



Ms Sarah Cremin Committee Secretariat Committee of Public Accounts Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2 D02 XR20 pac@oireachtas.ie

Your ref: S1115 PAC33

Medical Bureau of Road Safety - 2020 and 2021 Accounts

Dear Ms Cremin,

12th January 2023

I refer to your correspondence of 29 December 2022, regarding the 2021 accounts of the Medical Bureau of Road Safety (MBRS).

The Minister for Transport granted an extended deadline of 30 September 2022 for the Bureau to submit its reports for 2021. This was required for the compilation of statistics for the Annual Report. While the 2021 audited accounts were submitted to this Department on 12 July 2022, they were not laid pending receipt of the 2021 Annual Report (received 23 August 2023). My Department informed the Clerk by email on 22 September 2022 of the delay in meeting the designated timelines. The submission and approval process was begun within the Department on 6 September 2022 and both Annual Report and the Accounts were laid on 18 October 2022.

I would also like to bring to the attention of the Committee a delay in laying the 2020 Accounts of the MBRS.

These were certified and submitted to the Department on 20 December 2021. At the time the audit had been delayed considerably. Due to a subsequent oversight by the Department, the 2020 Accounts were not laid until 23 November 2022. I acknowledge this was a considerable delay and not in line with Circular 24/2021. The 2020 MBRS Annual Report was laid on 22 December 2021.

My Department will endeavour, in future, to ensure all reporting timelines and requirements are met in line with the Code of Practice for State Bodies and the relevant circulars.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Spratt

Secretary General

C.c Professor Denis Cusack, Director, Medical Bureau of Road Safety; Keith Walsh, Assistant Secretary General, Road Transport Services.