attendance was generally limited to the Cathaoirleach and support staff, with Members attending remotely from within the precincts of Leinster House. While the Committee continued to hold its engagements with public bodies in public, restrictions on meeting duration and frequency meant some Committee business had to be conducted in private session.

Public committee proceedings were broadcast live within Leinster House and also made available to RTÉ, Virgin Media and TG4. Proceedings were also webcast making them available worldwide on the internet. The proceedings of committees in public session are also broadcast on the dedicated parliamentary channel Oireachtas TV, which is available on the following channels:

- Saorview 22, Sky 574, Virgin Media 207, eir Vision 504
- Vodafone Channels 201, 207 and 208

Official Reports of the public meetings, also known as the meeting transcripts, are available on the Committee's debates webpage ².

Reports published by the Committee are also available on the Committee's reports' webpage ³. Details of six reports published by the Committee in 2022 are set out at paragraph 7 below.

5. Meetings

The Committee held 35 public and private meetings in 2022 and sat for 146.14 hours.

The table below provides a breakdown of the matters examined by the Committee during its meetings.

Appropriation Accounts 2020 and 2021	25
Financial Statements and Accounts of Public Bodies 2020 and 2021	15
Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2019 and 2020 (Chapters)	21
Central Fund and Other Funds	3
Other *	2

² <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/committees/33/committee-of-public-accounts/debates/>

³ <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/committees/33/committee-of-public-accounts/pac-reports/>

Business of the Committee (Correspondence, Accounts and Financial Statements, Work Programme etc.)	35
Total no. of Meetings **	35

(Notes:

* Other refers to discrete areas of public expenditure i.e, Broadcasting and National Broadband Plan)

** The overall total of matters examined exceeds the total number of meetings because many meetings considered several matters.

The subject matter of each meeting, including the organisations and witnesses who attended the meetings, as well as links to the transcripts of the meetings, are provided at [Appendix 3](#) (page 14).

The following table provides details of sitting hours, witnesses, reports and travel:

Number of sitting hours	146.14
Number of witnesses	301
Number of reports laid in the Oireachtas library	6
Number of travel episodes	1

6. Correspondence to the Committee

The following table provides details of correspondence processed by the Committee in 2022:

Correspondence	Total
Correspondence items received by the Committee	648
Correspondence items the Committee declined to receive or demoted ⁴	50
Correspondence items issued by the Committee	452

7. Witnesses attending before the Committee

301 contributing witnesses appeared before the Committee in 2022.

Please see [Appendix 3](#) (page 14) for details of the organisations and witnesses who attended meetings of the Committee.

When the Committee is examining Appropriation Accounts (Votes), the principal witness is the Accounting Officer of that Vote (usually the Secretary General of the relevant

⁴ 'Demoted' refers to a decision of the Committee - as provided for in section 92(4) of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013 - that a document given to it has ceased to be a document of the Committee and therefore no longer benefits from legal privilege. A document that the Committee 'declines' to receive never becomes a document of the Committee. Mainly concerns correspondence considered by the Committee to be outside its remit and/or matters of a criminal nature, allegations against identifiable individuals, or both.

Government Department). An officer from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform is also in attendance.

When the Committee is examining financial statements of public bodies, the principal witness is the Accountable Person (usually the Chief Executive Officer of the public body). An officer from the relevant Government Department is also in attendance.

8. Committee Reports Published

When it concludes its examination of accounts or of interim and annual reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General, the Committee presents a Report to the Dáil.

The Committee published the following six reports in 2022:

Report	Date of publication
Report on Examination of the 2019 Appropriation Account for Vote 24 - Justice and Equality; and Vote 21 - Prisons	27 January 2022
Examination of the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board 2019 Financial Statements and Related Financial Matters	8 March 2022
Examination of the 2019 and 2020 Appropriation Accounts for Vote 29 - Environment, Climate and Communications, and expenditure on the National Broadband Plan	5 April 2022
Committee of Public Accounts Annual Report 2021	9 May 2022
Committee of Public Accounts Report on Examination of the 2019 Appropriation Account for Vote 29 – Environment, Climate and Communications: Programme B – Broadcasting, and the 2020 Appropriation Account for Vote 33 – Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	5 July 2022
Examination of the 2019 Appropriation Account for Vote 30 – Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and related financial matters	8 November 2022

A formal reply to every Report of the Committee of Public Accounts is prepared by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in consultation with the Department(s) and Office(s) concerned and is called ‘The Minute of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform on the Report of the Committee of Public Accounts’.

