



BUNREACT NA ÉIREANN
CONSTITUTION OF IRELAND



Tithe an
Oireachtais
Houses of the
Oireachtas

**An Choiste um Choimirce Shóisialach,
Forbairt Pobail agus Tuaithe agus na hOileáin
Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2022**

**Joint Committee on Social Protection, Community and
Rural Development and the Islands
Annual Report 2022**

January 2024

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1. Overview to Report

Under Standing Orders of both Houses of the Oireachtas¹, it is provided for Select / Joint Committees to -

- undertake a review of its procedure and its role generally;
- prepare and lay an annual work programme;
- lay minutes of its proceedings before both Houses;
- make an annual report to both Houses detailing the work carried out and in progress by the Committee.

At its meeting on 31st January 2024, the Committee agreed that the following items be included in this report covering the period from 19th January 2022 to 14th December 2022.

- An **annual report** detailing the work carried out Select, Joint and Joint sub-Committees, if applicable (section 2)
- **Minutes of Committee proceedings** (Appendices).

A copy of this report shall be forwarded to the Committee on Standing Orders and Dáil Reform. The annual Committee work programmes will be published on Oireachtas.ie and laid separately.

1.1 Committee establishment and functions

Select Committee

The Dáil Select Committee was established by Order of Dáil Éireann of the 30 July 2020, to consider Bills, Estimates for Public Services, Motions, and the terms of any international agreement involving a charge on public funds, which come within the aegis of the Department of Social Protection and Department of Rural and Community Development

¹ Standing Order 100 (3), (4), (5) and (6), (Dáil Éireann) and Standing Order 77 (3), (4), (5) and (6) (Seanad Éireann).

Joint Committee

The Dáil Select Committee, under the same Order, was enjoined with a Select Committee of Seanad Éireann, established by Order of Seanad Éireann of the 18 September 2020, to form the Joint Committee on Social Protection, Community, Rural Development and The Islands.

Among the principal functions of the Joint Committee are to consider—

- public affairs administered by the Social Protection, Community, Rural Development and The Islands.
- matters of policy for which the Minister for Social Protection and the Minister for Rural and Community Development are responsible;
- legislative and expenditure proposals of the Departments;
- EU legislative proposals;
- certain matters relating to bodies under the aegis of the Department of Social Protection and the Department of Rural and Community Development

The Select Committee may also consider Annual Output Statements, Value for Money Reviews and Policy Reviews prepared by the relevant Government Department. The Orders of Reference of the Dáil Select Committee and the Joint Committee are set out on the [Committee website](#).

1.1.1 Terms of reference

Terms of reference of Committees are available to view on the [Committee website](#).

1.2 Committee Membership

Table 1: Committee(s) membership at time of reporting

Position	Select Committee	Joint Committee
Cathaoirleach	Denis Naughten, T.D.	Denis Naughten, T.D.
Leas-Chathaoirleach	Marc Ó Cathasaigh, TD	Marc Ó Cathasaigh, TD
Members	Jackie Cahill, T.D. Joe Carey, T.D. Charlie Flannagan, T.D. Joan Collins, T.D. Éamon Ó Cuív, T.D. Paul Donnelly, T.D. Claire Kerrane, T.D.	Jackie Cahill, T.D. Joe Carey, T.D. Charlie Flannagan, T.D. Joan Collins, T.D. Éamon Ó Cuív, T.D. Paul Donnelly, T.D. Claire Kerrane, T.D. Senator Paddy Burke Senator Eugene Murphy Senator Róisín Garvey Senator Paul Gavan Senator Mark Wall

Deputies appointed to the Committee by Order of the Dáil on 3 September 2020.

Senators appointed to the Committee by Order of the Seanad on 25 September 2020.

- **Select Committee:** Deputy Denis Naughten was appointed as Cathaoirleach of the Select Committee on 30 July 2020.
- **Joint Committee:** The Cathaoirleach of the Select Committee is also the Cathaoirleach of the Joint Committee. Deputy Marc Ó Cathasaigh was elected as Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Joint Committee on 5 October 2020.

1.2.1 Internal changes during reporting period

Within the reporting period there were no changes to the Committee Membership.

