

3 November 2023

Sent by email to: pac@oireachtas.ie

Brian Stanley, T.D.
Chairperson of the Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Kildare St
Dublin 2 - D02 XR20

Dear Cathaoirleach

I hope that you and the Committee had a pleasant recess.

Over that time as you may be aware there were some reports which suggested that RTÉ had suppressed information from the Committee in terms of an internal report about the payments to Ryan Tubridy. We would like to clarify that there was no such internal report generated at any point.

There was an email, from RTÉ's former Chief Financial Officer to the Chair of the Board of RTÉ) which was then forwarded to Grant Thornton to conduct a formal fact-based review (Grant Thornton II).

This email was furnished to Grant Thornton who carried out a thorough review of documentation and interviewed relevant individuals so that the full facts relating to RTÉ payments to Ryan Tubridy were established in the second Grant Thornton Review. Rather than being concealed, it was central to this review by Grant Thornton to establish the facts.

The email was also released by RTÉ to a journalist in response to an FOI request. RTÉ is happy to share this email with both Oireachtas Committees and it is attached overleaf.

This second Grant Thornton Review was made public once completed and provided to both Committees, and is the most comprehensive and verified version of the facts available.

As you are aware, RTÉ has provided hundreds of documents and emails to both the Public Accounts Committee and the Joint Oireachtas Committee to date and we continue to offer our co-operation in terms of any queries arising.

For the avoidance of future confusion, we will be relying exclusively on the formal correspondence, with itemised specific requests, from each committee, as being the full and final information requests.

By way of additional update, I would like to advise that Grant Thornton and McCann Fitzgerald have requested a further modest extension in terms of their investigations into the Voluntary Exit Scheme payments, and Toy Show the Musical. Both are likely to be available closer to the end of this month.

If there are any other developments, I will keep the Committees informed.

Yours sincerely



Kevin Bakhurst
Director-General, RTÉ