The Committee’s reports and the corresponding Minute of the Minister are published on the Committee’s reports’ webpage ⁵.

⁵ <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/committees/33/committee-of-public-accounts/pac-reports/>

9. Financial Statements and Accounts presented to the Oireachtas Library

The Comptroller and Auditor General presents a regular report to the Committee regarding financial statements and accounts laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas. The Committee has a related standing agreement to request explanations for any significant non-compliant procurement or delays in laying accounts before the Houses of the Oireachtas. The responses are considered by the Committee.

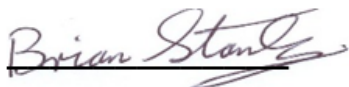
Financial statements and accounts presented to the Oireachtas Library	298
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10. Travel

The Committee visited the site of the National Paediatric Hospital in Dublin 8 on 14 July 2022.

11. Report on Functions and Powers

The Orders of Reference of the Committee are set out in Standing Order 218 of Dáil Éireann. Please see Appendix 1 on page 10. The Committee is currently satisfied with its present procedures and role.



Brian Stanley, T.D.
Cathaoirleach
11 July 2024

APPENDIX 1: Establishment of the Committee

Standing Order 218 of Dáil Éireann provides the Orders of Reference for the Committee of Public Accounts. The adoption of Standing Orders by Dáil Éireann established the Committee of Public Accounts, which is a standing Committee of Dáil Éireann.

Extract from Dáil Éireann Standing Orders Relative To Public Business 2020 (consolidated version)

Dáil Standing Order 218 — Committee of Public Accounts

218. (1) There shall stand established, following the reassembly of the Dáil subsequent to a General Election, a Standing Committee, to be known as the Committee of Public Accounts, to examine and report to the Dáil upon—

- (a) the accounts showing the appropriation of the sums granted by the Dáil each year to meet the public expenditure and such other accounts as they see fit (not being accounts of persons included in the Second Schedule of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993) which are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General and presented to the Dáil on an annual basis, together with any reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon;
- (b) the Comptroller and Auditor General's reports on his or her examinations of economy, efficiency, effectiveness evaluation systems, procedures and practices; and
- (c) other reports carried out by the Comptroller and Auditor General under the Act.

(2) In considering particular accounts pursuant to paragraph (1)(a), the Committee shall examine whether, having regard to changes in—

- (a) the volume or quality of services or other outputs delivered, and
- (b) associated expenditure,

over time, it can be demonstrated that value for money has or has not been achieved.

(3) The Committee shall bring conclusions and recommendations reported to the Dáil pursuant to paragraph (1)(a) in relation to particular accounts to the attention of the relevant Committee established pursuant to Standing Order 95.

(4) The Committee may suggest alterations and improvements in the form of the Estimates submitted to the Dáil and shall bring any such suggestions as reported to the Dáil to the attention of the Committee on Budgetary Oversight.

(5) The Committee may proceed with its examination of an account or a report of the Comptroller and Auditor General at any time after that account or report is presented to Dáil Éireann.

(6) The Committee shall have the power to send for persons, papers and records.

(7) Paragraphs (4) to (9) inclusive of Standing Order 96 shall not apply to the Committee.

(8) Every report which the Committee proposes to make shall, on adoption by the Committee, be laid before the Dáil forthwith whereupon the Committee shall be empowered to print and publish such report together with such related documents as it thinks fit.

(9) The Committee shall present an annual progress report to Dáil Éireann on its activities and plans.

