

Committee Brief  
Public Accounts Committee  
Vote 13 Office of Public Works  
Appropriation Account 2017

## ***PROGRAMME A - Flood Risk Management***

### ***High level goal of the programme***

To minimise the extent of coastal and river flooding and its social, economic and environmental impacts through the implementation of effective protection and mitigation measures for at-risk areas, the provision of flood risk guidance and advice in the area of sustainable planning, and assisting the development of resilient communities.

<i>Programme A</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Outturn</i>
<i>Amount* (€000's)</i>	75,044	75,099

### **A.3 - Purchase of Plant and Machinery**

The subhead provides for the procurement of all plant and machinery by the OPW in the Flood Risk Management and Estate Management areas.

Plant is purchased on a prioritised rolling programme basis aimed at ensuring compliance with Health and Safety standards and optimal operational efficiency.

<i>A.3</i>	<i>2016 Outturn</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Outturn</i>	<i>2018 Estimate</i>
<i>Amount (€000's)</i>	2,106	2,150	2,167	3,150

### **A.4 - Hydrometric & Hydrological Investigation & Monitoring**

The subhead provides for the operation and maintenance of hydrometric gauges to measure water levels and river flows and to produce hydrometric data and hydrological analysis for flood risk management.

The data collected is used by the OPW in connection with, investigations into the causes of flooding, design of further flood relief schemes and examination of flood relief proposals from Local Authorities and others. The information is published at [www.opw.ie/hydro](http://www.opw.ie/hydro) and [www.waterlevel.ie](http://www.waterlevel.ie).

<i>A.4</i>	<i>2016 Outturn</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Outturn</i>	<i>2018 Estimate</i>
<i>Amount (€000's)</i>	1,048	1,229	1,109	1,246

## A.5 - Flood Risk Management

The subhead provides for the preparation and implementation of flood relief schemes, the completion of flood relief works and the payment of compensation costs arising from these works. It also provides for the carrying out of Catchment-based Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) studies as required by the EU Flood Directive.

A.5	2016 Outturn	2017 Estimate	2017 Outturn	2018 Estimate
<i>Amount (€000s) Capital</i>	51,855	45,019	45,369	68,069

### Flood Risk management - Subhead A.5 Expenditure 2017

Expenditure on the capital flood risk management subhead in 2017 was €45.269m. The main flood relief schemes include:

Bandon Flood Relief Scheme - €8.8m

Bray Flood Relief Scheme - €4.9m

Skibbereen Flood Relief Scheme - €4.2m

River Dodder Flood Relief Scheme (Phases 2c,d,e) - €2.9m

Claregalway Flood Relief Scheme - €2.7m

Lower Lee (Cork City) Flood Relief Scheme - €2.5m

Dunkellin Flood Relief Scheme - €2.1m

Expenditure of €2.4m was incurred in the funding of Local Authorities to carry out Minor Flood Works up to a value of €0.75m.

## A.6 - Drainage Maintenance

The subhead provides for the maintenance costs of completed arterial drainage schemes and urban flood relief projects, (the construction cost of which is charged to A.5.)

The OPW included in the annual programme of works to

- maintain channels and flood defence embankments
- maintenance of all structures, sluices, pump stations, etc.

A.6	2016 Outturn	2017 Estimate	2017 Outturn	2018 Estimate
<i>Amount (€000's) Current</i>	15,387	15,769	15,657	15,953

## PROGRAMME B – Estate Management

### *High level goal of the programme*

To deliver the management, maintenance, design and sourcing services for the State Property Portfolio and Heritage Portfolio and to provide design excellence, construction, advisory and support services of the highest standard for the Government and State clients.

<b>Programme B</b>	<b>2017 Estimate</b>	<b>2017 Outturn</b>
<i>Amount (€000's)*</i>	319,287	319,180

### **B.3 - President's Household Staff**

The subhead provides for the cost of wages and allowances for the household staff at Áras an Uachtaráin.

