



Tithe an
Oireachtais
Houses of the
Oireachtas

An Coiste um Chuntais Phoiblí

Scrúdú ar an gCuntas Leithreasa 2019 i gcomhair Vóta 29 – Comhshaol, Aeráid agus Cumarsáid, agus ar an gCuntas Leithreasa 2020 i gcomhair Vóta 33 – Turasóireacht, Cultúr, Ealaíona, Gaeltacht, Spórt agus Meáin

Iúil 2022

Committee of Public Accounts

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

Contents

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, CULTURE, ARTS, GAELTACHT, SPORT AND MEDIA	2
INTRODUCTION	2
RAIDÍÓ TEILIFÍS ÉIREANN (RTÉ).....	5
INTRODUCTION	5
ISSUES IDENTIFIED AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.....	7
APPENDIX 1 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP	15
APPENDIX 2 COMMITTEE ORDERS OF REFERENCE	16
APPENDIX 3 WITNESSES	19
APPENDIX 4 REFERENCES.....	21

Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Meeting Date:

- **25 November 2021**

Matters for Examination:

- **Appropriation Account 2020**
 - **Vote 33 – Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media**
- **C&AG’s Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2020**
 - **Chapter 7 – Oversight of funding for the European Capital of Culture 2020**

Introduction

The matters listed on the agenda for the Committee’s engagement with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (the Department) are set out in more detail below.

Appropriation Account

Appropriation Account 2020 for Vote 33 – Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Following the formation of the current government in 2020, several functions transferred into and out of Vote 33. Heritage functions transferred to Vote 34 – Housing, Local Government and Heritage, while functions relating to the development of the offshore islands transferred to Vote 42 – Rural and Community Development. Functions relating to Tourism, Sports and Recreation Services, and Broadcasting transferred to Vote 33.

The 2020 Appropriation Account for Vote 33 comprises the following five programmes: *Programme A – Tourism Services; Programme B – Arts and Culture; Programme C – Gaeltacht; Programme D – Sports and Recreation Services; and Programme E – Broadcasting.*

Total gross expenditure in 2020 amounted to €972 million. Appropriations-in-aid¹ for the same period were €234 million, resulting in net expenditure of €738 million. The amount surrendered to the Exchequer at the end of the year was €33 million.

Programme E – Broadcasting incurred the highest gross expenditure, totalling €271 million, or almost 28% of the overall gross expenditure for the Vote. The C&AG issued a clear audit opinion for the Department’s 2020 Appropriation Account.

Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2020

Chapter 7 – Oversight of funding for the European Capital of Culture 2020

This chapter examines the Department’s oversight of funding provided for the European Capital of Culture (ECoC) 2020, for which Galway City was designated.

A timeline is provided of the key events associated with ECoC 2020, including the establishment of the company trading as Galway 2020, and the recommendation from the EU panel of independent experts to award funding of €1.5 million. The chapter also outlines the various payments made to the company by the then Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, and subsequently the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

The chapter notes Galway 2020’s failure to comply with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform Circular 13/2014 *Management of and Accountability for Grants from Exchequer Funds, Public Financial Procedures*², which was also noted in the C&AG’s audit of the 2019 Appropriation Account for Vote 33 – Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The audit found ‘there was no evidence that the Department had reviewed the company’s financial statements for 2018 for compliance with the disclosures required in the circular, or undertaken any follow-up in that regard.’

Also highlighted is the significant divergence between Galway 2020’s actual and projected income to the end of 2020, particularly from private sector sources (€1

¹ Under Section 2 of the Public Accounts and Charges Act, 1891, certain receipts arising in the normal course of a Department’s or Office’s ordinary Vote business may be retained by that Department or Office to meet expenditure instead of being paid directly into the Exchequer. These receipts are known as appropriations-in-aid.