(10) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Standing Order, the Committee shall have the power to examine and report upon a specific matter of general public interest relating to the appropriation of public moneys, which is not comprehended by appropriation accounts or reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General within the meaning of paragraph (1), subject to—

- (a) a positive determination having been made by the Committee on Remit Oversight under Standing Order 93A pursuant to a request by the Committee of Public Accounts under Standing Order 93B for an extension to its orders of reference for the purpose of examining the matter; and
- (b) the approval of the Dáil by way of an appropriate motion under Standing Order 93B to instruct the Committee in conducting its examination of the matter.

(11) The Committee shall refrain from—

- (a) enquiring into in public session, or publishing, confidential information regarding the activities and plans of a Government Department or office, or of a body which is subject to audit, examination or inspection by the Comptroller and Auditor General, if so requested either by a member of the Government, or the body concerned; or
- (b) enquiring into the merits of a policy or policies of the Government or a member of the Government or the merits of the objectives of such policies.

(12) The Committee may, without prejudice to the independence of the Comptroller and Auditor General in determining the work to be carried out by his or her Office or the manner in which it is carried out, in private communication, make such suggestions to the Comptroller and Auditor General regarding that work as it sees fit.

(13) The Committee shall consist of thirteen members, none of whom shall be a member of the Government or a Minister of State, and four of whom shall constitute a quorum. The Committee and any sub-Committee which it may appoint shall be constituted so as to be impartially representative of the Dáil.

APPENDIX 2: Membership (at 31st December 2022)

Deputy Brian Stanley (Cathaoirleach)	Sinn Féin
Deputy Colm Burke	Fine Gael
Deputy Jennifer Carroll MacNeill	Fine Gael
Deputy Matt Carthy	Sinn Féin
Deputy Cormac Devlin	Fianna Fáil
Deputy Alan Dillon	Fine Gael
Deputy Neasa Hourigan	Green Party
Deputy Paul McAuliffe	Fianna Fáil
Deputy Imelda Munster	Sinn Féin
Deputy Catherine Murphy	Social Democrats
Deputy Verona Murphy	Independent
Deputy James O'Connor	Fianna Fáil
Deputy Alan Kelly	Labour Party

Note re Membership history

1. Deputy Duncan Smith (Labour) was replaced by Deputy Seán Sherlock (Labour) by order of the Dáil passed on [24 November 2020](#). (Fifth Report of the Standing Committee of Selection in accordance with Standing Order 27F).
2. Deputy Marc MacSharry (Fianna Fáil) was replaced by Deputy James O'Connor (Fianna Fáil) by order of the Dáil passed on [21 September 2021](#). (Ninth Report of the Standing Committee of Selection in accordance with Standing Order 27F).
3. Deputy Seán Sherlock (Labour) was replaced by Deputy Alan Kelly (Labour) by order of the Dáil passed on [26 May 2022](#). (Fourteenth Report of the Standing Committee of Selection in accordance with Standing Order 27F).
4. Deputy Jennifer Carroll Mac Neill was appointed as Minister of State at the Department of Finance on 21 December 2022 and, in accordance with Dáil Standing Order 34, stood automatically discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts.

APPENDIX 3: Meetings of the Committee

The following are the details, in date order, of the scheduled meetings of the Committee in 2022 including links to transcripts of the meetings. The minutes of meetings are published on the Committee's [webpage](#).

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
20/01/2022	Programme E Broadcasting in respect of Appropriation Account Vote 33 – Tourism, Culture, Art, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	RTÉ Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>RTÉ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Dee Forbes, Director General • Mr. Richard Collins, Chief Financial Officer • Ms Fiona O'Shea, Group Financial Controller <p>Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Patricia Murphy, Assistant Secretary, Finance Division • Ms Triona Quill, Assistant Secretary, Broadcasting and Media Division • Mr. Stephen Ryan, Principal Officer, Broadcasting Policy
27/01/2022	Financial Statements 2020 National Transport Authority	National Transport Authority Department of Transport	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>National Transport Authority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Anne Graham, CEO • Mr. Hugh Creegan, Deputy CEO / Director of Transport Planning and Investment • Mr. Tim Gaston, Director of Public Transport Services • Mr. Philip L'Estrange, Director of Finance and Public Services • Mr. David O'Flynn, Financial Controller <p>Department of Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Ethna Brogan, Assistant Secretary • Mr. Garret Doocey, Principal Officer