2. Committee activity report

Committee activity over the reporting period is summarised in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Committee(s) activity at a glance

Metric	Select Committee	Joint Committee
Meetings		
No. of meetings	3	29
Duration of meetings	8:04	31:12
Witnesses attending	0	64
Reports published	0	5
COMs scrutinised	0	1
Travel episodes	0	1

2.1 Meetings (Number and Duration)

Meetings of the Joint Committee and Select Committee took place in the Committee Rooms in Leinster House 2000 and, on occasion, via Microsoft Teams. Meetings were held in public unless otherwise ordered by the Committee.

- For **Joint Committee** meetings, an official report (parliamentary debates) of the public meetings of the Committee may be viewed on the Oireachtas website at www.oireachtas.ie
- For **Select Committee** meetings, the proceedings (Imeachtaí) are included in Appendix 2b.

A comparison of meeting activity is summarised below.

Table 3: Committee meetings and duration 2022

Ctte type	Metric	2022
Joint Committee	No. of meetings	29
	Meeting in public session	15
	Meetings held via MS Teams	14
	Duration	31:12:39
Select Committee	No. of meetings	3
	Meeting in public session	3
	Meetings held via MS Teams	0
	Duration	8:04:00

2.2 Witnesses

The number of witnesses² were as follows:

Table 4: Committee witnesses

Ctte type	Metric	2022
Joint Committee	Witnesses	64
Select Committee	Witnesses	0

2.2.1 Engagements with Ministers

A government minister engaged³ with the Committee on 4 occasions, as follows:

- The Minister for Social Protection and the Minister for Rural and Community Development: 1 instance
- The Minister for State at the Department of Rural and Community Development: 1 instance
- The Minister of State at the Department of Social Protection: 1 instance

Table 5: Engagements with Ministers

Ctte type	Metric	2022
Joint Committee	Engagements with Minister(s) (as witness)	0
Select Committee	Engagements with Minister(s) (as ex-officio member)	3

² **Note:** Ministers or Ministers of State are ex-officio Members of Select Committees for the purposes of Estimates, Bills or Motions referred by the Dáil. They are not counted as witnesses for Select Committee meetings but are counted as witnesses for Joint and Joint sub-Committee meetings. Officials who accompany Ministers or Ministers of State as Advisors to Select or Select-sub committee meetings are not counted unless they were asked by the Minister or Minister of State to contribute to the discussion and do so in public session.

³ Counting where a Minister *engaged* with the Committee either as an ex-officio member (select committees) or as a witness (joint/joint-sub committees).

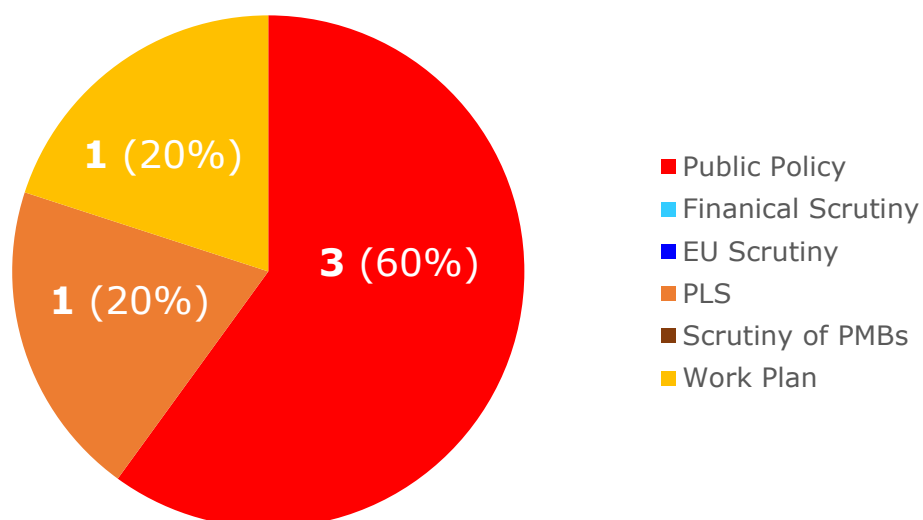
2.3 Committee reports

All Committee reports are published on the [Oireachtas website](#) and laid in the Houses of the [Oireachtas Library](#).

