

An Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí
Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe
Department of Public Expenditure
NDP Delivery and Reform



6 December, 2023

Ms. Catherine Smyth
Committee Secretariat
Committee of Public Accounts
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Dear Ms. Smyth,

I refer to your letter of 31 October, 2023 requesting an information note on the number of State organisations that are involved in litigation with another State body at any one time. Ref No: S1476 PAC33.

A key element of accountability between the State Body and the relevant Minister is the Chairperson's Comprehensive Report to the Minister. The Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies 2016, Business and Financial Reporting Requirements (para 1.9), published by my Department details the reporting requirements to be included in the Chairperson's comprehensive report to the Minister including "Providing details of/information on legal disputes involving other State bodies" (para 1.9 item xiv).

On request from the Committee of Public Accounts secretariat, each Ministry should be able to provide the relevant detail to the secretariat.

In relation to the bodies under the aegis of the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform, I confirm that the office of the Ombudsman is the only one of those organisations involved in litigation with another State body.

I hope this information is of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Moloney', is written over a horizontal line.

David Moloney
Secretary General