² <https://assets.gov.ie/207159/a813079b-8c9d-4b7a-9403-41e58d7b629c.pdf>

million in actual income, compared to the projected €6.8 million from this sector). The Exchequer provided 61% of the funding for Galway 2020 up to the end of 2020, despite the Department's commitment in principle to provide €15 million in funding in advance of the final selection for the ECoC.

The final monitoring and evaluation report for the ECoC 2020, as referenced in the chapter, was undertaken by The Audience Agency, and was published in December 2021³.

The following recommendation was made to the Department towards the end of the chapter:

“The Department should put in place robust controls to ensure compliance of future grantees with relevant grant management and reporting requirements.”

The Accounting Officer agreed with the recommendation, and the Committee has no additional observations to make.

³ <https://galway2020.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Galway-2020-Monitoring-Evaluation-Report-December-2021.pdf>

Raidió Teilifís Éireann (RTÉ)

Meeting Dates:

- 27 April 2021
- 20 January 2022

Matters for Examination:

- **Appropriation Account 2019**
 - **Vote 29 – Communications, Climate Action and Environment – Programme B: Broadcasting**
- **Appropriation Account 2020**
 - **Vote 33 – Tourism, Culture, Art, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media – Programme E: Broadcasting**

Introduction

The matters listed on the agendas for the Committee's engagements with RTÉ are set out in more detail below.

Appropriation Accounts

Appropriation Account 2019 for Vote 29 - Communications, Climate Action and the Environment

The appropriation account for the Vote was examined by the Committee in an engagement with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications in January 2021⁴. The gross expenditure for *Programme B – Broadcasting* accounted for €260.4 million, or approximately 44% of overall gross expenditure for the Vote in 2019.

The outturn for Item *B.3 – Grant to Raidió Teilifís Éireann in respect of broadcasting licence fees* was €196.5 million in 2019, an increase of €8 million from 2018.

⁴ The Committee's report on this engagement is available at the following link:
https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/33/committee_of_public_accounts/reports/2022/2022-04-05_examination-of-the-2019-and-2020-appropriation-accounts-for-vote-29-environment-climate-and-communications-and-expenditure-on-the-national-broadband-plan_en.pdf

However, the outturn was approximately €3 million less than the estimate provision of €199.3 million. A note in the account states this was due to lower than anticipated proceeds from television licence sales.

Appropriation Account 2020 for Vote 33 – Tourism, Culture, Art, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media – Programme E: Broadcasting

The introduction on pages two and three of this report gives an overview of this appropriation account as a whole; this introduction will focus on *Programme E: Broadcasting*.

Following the formation of the current government in 2020, responsibility for the programme related to Broadcasting was transferred from Vote 29 to Vote 33 - Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

Gross expenditure for the Broadcasting programme amounted to €271 million. This represents an increase of almost €11 million from 2019. A note to the account explains several significant variations between the estimate provision for 2020, and the programme outturn.

The outturn for item *E.3 – Grant to Raidió Teilifís Éireann for broadcasting licence fees* totalled €197.6 million, approximately €11 million lower than the estimate provision, which is explained by falling licence fee sales due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The outturn for item *E.1 Administration – pay*, €1.46 million, was approximately double the estimate provision, while the outturn for item *E.6 – Broadcasting Fund* was almost one and a half times that of 2019, which is partly due to additional funding allocated to the Sound and Vision Scheme and the Broadcasting Fund to support enhanced programming in response to the pandemic.

Issues identified and recommendations made by the Committee of Public Accounts

Based on its analysis of the matters under examination during its engagements with the accountable Department and RTÉ, the Committee highlights issues arising and makes the following corresponding recommendations: -

Issue 1 – The liability to the Exchequer resulting from the use of contractors by RTÉ

Following the Review of Role and Gender Equality, RTÉ commissioned Eversheds Sutherland to undertake a review of the broadcaster's use of contractors.