Table 6: Committee reports 2020-2022

Ctte type	Metric	2022
Joint Committee	PLS report	1
	PMB scrutiny report	0
	Public policy report	3
	EU scrutiny (COMs)	0
	Work plans	1
Select Committee	Budgetary scrutiny report	0

Chart 1: Committee reports 2022



2.4 EU Scrutiny and EU-related meetings

Table 7: EU 'COMs'

Ctte type	Metric	2022
Joint Committee	EU 'COMs' considered.	1
	Political contributions	0
	Reasoned opinions	0
	EU 'COMs' reports laid	0

2.4.1 EU COMs

The proposals (COMs) and outcomes are listed below:

Table 8: COMs considered

Proposal No.	Proposal title	Outcome
COM (2020)223	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) No 223/2014 as regards the introduction of specific measures for addressing the COVID-19 crisis	It was agreed that this proposal does not warrant further scrutiny.

2.5 Travel

The Joint Committee undertook the following travel in accordance with its Orders of Reference in connection with its Work Programme.

Table 9: Committee travel

Ctte type	Metric	2022
Joint Committee	Travel episodes	1
	Travel reports published	1

Travel episode 1 (most recent)

- **Purpose of travel:** To discuss matters agreed by the Joint Committee pertaining to our offshore islands
- **Date and Destination:** 2 September 2022 Bere Island, Co. Cork
- **Members travelling:** Deputy Denis Naughten (Cathaoirleach), Deputy Joe Carey, Deputy Paul Donnelly, Deputy Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Deputy Éamon Ó Cuív, Senator Paddy Burke, Senator Róisín Garvey
- **Accompanying Official:** Eoghan O Cruadhlaich (Clerk)
- **Report:** N/A

3. Report on Functions and Powers

The Committee is satisfied with its present procedures and role.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", followed by a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.
31 January 2024

Appendix 1a: Meetings of the Joint Committee

The following are the details, in date order, of the scheduled meetings of the Joint Committee which took place during the period under report.

Meeting No. and Date	Topic	Stakeholders in attendance
J48 19 January	Meeting held in private session.	
J49 26 January	Meeting held in private session.	
J50 23 February	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J51 2 March	Consideration of the Proposed National Action Plan for Island Development	Comhdháil Oileáin na hÉireann <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Aisling Moran, Chair Mr. John Walsh, Board Member Mr Simon Murray, Board Member
J52 9 March	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J53 23 March	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J54 30 March	Rural Community Sustainable Energy on our Offshore Islands	Aran Islands Energy Cooperative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Dara Ó Maoildhia, Chairperson, Comharchumann Fuinnimh Oileáin Árann Teoranta (CFOAT) Avril Ní Shearcaigh, Manager, Comharchumann Fuinnimh Oileáin Árann Teoranta
J55 6 April	National Strategy for The Development of The Islands	Department of Community and Rural Affairs

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Bairbre Nic Aongusa, Assistant Secretary, Community Development, Aodán Mac an Mhíle, Principal Officer, Islands, Bríd Ní Chonghaile, Assistant Principal Officer, Islands and Colm Mac Donncha, Assistant Principal Officer, Islands.
J56 27 April	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J57 3 May	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J58 11 May	Rural Social Scheme (RSS) and Tús initiative	<p>Mayo Northeast Leader Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ellen Brennan, Tús Coordinator Martin Corcoran, Tús Supervisor <p>SIPTU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adrian Kane, Divisional Organiser, Public Admin. and Community Division Clem Shelvin, Industrial Organiser, Strategic Organisers Peter Glynn, Sector Organiser, Community Sector <p>Galway Rural Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liz MacDonald, Joint Chair RSS National Committee and RSS Supervisor Sean Larkin, Joint Chair RSS National Committee and RSS Supervisor Sean Broderick, RSS & Tús Coordinator

