

Carol Hennessy

From: Richard Collins [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday 1 December 2023 15:04
To: Public Accounts Committee
Subject: Ref : S1512 PAC33

Categories: Correspondence for future meetings

Dear Ms. O'Farrell,

I refer to your letter of 27th November 2023.

My responses to the two questions raised in the letter are as follows :

1. I was unaware that the meeting on 7th May 2020 had happened. I was not informed that this meeting had been scheduled nor was I updated on what was agreed at the meeting.

I only became aware of this meeting at the same time that it became public knowledge in July 2023.

On the 30th April, i.e., a week before the meeting in question, I attended a meeting with the Director General (Dee Forbes), the Director of Content (Jim Jennings) and the In-house Solicitor (Trish Whelan). At this meeting the question of whether an indemnity could be given to Ryan Tubridy was discussed. The discussion concluded with the Director General confirming that "we can't give a cast iron indemnity" to Mr Tubridy. As far as I was concerned that was the final decision and the agreed company policy on the matter.

I can only speculate as to why I was not updated on what was agreed at the meeting of the 7th May 2020. It would appear to me that the intention was to conceal from me that the decision made at the meeting of 30th April 2020 had been reversed.

2. As stated in my answer to question 1, I was neither informed that the meeting had taken place nor what was agreed at it, nor was any information conveyed to me about what was discussed or any other elements of this agreement.

Regards,

Richard Collins