Of the 433 contractual arrangements reviewed;

- 276 contractors were found to have been appropriately engaged,
- 106 contractors were identified as having 'attributes akin to employment', and
- 51 contractors were found to have 'attributes akin to both employment and self-employment'.

The contracts of 157 individuals were found to be in need of a further review⁵. RTÉ subsequently offered 82 of these individuals a contract of employment, with 79 acceptances.

Following the Eversheds Sutherland review, RTÉ engaged with the Office of the Revenue Commissioners (Revenue) to address outstanding liabilities arising from these contractual arrangements. RTÉ confirmed to the Committee that the period under examination was 2015 to 2018. RTÉ made a settlement with Revenue of approximately €1.2 million 'in respect of identified liabilities.' However, no indication has been given to date as to how this figure was reached.

A separate investigation is currently being undertaken by the Department of Social Protection (DSP) of the social insurance status of workers engaged by RTÉ. As DSP does not have a statute of limitations for its investigations, a further amount of PRSI may be liable to DSP should it find any individual was misclassified for

⁵

https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/32/committee_of_public_accounts/submissions/2018/2018-07-12_correspondence-vivienne-flood-public-affairs-rte-32r001468-pac_en.pdf

PRSI purposes prior to 2015. DSP has stated that its investigation is due to be completed in 2023, and has committed to providing the Committee with an update on its investigation by the end of 2022.

DSP provided the Committee with an update in June 2022 that 60% of examinations to date have resulted in decisions to reclassify workers, previously classified as self-employed, as employees, of which 48% have been appealed by RTÉ.

DSP confirmed to the Committee that RTÉ are liable to pay Revenue any assessed arrears arising from DSP's investigation of RTÉ that exceed the broadcaster's settlement with Revenue in 2021.

Furthermore, as a part of the resolution process, engagement with workers directly will only commence once Revenue and DSP investigations have concluded.

A Ministerial Brief on Media Agencies published by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in 2020⁶ confirmed that the Corporate Governance Division at the Department 'continues to monitor' RTÉ's response to the findings of the Eversheds Sutherland review.

The Committee is concerned at the potential loss of revenue to the Exchequer in terms of the PRSI that should have been paid by RTÉ in respect of any contractors found to have been misclassified for PRSI purposes.

The Committee is also concerned that any settlements in that regard may effectively be subsidised by way of Exchequer funding to RTÉ.

Recommendations:

1. The Committee recommends that the Department works with RTÉ to provide the Committee with a breakdown of the €1.2 million settlement paid by RTÉ to the Office of the Revenue Commissioners in 2021.
2. The Committee recommends that the Department's Corporate Governance Division provides the Committee with a report by November 2022 – given its oversight of public funds provided to RTÉ – on its view of RTÉ's responses to the findings of the Eversheds Sutherland review.

⁶ <https://assets.gov.ie/89801/0729254c-94ea-4fb3-8ab2-1ee6cdf5adcf.pdf>

3. The Committee recommends that the Department ensures any liabilities to the Exchequer, due to be paid by RTÉ resulting from the Department of Social Protection's investigation into RTÉ's use of contractors, are financed through the broadcaster's commercial revenue streams, or savings achieved in the organisation, rather than by Exchequer funds.
4. The Committee recommends that it be informed of any future examinations/reviews into the classification/status of workers going forward.

Issue 2 – Funding of public service broadcasting

In its third periodic report⁷, the previous Committee of Public Accounts recommended that 'the current television licensing system is reviewed as a matter of urgency with a view to decreasing evasion rates'.

In the year under examination (2016), the level of TV license evasion stood at 14.6%, with An Post receipts for TV licence sales totalling €161.5 million. Progress was made over subsequent years⁸, with the evasion rate falling to 12.8% in 2018, and An Post receipts increasing to €164.5 million in the same year.