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
03/02/2022	Financial Statements 2020 Transport Infrastructure Ireland	Transport Infrastructure Ireland Department of Transport	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General Transport Infrastructure Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Peter Walsh, Chief Executive • Mr. Cathal Masterson, Director of Commercial Operations • Mr. Nigel O'Neill, Director of Capital Programme • Mr. Pat Maher, Director of Network Management • Ms Audrey Keogh, Director of Business Services Department of Transport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Ethna Brogan, Assistant Secretary • Mr. Andrew Ebrill, Principal Officer, National Roads, Greenways and Active Travel Division • Mr. Dominic Mullaney, Principal Advisor, Regional and local roads Division • Mr. Garret Doocey, Principal Officer
10/02/2022	National Broadband Plan expenditure and related matters in the context of Vote 29 – Environment, Climate and Communications Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 29 – Environment, Climate and Communications	Department of Environment, Climate and Communications National Broadband Ireland (NBI) Department of Public Expenditure and Reform	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mark Griffin, Secretary General • Ms Barbara Leeson, Principal Officer • Mr. Ciarán ÓhÓbáin, Assistant Secretary • Mr. Feargal Mulligan, Programme Manager • Ms Louise Carrigan, Principal Officer • Mr. Patrick Neary, Chief Technical Officer National Broadband Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Peter Hendrick, Chief Executive • Mr. Barry Kelly, Chief Financial Officer • Ms Jenny Fisher, Chief Legal Officer • Mr. T.J Malone, Chief Executive Officer (Deployment) • Ms Tara Collins, Chief Marketing Officer Department of Public Expenditure and Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ken Cleary, Principal Officer

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
17/02/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 34 – Housing, Local Government and Heritage</p> <p>Accounts of the Public Services 2020 Chapter 3: Central government funding of Local Authorities Chapter 8: Oversight of the Housing Assistance Payment</p> <p>Local Government Fund Account 2020</p>	<p>Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage</p> <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Graham Doyle, Secretary General • Ms Áine Stapleton, Assistant Secretary – Social Housing Delivery Division • Ms Maria Graham, Assistant Secretary - Planning Division • Ms Caroline Timmons, Assistant Secretary (Acting), Housing Affordability Inclusion & Homeless Division • Ms Lorraine O'Donoghue, Principal Officer - Local Government Division • Ms Marguerite Ryan, Finance Officer • Ms Janet Jacobs, Assistant Principal <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Clare Costello, Principal Officer
24/02/2022	<p>Financial Statements 2020 Residential Tenancies Board</p>	<p>Residential Tenancies Board</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Residential Tenancies Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Tom Dunne, Chairperson • Mr. Bryan Kelly, Head of Finance, Governance and Risk Management, • Ms Caren Gallagher, Head of Communication and Research • Mr. Niall Byrne, Director
03/03/2022	<p>Financial Statements 2020 Home Building Finance Ireland</p>	<p>Home Building Finance Ireland</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Home Building Finance Ireland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Dara Deering, Chief Executive Officer • Ms Denise Donovan, Head of Operations and Finance • Mr. Sean Alger, Head of Credit and Risk

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
10/03/2022	Financial Statements 2020 HSE	HSE Department of Health	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General HSE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Paul Reid, Chief Executive Officer • Mr. Stephen Mulvaney, Chief Financial Officer • Ms Anne O'Connor, Chief Operations Officer • Ms Yvonne O'Neill, National Director, Community Operations • Mr. Jim Curran, National Director, Capital and Estates • Dr. Amanda Burke, Child & Adolescent Consultant Psychiatrist and Executive Clinical Director for Galway Roscommon Mental Health Services Department of Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Louise McGirr, Assistant Secretary • Ms Margaret Campbell, Principal Officer • Mr. Seamus Hempenstall, Principal Officer
24/03/2022	Financial Statements 2020 Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. William Walsh, CEO • Mr. Ciaran Byrne, Director of National Retrofit • Mr. Declan Meally, Director of Business Public Sector and Transport • Ms Marion O'Brien, Director of Corporate Services Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Jenny O'Hora, Principal Officer, • Mr. Robert Deegan, Principal Officer

