

## Speaking points for JCHPLG – Reclassification of Approved Housing Bodies

- Thank the Chair for opportunity to present, introduce DFIN attendees.
- Overview of
  - - role of the statistics unit within the Dept. of Finance
    - Compilation of general government forecasts
    - Assessment of compliance with fiscal rules
    - Forecasts for current year provided to CSO for EDP reporting
    - Statistical classification advice
  - - outline of interaction with CSO
    - Collect data, with DPER, for EDP compilation
    - In regards to EDP – DFIN responsible for forecast calculation (current year) and CSO responsible for outturn data (4 years in EDP return)
    - CSO submit EDP return to Eurostat
    - CSO is independent in its statistical functions
  - - makeup of AHB sector
- What the reclassification of AHBs means for fiscal forecasts...
  - Expenditure, revenue and debt impacts
  - Impact in terms of structural balance (Medium Term Objective) and Expenditure Benchmark (fiscal space) to be assessed once required data is provided
  - Flows between LA and AHB & HFA and AHB need to be consolidated
  - Currently trying to gather the data in order to assess the impacts
    - DHPLG and DPER requested to provide any data available
    - Intra agency working group has been proposed by Min HPLG.
    - DFIN support and will participate in WG

- Housing Agency have been cooperative in getting access to data, however details may not be sufficient to meet DFIN needs
  - Data provided is still useful in building up the picture and informing a template for data provision, ideally through DHPLG
- Illustration of the general government sector – complex arrangements and simplified picture presented here in order to focus on AHBs
  - Financing provided by HFA and LA (no deficit impact; increases debt to the extent that the HFA or NTMA (not shown here) were required to raise such funds)
  - Grant funding provided by LA (gg expenditure)
- AHBs are now within the GG boundary
  - Flows between LA and AHBs have to be consolidated
  - Expenditure by AHB is GG expenditure
  - Revenue, from non-GG bodies, is GG revenue
  - Debt raised from non-GG bodies is counted towards GG debt