However, much of this progress was lost by 2020, with a significant decrease in An Post receipts to €152.7 million (down €12 million on 2018), and the evasion rate increased to 15.2% - a 2.6% increase from 2019. Receipts from the Department of Social Protection in respect of the free TV licence Scheme increased from €52 million in 2016 to €70 million in 2020. RTÉ estimates the loss to national public service media funding from issues with the current TV licence fee system to be €65 million annually.

Ten recommendations were made by the Joint Committee on Communications, Climate Action and Environment in its report on the Future Funding of Public

⁷ https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/32/committee_of_public_accounts/reports/2018/2018-07-11_periodic-report-no-3-january-may-2018_en.pdf

⁸ <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/question/2022-02-08/276/>

Service Broadcasting in December 2017⁹. The recommendations included the expansion of the existing charging regime to capture every household consuming media, responsibility for the TV licence fee collection to be assigned to the Office of the Revenue Commissioners, and the introduction of retransmission fees¹⁰.

On foot of that Committee's recommendations, the Working Group on the Future Funding of Public Service Broadcasting was established in July 2018. The Working Group made two recommendations to Government in April 2019¹¹, which included putting the TV licence out to public tender as soon as the Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2019 is enacted¹², and that the TV licence fee be replaced by a 'device-independent charge'. Both recommendations were accepted by the then Government. In November 2019, the then Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment stated the Government's intention 'that TV Licence collection be put out to public tender for a period of five years and then replaced with a device independent broadcasting charge'¹³.

The Future of Media Commission was established in 2020, which was tasked with, among other matters relating to the future of public service broadcasting in Ireland, 'making recommendations on RTÉ's role, financing and structure'. The Commission produced a report which had not yet been published when this report was laid before the Dáil.

The Committee is concerned at the length of time it is taking to make decisions on the future of funding for public service broadcasting, and reforms to the current TV licence system. The Committee underlines the need for reforms to be made in light of the increased level of TV licence evasion, changes in how media is consumed, and decreased receipts from An Post for TV licence fee collection.

9

https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/32/joint_committee_on_communications_climate_action_and_environment/reports/2017/2017-11-28_report-on-the-future-funding-of-public-service-broadcasting_en.pdf

¹⁰ Retransmission fees are paid by pay-TV platforms to broadcasters for the right to distribute (or retransmit) the broadcasters' channels. In Ireland, free-to-air channels (including the RTÉ channels and TG4) are distributed over a variety of pay-tv platforms, including eir, Sky, Virgin Media and Vodafone. At present, these platforms do not pay the broadcasters retransmission fees for carrying their channels and broadcasters do not pay for transmission of their channels by the platforms.

¹¹ <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b68b6-report-of-the-working-group-on-tv-licence-collection/>

¹² The Bill is at Third Stage in the Dáil as of October 2019: <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/bills/bill/2019/64/>.

¹³ <https://www.oireachtas.ie/ga/debates/question/2019-11-28/53/>

This has given rise to the need for increased subsidies from the Exchequer to support public service broadcasting.

Recommendations:

5. The Committee recommends that the Future of Media Commission report is published without delay, in order that the economic implications of any recommendations contained therein can be examined.
6. The Committee recommends that the Department provides the Committee with a report by November 2022 on the level of extra income that could be achieved for the Exchequer through:
 - the replacement of An Post by the Office of the Revenue Commissioners as the collection agent for TV licence fees,
 - the introduction of a device-independent charge in place of the TV licence fee, and
 - the introduction of retransmission fees.