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
31/03/2022	Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 20 – An Garda Síochána	An Garda Síochána Department of Public Expenditure and Reform	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General An Garda Síochána <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Drew Harris, Commissioner • Mr. Joseph Nugent, Chief Administrative Officer • Ms Kathryn Clifford, Executive Director of Finance and Services • Ms Shawna Coxon, Deputy Commissioner, Strategy, Governance and Performance Department of Public Expenditure and Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Marianne Nolan, Principal Officer
07/04/2022	Financial Statements 2020 An Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 41 – The Policing Authority	An Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission The Policing Authority	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General An Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Justice Rory MacCabe, Chairperson • Ms Emily Logan, Commissioner • Mr. Hugh Hume, Commissioner • Ms Aileen Healy, Director of Administration • Ms. Amanda McLoughlin, Head of Corporate Services and Finance • Mr. Walter Jayawardene, Head of Communications The Policing Authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Helen Hall, Chief Executive • Dr. Cormac Keating, Director • Ms Margaret Tumelty, Director

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
28/04/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 24 – Justice Vote 21 – Prisons</p>	<p>Department of Justice Irish Prison Service Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Department of Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Doncha O'Sullivan, Assistant Secretary • Ms Oonagh Buckley, Deputy Secretary General • Ms Oonagh McPhillips, Secretary General • Mr. Seamus Clifford, A/Director <p>Irish Prison Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Caron McCaffrey, Director General • Mr. Fergal Black, Director of Care and Rehabilitation <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Marianne Nolan, Principal Officer
05/05/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 7 – Office of the Minister for Finance</p> <p>Accounts of the Public Services 2020 Chapter 1: Exchequer funding overrun for 2020 Chapter 16: Apple Ireland Escrow Fund</p> <p>Financial Statements 2020 Department of Finance</p>	<p>Department of Finance</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Department of Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. John Hogan, Secretary General • Mr. Des Carville, Head of Shareholding and Financial Advisory Division • Ms Emma Cunningham, Assistant Secretary • Mr. John McCarthy, Chief Economist for Economic Policy and Division • Ms Laura Cunningham, Finance Officer • Ms Scline Scott, Head of Corporate Division

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
12/05/2022	Financial Statements 2020 University of Limerick	University of Limerick Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General University of Limerick <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Mary Harney, Chancellor Professor Kerstin Mey, President Mr. Gary Butler, Chief Financial Performance Officer Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Keith Moynes, Assistant Secretary, with responsibility for Higher Education Policy Division Ms Emma Leonard, Principal Officer, with responsibility for Climate Action and Planning Unit
19/05/2022	Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 11 – Office of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform Vote 12 – Superannuation and Retired Allowances Vote 39 – Office of Government Procurement Vote 43 – Office of the Government Chief Information Officer Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 4: Vote Accounting and Budget Management 	Department of Public Expenditure and Reform	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General Department of Public Expenditure and Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. David Moloney, Secretary General Mr. David Feeney, Chief Operations Officer Mr. John Pender, Principal Officer, Public Service Pay and Pensions Divisions Ms Mary O'Donohue, Director, Office of the Government Chief Information Officer Ms Niamh Callaghan, Principal Officer, Labour Market and Enterprise Policy Division