<b>B.3</b>	<b>2016 Outturn</b>	<b>2017 Estimate</b>	<b>2017 Outturn</b>	<b>2018 Estimate</b>
<i>Amount (€000's) Current - Pay</i>	874	874	801	899

This subhead covers the cost of wages and allowances for the household staff at Áras an Uachtaráin. Staff are employed on fixed term contracts to meet the requirements of the current Presidential term of office.

The subhead funded the payment of 10 permanent full-time and six permanent part-time staff and one casual/fixed term contract staff in 2017.

Staff work a 39 hour (flexible) week over a 7 day period. [Note: The President's Office administrative staff costs are paid from Vote 1 – President's Establishment.]

- The panel of "on-call" Household Assistants are called in to replace or supplement the regular staff as required.
- Agency Staff are used time to time in the kitchen.

### **B.4 - Grants for Certain Refurbishment Works**

The subhead provides for the administration of capital and current grants for improvement works. The payment in 2017 relates to the Glasnevin Cemetery Restoration Project and in 2018 will also include Mount Congrieve.

<b>B.4</b>	<b>2016 Outturn</b>	<b>2017 Estimate</b>	<b>2017 Outturn</b>	<b>2018 Estimate</b>
<i>Amount (€000's) Capital</i>	250	250	250	250
<i>Amount (€000's) Current</i>	-	-	-	250

## B.5 - Purchase of Sites and Buildings

The subhead provides for the acquisition of properties and the Perfection of Title on existing properties in the state portfolio.

<i>B.5</i>	<i>2016 Outturn</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Outturn</i>	<i>2018 Estimate</i>
<i>Amount (€000's) Capital</i>	3,169	980	1,031	3,480

## B.6 - New Works, Alterations and Additions

This subhead provides for expenditure to build and fit out accommodation for Government Departments, certain agencies and cultural institutions.

<i>B.6</i>	<i>2016 Outturn</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Outturn</i>	<i>2018 Estimate</i>
<i>Amount (€000's) Capital</i>	55,189	53,530	52,847	56,030

	<b>2017 Outturn</b>	<b>2018 Contractually Committed</b>
<b>New Works, Alterations and Additions</b>	€52,847m	€65,462m
<i>of which the major programmes include:</i>		
Office Accommodation - Refurb & Fit-outs	31,888	34,754
Cultural Institutions/ Heritage Programme	6,008	8,124
Garda Building Programme	3,665	5,053
Garda Cell Programme	3,277	3,250
Fabric Upgrade Programme	3,672	3,000
Leinster House	2,677	9,740
Other Programmes and Projects	1,660	1,541

## B.7 - Property Maintenance and Supplies

The OPW is the shared service provider for statutory maintenance contracts and building maintenance for over 2,200 properties nationwide. The subhead provides for:

- Contract maintenance costs and security charges at exempt and other buildings.
- Facility Management costs at Farmleigh, Dublin Castle, Castletown House, Áras an Uachtaráin, Kilkenny Castle and Marlborough Street.
- Labour and material costs in respect of maintenance works undertaken by OPW Building Maintenance Services and Furniture Services.

<i>B.7</i>	<i>2016 Outturn</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Outturn</i>	<i>2018 Estimate</i>
<i>Amount (€000's) Current</i>	59,130	59,156	60,233	60,236

## B.8 - Rents

The subhead covers rents, fees, insurance, VAT and service charges on rented office accommodation for Government Departments and Offices.

The office portfolio at end of 2017 comprised of 344 Leases in 295 buildings with a floor area of 347,950 sq.m / 3,745,302 sq ft. The Office Rationalisation strategy will continue to see lease surrenders, albeit on a smaller scale than recent years, in 2018, however the acquisition of new accommodation will see a net increase in expenditure.

<i>B.8</i>	<i>2016 Outturn</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Outturn</i>	<i>2018 Estimate</i>
<i>Amount (€000's) Current</i>	87,594	94,035	96,374	92,020

## B.9 - Service Charges and Utilities

The subhead covers service charges and utilities including energy costs at a number of prestigious buildings such as Dublin Castle, Farmleigh, Áras an Uachtaráin, Castletown House and Kilkenny Castle. Energy costs, water rates and other Local Authority charges are also paid on unallocated space.