Issue 3 – Decline in commercial revenues for RTÉ

RTÉ's accounts show a decline in commercial revenue from 2016 to 2020. Total commercial revenue for 2016 amounted to €158.2 million¹⁴, while the 2020 figure was €134.5 million¹⁵. Meanwhile, Exchequer funding to RTÉ for broadcasting licence fees increased from €179.3 million in 2016 to €197.6 million in 2020¹⁶. The

¹⁴ <https://about.rte.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/rte-annual-report-2016-web.pdf>

¹⁵ <https://www.rte.ie/annual-report-2020/business-review/financial-review.html>

¹⁶ The combined total of An Post receipts for TV licence sales (€152.7 million) and receipts from the Department of Social Protection in respect of the free TV licence Scheme (€69.9 million) amounted to €222.6 million. The €196.6 million referred to in this paragraph arises from the grant paid by the Exchequer to RTÉ in respect of broadcasting licence fees. The remainder of the €222.6 million is used to pay An Post - a commission which is calculated on a sliding scale based on the level of licence fee sales, and to provide funding for the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland's Sound & Vision Fund, and the Broadcasting Fund.

2016 ratio between commercial revenue and Exchequer funding amounted to approximately 47:53, whereas the same ratio for 2020 amounts to almost 40:60.

While solutions need to be found for reforming the TV licence fee system, there may be ways in which RTÉ can decrease its reliance on funding from the Exchequer, and increase funding streams from commercial sources.

Currently, RTÉ does not collect any revenue from content accessed via social media. In its meeting with the Committee in January 2022, the broadcaster confirmed it was in talks with Google in relation to a commercial arrangement between both parties.

In its Revised Strategy 2020-2024¹⁷, RTÉ committed to reducing its projected costs by €60 million between 2020-2022. The Strategy also states that RTÉ will grow and diversify its commercial income.

The broadcaster stated in January 2022 that despite delivering on its target for €10 million in savings in 2020, it will be 'difficult to achieve' the full €60 million in savings across the three years.

The Committee is concerned that while Exchequer funding to RTÉ has increased from 2016 to 2020, the broadcaster is not doing enough to reduce its dependence on State funding.

Recommendation:

7. The Committee recommends that the Department engages with RTÉ to explore measures for reducing its dependence on Exchequer funding. The Committee recommends that the Department provides it with a report by November 2022 detailing progress made on the matter.

¹⁷ <https://about.rte.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/RT%C3%89-2024-Web.pdf>

Issue 4 – The gender pay gap and the remuneration of Irish-language workers at RTÉ

The 2017 Review of Role and Gender Equality conducted by RTÉ¹⁸ found a 4% pay differential between male and female staff at the broadcaster. The publication of information on the gender pay gap at RTÉ was requested by the National Union of Journalists in March 2021. The Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021¹⁹, which requires certain employers to publish information relating to the remuneration of their employees by gender, was signed into law in July 2021.

As one of the applicable employers, RTÉ are required to report on the gender pay gap at the organisation during December 2022, and on an annual basis thereafter²⁰.

The Committee is disappointed that RTÉ has not published information in relation to the gender pay gap at the broadcaster since the publication of the 2017 review.

The Committee points to the example of An Post, another semi-state body, that has not only reported on the gender pay gap at the organisation, but had effectively closed the gap by 2021²¹.

Separately, the Committee points to RTÉ's commitment during the first engagement with the Committee to conduct a review into the remuneration of Clár Reachtaí at RTÉ compared with their English-language counterparts. The Committee is concerned that this will be completed only within the context of the broader Willis Towers Watson organisation-wide role review, that this review does not contain a specific reference to the requested and agreed basis of the review, and that this may delay resolution of this outstanding issue.

Recommendations:

8. The Committee recommends that RTÉ publishes information in its accounts on the gender pay gap at the broadcaster, and strives to reduce the gap within an appropriate timeframe. The Committee recommends that

¹⁸ <https://www.rte.ie/documents/about/2017/11/review-of-role-and-gender-equality-in-rte-2017.pdf>

¹⁹ <https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/act/2021/20/eng/enacted/a2021.pdf>

²⁰ <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2022/si/264/made/en/pdf>

²¹ <https://www.anpost.com/getmedia/a4b955c7-217c-4fd5-8c51-aa9a9b952151/Gender-Pay-Gap-Report-2021.pdf>

a copy of the report required under the Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021 to be completed during December 2022, and all subsequent reports in that regard, are provided to it upon publication.