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
26/05/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 38 – Health</p> <p>Financial Statements 2020 HSE</p>	<p>Department of Health</p> <p>HSE</p> <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Department of Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Robert Watt, Secretary General • Mr. John O'Grady, Principal Officer • Mr. Kevin Coleman, Principal Officer • Mr. Seamus Hempenstall, Principal Officer • Ms Fiona Larthwell, Principal Officer <p>HSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Paul Reid, Chief Executive Officer • Ms Anne O'Connor, Chief Operations Officer • Mr. Liam Woods, National Director, Acute Operations • Mr. Stephen Mulvaney, Chief Financial Officer • Ms Anne Marie Hoey, National Director Human Resources • Ms Mairead Dolan, Assistant Chief Financial Officer <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Daniel O'Callaghan, Principal Officer • Mr. Eoin Dormer, Principal Officer
02/06/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 40 – Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth</p>	<p>Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth</p> <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Kevin McCarthy, Secretary General • Ms Anne-Marie Brooks, Assistant Secretary • Ms Carol Baxter, Assistant Secretary • Mr. Dermot Ryan, Assistant Secretary • Ms Lara Hynes, Assistant Secretary • Ms Laura McGarrigle, Assistant Secretary • Mr. Gordon Gaffney, Principal Officer • Ms Ruth Mulligan, Assistant Principal • Mr. Caitriona Mulhall, Assistant Principal <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Fionn Jenkinson, Assistant Principal • Ms Jessica Lawless, Principal Officer

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
16/06/2022	Financial Statements 2020 National Paediatric Hospital Development Board	National Paediatric Hospital Development Board Department of Health HSE	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General National Paediatric Hospital Development Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. David Gunning, Chief Officer Dr. Emma Curtis, Medical Director Mr. Jim Farragher, Financial Manager Mr. Phelim Devine, Project Director Department of Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Derek Tierney, Assistant Secretary in the Health Infrastructure Division HSE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Martin McKeith, Assistant Lead Director
23/06/2022	Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2020 Chapter 3: Central Government Funding of Local Authorities	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Graham Doyle, Secretary General Ms Fiona Quinn, Assistant Secretary Mr. David Kelly, Principal Officer Ms Janet Jacobs, Assistant Principal Mr. Diarmuid O'Leary, Principal Officer Ms Lorraine O'Donoghue, Principal Officer Ms Sinead Kehoe, Finance Officer Ms Sinead O'Gorman, Principal Officer
30/06/2022	Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 27 – International Co-operation Vote 28 – Foreign Affairs	Department of Foreign Affairs Department of Public Expenditure and Reform	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General Department of Foreign Affairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. John Conlan, Chief Operating Officer Ms Jane Connolly, Finance Director Mr. Ruairí de Búrca, Director General of the Development, Cooperation and Africa Division (Irish Aid) Ms Siobhán Byrne, Director of Passport Services Department of Public Expenditure and Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Ken Cleary, Principal Officer

