



Oifig an Ard-Rúnaí
An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, Baile Átha Cliath, DO2 WK12.
Office of the Secretary General
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Dublin, DO2 WK12.

R1662 (ii) PAC33

Telephone: (01) 607 2184 / 2134
Facsimile: (01) 662 1739

Your Ref: S1117 PAC33

12th January 2023

Ms Sarah Cremin
Committee Secretariat
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Subject: Bord Bia Financial Statements 2021

Dear Ms Cremin

I refer to your letter of 29 December 2022 concerning the above matter.

In your letter you state that the Clerk to the Committee of Public Accounts should be informed by the responsible Department of exceptional or unusual circumstances which cause an unavoidable delay either for a body or fund in submitting its accounts to the parent Department or the Department in laying the accounts before the Houses of the Oireachtas as set out in Circular 24/2021.

The C&AG certificate of Bord Bia's financial statements/accounts is dated 30 June 2022, while the submission of the audited financial statements to the Department occurred on 22 September. This is outside of the one-month timeframe set out in circular 24/2021. The delay in submitting the financial statements/accounts in a timely manner and the failure to notify you of the circumstances giving rise to this delay in line with agreed procedures is regretted.

Once audited accounts were received, the Department met its obligation to lay of the accounts before the Houses of the Oireachtas as follows:

- The signed audited financial accounts together with the C and AG Certificate for the Bord Bia Financial Statements 2021 were received by this Department on 22 September 2022.
- The Annual Financial Statements and Annual Report 2021 were presented to Government at the cabinet meeting that took place on 22 November 2022.
- The audited accounts were laid before both Houses of the Oireachtas on 24 November 2022, following submission to Government, two months and two days since they were received by the Department.

The Department will write to Bord Bia to remind them of their obligations regarding the submission of financial statements/accounts to this Department. Where there is an unavoidable delay due to exceptional or unusual circumstances, my Department will inform you in line with the requirements of the aforementioned circular.

Finally, I can assure you that every effort will be made to ensure future compliance with all aspects of circular 24/2021.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Gleeson', written in a cursive style.

Brendan Gleeson
Secretary General