J59 18 May	National Policy Issues for Carers and National Means Assessments	Family Carers Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Catherine Cox, Head of Comms and Policy ■ Clare Duffy, Policy and Public Affairs ■ Damien Douglas, Family Carer ■ John Dunne, Chief Executive Officer ■ Anna Budayova, Family Carer ■ Niamh Ryan, Family Carer
J60 25 May	Community Employment Schemes	SIPTU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conor Mahon, CE Supervisor, COMES Clg - Oranmore/Maree/Doughiska CE Scheme, Oranmore, Co. Galway, Chairperson of SIPTU National CE Supervisors Committee ■ Gabriel Kearney, Chairperson of Sponsorship Committee - of Claregalway/Annaghdown CES (St. James CLG), Claregalway Co. Galway ■ Michele Rohan, Claregalway/Annaghdown CES (St. James CLG), Claregalway Co. Galway - Vice Chairperson of SIPTU National CE Supervisors Committee. ■ Peter Glynn, SIPTU Sector Organiser, Community Sector
J61 1 June	Pension and Social Protection Related Issues	Foster Care Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ David Taylor, C.E.O. Foster Care Ireland Irish Foster Care Association (I.F.C.A.)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Brendan Gillen, I.F.C.A. Finance Sub Group Vice Chairperson ■ Catherine Bond, C.E.O. Irish Foster Care Association (I.F.C.A.) ■ Claire Corridon, Foster Carer ■ Raymond Nolan, I.F.C.A. Chairperson
J62 15 June	Engagement by the JCSCRI & JCAFM with the Department of Social Protection on the operation of the Rural Social Scheme, its interaction with CE & TÚS and operation of the Carers' Allowance.	Social Protection (Department) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Geraldine Hurley, Assistant Secretary, Employment Services ■ Rónán Hession, Assistant Secretary ■ Tony Kieran, Principal Officer, Employment Programmes
J63 22 June	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J64 29 June	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J65 6 July	Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of The General Scheme Of The Charities (Amendment) Bill 2022	Rural and Community Development (Department) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Bairbre Nic Aongusa, Assistant Secretary, Community Development ■ Minister Joe O'Brien, Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities ■ Kevin Power, Assistant Principal, Community & Voluntary Supports and Programmes unit ■ Niamh Hoey, Administrative Officer, Community & Voluntary Supports and Programmes unit

J66 13 July	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J67 14 September	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J68 21 September	Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of The General Scheme Of The Charities (Amendment) Bill 2022	Mason, Hayes and Curran LLP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Alice Murphy, Partner Charities Institute Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Áine Myler, Chief Executive Officer The Wheel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ivan Cooper, Director of Policy
J69 5 October	General Scheme of The Charities (Amendment) Bill 2022	Irish Council for Civil Liberties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Liam Herrick, Executive Director ■ Ronan Kenny, Policy Officer, for the Democratic Freedoms initiative The Charities Regulator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Geraldine McCarthy, Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement ■ Helen Martin, Chief Executive ■ Madeline Delaney, Director of Legal Affairs and Registration ■ Niall Scanlon, Head of Finance ■ Thomas Mulholland, Director of Compliance & Enforcement
J70 12 October	General Scheme of The Charities (Amendment) Bill 2022	Rural and Community Development (Department) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ciara Bates, Principal Officer, Community & Voluntary

		<p>Supports and Programmes unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister Joe O'Brien, Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities Kevin Power, Assistant Principal Officer, Community & Voluntary Supports and Programmes unit Niamh Hoey, Administrative Officer, Community & Voluntary Supports and Programmes unit
J71 19 October	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J72 26 October	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J73 9 November	The Operation of The Appeals Office and The Regulations Covering the Operation of It.	<p>Department of Social Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joan Gordon, Chief Appeals Officer John McKeon, Secretary General
J74 30 November	Meeting Held in Private Session	
J75 7 December	Pre-legislative scrutiny of the General Scheme of the Automatic Enrolment Retirement Savings System Bill 2022.	<p>Organisation: Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Laura Bambrick, Social Policy Officer Mr. Liam Berney, Industrial Relations Officer
J76 14 December	Session 1: Pre-legislative scrutiny of the general scheme of the Automatic Enrolment Retirement Savings System Bill 2022. (resumed)	The Department of Social Protection

	<p>Session 2: Discuss Community Welfare Service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mr. Ciaran Diamond, Assistant Principal Officer ■ Ms Clare Dowling, Principal Officer ■ Mr. Tim Duggan, Assistant Secretary General <p>The Department of Social Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mr. Des Henry, Principal Officer with responsibility for CWS/SWA schemes and services. ■ Mr. Noel Hand, Principal Officer with responsibility for CWS/SWA schemes and services. ■ Mr. Rónán Hession, Assistant Secretary with responsibility for Working Age and Family Policy (Including all CWS schemes)
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Appendix 1b: Proceedings of the Joint Committee (Minutes)

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 19 JANUARY 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 10: 07 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc O Cathasaigh, Joe Carey, Joan Collins, Éamon Ó Cuív, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane, and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Paddy Burke, Paul Gavan and Mark Wall.

Apologies were received for Deputy Rosin Garvey.