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
07/07/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2020 Vote 26 – Education</p> <p>Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2018 Chapter 7: Purchase of sites for school provision</p> <p>Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2019 Chapter 8: Management of the schools estate</p>	<p>Department of Education</p> <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Department of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Deirdre Mc Donnell, Assistant Secretary • Mr. Gavan O'Leary, Assistant Secretary • Mr. Hubert Loftus, Assistant Secretary • Ms Aoife Conduit, Assistant Secretary • Ms Deirdre Shanley, Assistant Secretary • Mr. Tomás Ó'Ruairc, Assistant Secretary • Ms Martina Mannion, Assistant Secretary • Mr. Harold Hislop, Chief Inspector • Mr. Tom Whelan, Principal Officer • Peter Raftery, Principal Officer • Grainne Swan, Principal Officer <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Georgina Hughes-Elders
14/07/2022	<p>Financial Statements 2020 An Bord Pleanála</p>	<p>An Bord Pleanála</p> <p>Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>An Bord Pleanála</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dave Walsh, Chairperson • Ms Anne Killian, Finance Officer • Mr. Gerard Egan, Director of Corporate Affairs <p>Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Graham Doyle, Secretary General • Ms Maria Graham, Assistant Secretary, Planning
15/09/2022	<p>Business of the Committee</p>		<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
22/09/2022	Financial Statements 2020 Horse Racing Ireland	Horse Racing Ireland Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General Horse Racing Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Suzanne Eade, Chief Executive Ms Claire Rudd, Head of Risk and Compliance Mr. Jason Morris, Director of Racing and Strategic Projects Mr. Roger Casey, Chief Financial Officer Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Darragh O'Loughlin, Chief Executive Mr. Donal O'Shea, Head of Finance Mr. Niall Cronin, Communications Manager Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Martin Blake, Assistant Secretary Ms Caroline Ball, Principal Officer Ms Louise McAlavey, Assistant Principal
29/09/2022	Financial Statements 2021 HSE	HSE Department of Health	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General HSE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Paul Reid, Chief Executive Officer Mr. Damien McCallion, Chief Operations Officer Ms Mairead Dolan, Assistant Chief Financial Officer Mr. Maurice Farnan, Assistant National Director, Community Operations Mr. Stephen Mulvaney, Chief Financial Officer Ms Anne Kennedy, Acting Chief Officer and Head of Finance CHO 8 Ms Dervila Eyers, Head of Mental Health Services, CHO 8 Mr. Hugh Scully, General Manager, Mental Health Services CHO 4 Mr. Michael Fitzgerald, Chief Officer, CHO 4 Department of Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Kevin Coleman, Principal Officer Ms Siobhán McArdle, Assistant Secretary Ms Siobhán Hargis, Assistant Principal Ms Edel O'Connor, Assistant Principal

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
06/10/2022	Financial Statements 2021 HSE (resumed)	HSE Department of Health	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General HSE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Stephen Mulvany, Chief Executive Officer Professor Cathal O'Donnell, Clinical Director, National Ambulance Service Mr. Damien McCallion, Chief Operations Officer Ms Mairead Dolan, Chief Financial Officer Mr. Robert Morton, Director, National Ambulance Service Department of Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. John O'Grady, Principal Officer Mr. Keith Comiskey, Principal Officer
13/10/2022	Appropriation Accounts 2021 Vote 29 – Environment, Climate and Communications Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2021 Chapter 9: Implementation on the National Broadband Plan	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications Department of Public Expenditure and Reform	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Mark Griffin, Secretary General Mr. Ciarán Ó hÓbáin, Assistant Secretary: Communications Mr. Fergal Mulligan, Programme Director, National Broadband Plan Ms Louise Carrigan, Principal Officer Mr. Phillip Nugent, Assistant Secretary: Environment Protection, Circular Economy and Governance Mr. Robert Deegan, Principal Officer Department of Public Expenditure and Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Ken Cleary, Principal Officer
20/10/2022	Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2021 Chapter 3: Vote Accounting and Budget Management Chapter 4: Re-allocation of Voted Funding	Department of Public Expenditure and Reform	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General Department of Public Expenditure and Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. David Moloney, Secretary General Mr. David Feeney, Principal Officer, Corporate Office Mr. John Kinnane, Assistant Secretary, Expenditure and Policy Division Ms Niamh Callaghan, Principal Officer, Expenditure Policy Division

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
27/10/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2021 Vote 40 – Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth</p> <p>Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2021 Chapter 13: Guardian ad Litem service – follow up report</p>	<p>Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth</p> <p>Tusla</p> <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Kevin McCarthy, Secretary General • Ms Anne-Marie Brooks, Assistant Secretary • Ms Carol Baxter, Assistant Secretary • Ms Lara Hynes, Assistant Secretary • Ms Sheenagh Rooney, Assistant Secretary <p>Tusla</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Bernard Gloster, Chief Executive Officer • Ms Kate Duggan, Deputy CEO, National Director of Services & Integration <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Fionn Jenkinson, Assistant Principal • Ms Jessica Lawless, Principal Officer
10/11/2022	<p>Financial Statements 2021 Greyhound Racing Ireland (Rásaíocht Con Éireann)</p>	<p>Greyhound Racing Ireland (Rásaíocht Con Éireann)</p> <p>Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Greyhound Racing Ireland (Rásaíocht Con Éireann)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. John Tuohey, Interim CEO and CFO • Mr. Frank Nyhan, Chairman • Mr. Patrick Herbert, Director of Regulation • Mr. William Fitzgerald, Veterinary Director <p>Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Gordon Conroy, Assistant Secretary • Ms Caroline Ball, Principal Officer • Ms Louise McAlavey, Assistant Principal