<i>B.9</i>	<i>2016 Outturn</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Outturn</i>	<i>2018 Estimate</i>
<i>Amount (€000's) Current</i>	10,477	11,043	9,549	10,543

## B.10 - Unitary Payments

The Office, acting on behalf of the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport, is responsible for the delivery of a Public Private Partnership contract on the Convention Centre Dublin, which opened in 2010. The costs to be borne by the State are paid by means of unitary payments from the OPW Vote over a 25 year period which commenced in mid 2010.

<i>B.10</i>	<i>2016 Outturn</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Outturn</i>	<i>2018 Estimates</i>
<i>Amount (€000's) Capital</i>	23,731	25,000	24,281	25,000

## B.11 – Heritage Services

The subhead provides for:

- the day to day management and presentation of 30 major Historic Properties, Gardens and Arboreta,
- the conservation, maintenance and upkeep of some 764 national monuments in State care,
- a Guide service at up to 70 OPW managed heritage sites,
- a wide range of conservation and improvement projects throughout the country,
- the marketing of Heritage sites including the production of brochures and the maintenance of the [www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie) website,
- minor works carried out by the operative workforces including routine maintenance and upkeep of National Monuments in State care throughout the country,
- the pay for permanent works staff and permanent and temporary/seasonal guide staff.
- a programme of events at built Heritage sites including those arranged in connection with Heritage Week.

<b>B.11</b>	<i>2016 Outturn</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Outturn</i>	<i>2018 Estimate</i>
<i>Amount (€000's) Current</i>	38,737	39,296	40,594	40,136

### Administration Expenditure:

Administration expenditure has been apportioned across the programmes, to present complete programme costings.

	<b>2016 Outturn</b>	<b>2017 Estimate</b>	<b>2017 Outturn</b>	<b>2018 Estimate</b>
	<b>€000</b>	<b>€000</b>	<b>€000</b>	<b>€000</b>
(i) Salaries, Wages and Allowances	33,175	35,049	35,976	39,706
(ii) Travel and Subsistence	1,562	1,511	1,540	1,511
(iii) Training and Development and Incidental Expenses	840	1,187	1,039	1,187
(iv) Postal and Telecom Services	1,423	1,532	1,433	1,532
(v) Office Equipment & External IT Services	3,142	4,931	2,785	5,100
(vi) Office Premises Expenses	1,008	1,103	944	1,079
(vii) Consultancy Services and Value for Money and Policy Reviews	641	517	165	416
(viii) Government Publication Services	149	170	135	170
<b>Gross Total</b>	<b>41,940</b>	<b>46,000</b>	<b>44,017</b>	<b>50,701</b>

## Appropriations-in-Aid

Sub-head	Description	2016 Receipts	2017 Estimate	2017 Receipts	2018 Estimate
		€000	€000	€000	€000
C.1	Rents, Licence fees, etc	3,607	3,040	4,637	3,040
C.2	Events and Facilities Management	2,806	2,330	3,903	3,000
C.3	Receipts by Government Publication Services	710	630	631	630
C.4	Recoveries for services carried out on repayment or agency basis	9,997*	9,995	8,744	*-
C.5	Sales at National Monuments and Historic Properties	1,448	1,250	1,371	2,300
C.6	Admission charges at National Monuments and Historic Properties	7,487	6,520	10,214	10,000
C.7	Miscellaneous including fees, interest and disposals etc.	3,679	2,320	1,643	1,360
C.8	Receipts from Pension Related Deduction on Public Service Remuneration	2,951	3,179	2,704	3,419
<b>Total</b>		<b>32,685</b>	<b>29,264</b>	<b>33,847</b>	<b>23,749</b>

\*Agency Services provided on a repayment basis are accounted for on Government Department Votes from 2018.