



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Department of Tourism, Culture,
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Oifig an Ard-Rúnaí
Office of the Secretary General

Sarah O'Farrell
Clerk to the Committee
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Kildare St
Dublin 2

18 October 2023

Dear Sarah,

I refer to you email of 13 October last in relation to matters which were raised at the meeting of the Committee on Thursday 12 October, and which I undertook to provide an update on.

Please see below information requested:

On 21 June 2023, the Director General of RTÉ was suspended. When was the Department notified of that, by whom and in what manner? When was the Minister informed, by whom and in what manner?

The Minister was informed on 22 June by the Chair, by phone, of the decision the previous day, to suspend the former Director General.

The Director General of RTÉ resigned on 29 June 2023. Who in the Department was told about that, by whom in RTÉ and in what manner? When was the Minister told this, by whom and in what manner?

The former Director General announced her resignation on 26 June. The Department and Minister were informed of the Director General's resignation by the Chair of the Board by phone and email on the morning of 26 June.

Regarding the Tubridy payments, when was the Department first told about this, by whom and in what manner? When was the Minister first told this, by whom and in what manner

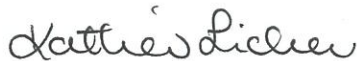
In late March, the Department was informed by the Chair of the RTÉ Board, by telephone, that in the course of the audit of RTÉ's 2022 annual accounts, a matter had arisen. At the time, the Chair stated that she had no insight into the detail of the matter and that a fact finding review was being commissioned by the Audit and Risk

Committee of the RTÉ Board. The detail of this call was relayed immediately to the Minister by telephone.

On the afternoon of Thursday 22 June, the Minister and Department were provided with an advance copy of the Board's statement, by email, which contained details of the matter. The Minister spoke with the Chair before the Board's statement was published.

I also wish to acknowledge your letter of 17 October regarding further items on which I undertook to revert to the Committee. This matter will be addressed in accordance with the timeframe set out in said letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Katherine Licken". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Katherine Licken
Secretary General