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
17/11/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2021 Vote 7 – Office of the Minister for Finance</p> <p>Finance Accounts 2021</p> <p>Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2021 Chapter 1: Exchequer Financial Outturn 2021 Chapter 2: Net Cost of Banking Stabilisation Measures Chapter 22: Ireland Apple Escrow Fund</p>	<p>Department of Finance</p> <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Department of Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. John Hogan, Secretary General • Mr. Des Carville, Head of Shareholding and Financial Advisory Division • Ms Emma Cunningham, Assistant Secretary • Mr. John McCarthy, Chief Economist for Economic Policy Division • Ms Laura Cunningham, Finance Officer • Ms Scilene Scott, Head of the Corporate Office <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dermot Nolan, Principal Officer
24/11/2022	<p>Financial Statements 2021 National Lottery Fund</p> <p>Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2021 Chapter 19: Exchequer receipts from National Lottery Ticket sales</p>	<p>Regulator of the National Lottery</p> <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Regulator of the National Lottery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Carol Boate, Regulator of the National Lottery • Mr. Derek Donohoe, Deputy Regulator <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dermot Nolan, Principal Officer
01/12/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2021 Vote 37 – Social Protection</p> <p>Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2021 Chapter 10: Regularity of Social Welfare Payments Chapter 11: The recovery of benefit and assistance payments following compensation awards Chapter 14: Classification of workers for PRSI purposes</p>	<p>Department of Social Protection</p> <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Department of Social Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. John McKeon, Secretary General • Ms Teresa Leonard, Deputy Secretary General • Mr. Ciarán Lawler, Assistant Secretary, Corporate/Finance • Ms Eilis Hamilton, Assistant Principal • Mr. Liam Daly, Assistant Secretary, Control • Ms Philomena Mc Shane, Principal Officer, Chief Accountant <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Jenny Connors, Principal Officer • Mr. Cathal McDermott, Assistant Principal

Date	Topic	Organisations who attended	Witnesses
08/12/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2021 Vote 9 – Office of the Revenue Commissioners</p> <p>Account of the Receipt of Revenue of the State collected by the Revenue Commissioners 2021</p> <p>Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2021 Chapter 4: Re-allocation of voted funding Chapter 15: Collection of VAT on e-Commerce Chapter 16: Revenue’s suspension of periodic reviews of tax clearance certificates Chapter 17: Overstatement of certain unallocated tax deposits</p> <p>Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2021 Chapter 19: Exchequer receipts from National Lottery ticket sales</p>	<p>Office of the Revenue Commissioners</p> <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <p>Premier Lotteries Ireland</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Office of the Revenue Commissioners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Niall Cody, Chairman • Ms Ruth Kennedy, Commissioner • Ms Angela O’Gorman, Principal Officer • Mr. Dermot Donegan, Principal Officer <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dermott Nolan, Principal Officer <p>Premier Lotteries Ireland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Andrew Algeo, Chief Executive Officer • Mr. Cian Murphy, Chief Product and Digital Officer
15/12/2022	<p>Appropriation Accounts 2021 Vote 13 – Office of Public Works</p> <p>Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2021 Chapter 8: Contract payments in respect of Convention Centre Dublin</p>	<p>Office of Public Works</p> <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p>	<p>Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General <p>Office of Public Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Maurice Buckley, Chairman • Mr. Martin Bourke, Commissioner • Mr. Ciaran O’Connor, State Architect/Principal Architect • Mr. Jim Casey, Head of Flood Risk Management • Mr. Mike Long, Director of Corporate Services • Ms Rosemary Collier, Assistant Secretary, Head of Heritage Services and Capital Works Delivery <p>Department of Public Expenditure and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Marie Mulvihill, Principal Officer

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