

Department of Finance / Revenue Board Liaison Group

16 December 2015

Dublin Castle, 2.30pm

Note of Meeting

Attendees: N Cody, L Irwin, G Harrahill, D Moran, A Nolan, G Tobin

1. Review of 2015

- The recent Exchequer Returns were discussed as was the recent letter to the Minister from the Revenue Chairman.
- It was agreed that corporation tax receipts in particular would continue to be monitored closely and that further analysis would be considered as appropriate.
- The recent Revenue Competent Authority Report was discussed and the fact that resources have been increased in the area.
- The success of the recent 3rd annual Dept. of Finance Tax Policy Conference was noted as was the very positive contribution and participation by Sean Kennedy from Revenue.
- The Secretary General updated the Revenue Board on his recent visit to the US Treasury.

2. Budget and Finance Bill

- Satisfaction was expressed regarding the good working relationship and close co-operation between Revenue and Finance officials in relation to the Budget and Finance Bill process.
- The issue of the possibility of a Revenue bill to relieve some of the more administrative parts of the Finance Bill was discussed as was the possibility of a future public consultation process on the Finance bill process itself.
- Item 9 (Recent OECD Report on Budget Process) was also discussed under this item.

3. Tax Appeals Bill and related issues

- General satisfaction was expressed with the news that the Tax Appeals Commission Bill had passed all stages in the Seanad that same afternoon.
- The expected appointment of a second new Commissioner was also noted.

4. EU Tax Issues

- Ongoing EU State Aid cases were discussed as was the recent report from the EU Parliament TAXE Committee. It was also noted that the Department of Finance will be seconding an official to DG Tax in the new year.

5. LPT Bill

- The successful passage of the LPT Bill was discussed.

6. Update on Revenue Structure

- The Chairman of Revenue updated the meeting on changes to the Revenue organisational structure.

7. Civil Service Reform

- The latest developments in relation to civil service wide reforms was discussed.

8. Horizon Scanning into 2016

- The positive cooperation between Finance and Revenue regarding confidential General Election and Party Political Costings was noted.
- The recent ESRI study on BREXIT was discussed.

9. Recent Publication of OECD Report on Budget Oversight by Parliament

- Already discussed under item 2.

10. HR and L&D Issues

- Revenue update the meeting on planned AO Recruitment in Revenue.
- The possibility of a Revenue AO secondment to the D/Finance Tax Policy Unit was discussed.

11. Provisional date for Next Meeting

- It was agreed that the next meeting would be in April 2016.