9. The Committee recommends that the Department ensures parity of remuneration for workers at RTÉ regardless of the language through which their work is conducted, as RTÉ receives the majority of its funding from the Exchequer.

Appendix 1 Committee Membership

The following Deputies were members of the Committee of Public Accounts when the report was agreed:

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

Appendix 2 Committee Orders of Reference

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 3 Witnesses

The Comptroller and Auditor General Mr. Seamus McCarthy is a permanent witness to the Committee and attends all of its engagements.

The following table contains the names of witnesses who provided information to the Committee during its meetings on 27 April 2021, 25 November 2021, and 20 January 2022:

Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	
Ms Katherine Licken	Secretary General
Ms Patricia Murphy	Assistant Secretary, Corporate and Media Division
Mr. Conor Falvey	Assistant Secretary, Culture Division
Mr. Cian Ó Lionáin	Assistant Secretary, Tourism and Sport
Mr. Aodhán Mac Cormaic	Stiúrthóir na Gaeilge/Director of Irish
Mr. Joe Healy	Principal Officer, Head of Finance and IT
Ms Tania Banotti	Director of Creative Ireland
Ms Triona Quill	Assistant Secretary, Broadcasting and Media Division
Mr. Donal Crowley	Head of Human Resources
Mr. Stephen Ryan	Principal Officer, Broadcasting Policy

Broadcasting Authority of Ireland

Ms Anne Louise O'Donovan	Senior Manager
--------------------------	----------------

Raidió Teilifís Éireann (RTÉ)

Ms Dee Forbes	Director General
---------------	------------------

Ms Eimear Cusack	Director of Human Resources
------------------	-----------------------------

Ms Fiona O'Shea	Group Financial Controller
-----------------	----------------------------

Mr. Barry Kelly	Chief Financial Officer
-----------------	-------------------------

Ms Jenny Fisher	Chief Legal Officer
-----------------	---------------------

Mr. Richard Collins	Chief Financial Officer
---------------------	-------------------------

Department of Public Expenditure and Reform

Mr. Brian O'Malley	Principal Officer, Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media Vote Section
--------------------	---

Appendix 4 References

Information from the following sources informed the Committee's recommendations: -

References
Transcript for meeting of 27 April 2021
Transcript for meeting of 25 November 2021
Transcript for meeting of 20 January 2022
2019 Appropriation Account for Vote 29 – Communications, Climate Action and Environment
2020 Appropriation Account for Vote 33 – Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Report on the Accounts of the Public Services 2020 – Chapter 7
Department of Public Expenditure and Reform Circular 13/2014
Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture Evaluation Report
Committee of Public Accounts' report on the 2019 and 2020 Appropriation Accounts for Vote 29 – Environment, Climate and Communications, and expenditure on the National Broadband Plan
Committee of Public Accounts of the 32nd Dáil's Third Periodic Report, January – May 2018
Written PQ 276 – 8 February 2022

Report of the Joint Committee on Communications, Climate Action and Environment of the 32nd Dáil on the Future Funding of Public Service Broadcasting

Report of the Working Group on TV Licence Collection

Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2019

Written PQ 53 – 28 November 2019

RTÉ Annual Report & Group Financial Statements 2016

RTÉ Annual Report & Group Financial Statements 2020 – Financial Review

RTÉ Revised Strategy 2020-2024

Review of Role & Gender Equality in RTÉ

Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021

Employment Equality Act 1998 (Section 20A) (Gender Pay Gap Information) Regulations 2022

An Post Gender Pay Gap Report 2021

R1468 (i) PAC32

Ministerial Brief on Media Agencies, Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, June 2020

Houses of the Oireachtas

Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
D02 XR20

www.oireachtas.ie

Tel: +353 (0)1 6183000 or 076 1001700

Twitter: @OireachtasNews

Connect with us



Download our App