2. Item discussed in Private Session

3. Item discussed in Private Session

4. Item discussed in Private Session

5. Item discussed in Private Session

6. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stands adjourned at 11. 37 a.m. until Wednesday 26 January 2022 at 9.30am.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", followed by a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

26 January 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 26 JANUARY 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 10: 02 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc O Cathasaigh, Joe Carey, Joan Collins, Éamon Ó Cuív, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane, and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Paddy Burke, Paul Gavan, Mark Wall, Eugene Murphy and Roisin Garvey.

2. Item discussed in Private Session

3. Item discussed in Private Session

4. Item discussed in Private Session

5. Item discussed in Private Session

6. Item discussed in Private Session

7. Item discussed in Private Session

8. Item discussed in Private Session

9. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stands adjourned at 11.40 a.m. until Wednesday 23 February 2022 at 9.30am.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

23 February 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 23 FEBRUARY 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 9.32 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Joan Collins, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane, Éamon Ó Cuív, Jackie Cahill and Marc O Cathasaigh (in the Chair).

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Paul Gavan, Paddy Burke and Róisín Garvey.

Apologies were received from Deputy Joe Carey and Deputy Denis Naughten.

2. Item discussed in Private Session

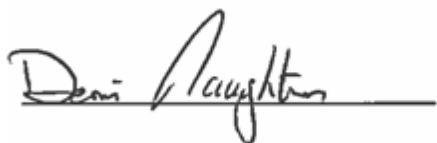
3. Item discussed in Private Session

4. Item discussed in Private Session

5. Item discussed in Private Session

6. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stands adjourned at 10.49 a.m. until Wednesday 2 March 2022 at 9.30am.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

2 March 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 2 MARCH 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.34 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Joan Collins, Claire Kerrane, Éamon Ó Cuív, Jackie Cahill, Joe Carey, Marc Ó Cathasaigh and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Mark Wall, Paddy Burke and Eugene Murphy.

Apologies were received from Senator Paul Gavan.

2. Consideration of the Proposed National Action Plan for Island Development – “Our Rural Future”

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the following witnesses from Comhdháil Oileáin na hÉireann:

- Ms Aisling Moran, Chair
- Mr. John Walsh, Board Member and
- Mr. Simon Murray, Board Member

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions

The meeting was suspended at 11.10am.

The meeting resumed in private session at 11.11a.m.

3. Item discussed in Private Session

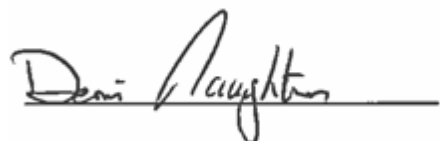
4. Item discussed in Private Session

5. Item discussed in Private Session

6. Item discussed in Private Session

7. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stands adjourned at 11.33 a.m. until Wednesday 9 March 2022 at 10.00am.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

9 March 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 9 MARCH 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 10.04 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Joan Collins, Claire Kerrane, Éamon Ó Cuív, Jackie Cahill, Marc Ó Cathasaigh and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Róisín Garvey and Paddy Burke

Apologies were received from Deputy Charles Flanagan, Senator Mark Wall, Senator Eugene Murphy.

2. Item discussed in Private Session

3. Item discussed in Private Session

4. Item discussed in Private Session

5. Item discussed in Private Session

6. Item discussed in Private Session

7. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.32 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Denis Naughten', written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

23 March 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 23 MARCH 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 10.04 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Joan Collins, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey, Marc Ó Cathasaigh and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Róisín Garvey, Mark Wall and Paddy Burke

Apologies were received from Deputy Charles Flanagan.

1. Item discussed in Private Session

2. Item discussed in Private Session

3. Item discussed in Private Session

4. Item discussed in Private Session

5. Adjournment

The Joint Committee adjourned at 10.45 a.m. until Wednesday, 30th March 2022 at 9.30 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

30 March 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 30 MARCH 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.38 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Joan Collins, Claire Kerrane, Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey, Denis Naughten (in the Chair) with Rose Conway Walsh substituting for Paul Donnelly.

Senators: Sean Kyne, Paddy Burke, and Eugene Murphy

Apologies were received from Deputy Charles Flanagan and Senator Mark Wall.

2. RURAL COMMUNITY SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ON OUR OFFSHORE ISLANDS

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the following witnesses to the Committee Room:

Aran Islands Energy Cooperative:

- Mr. Dara Ó Maoildhia, Chairperson
- Avril Ní Shearcaigh, Manager (Virtually)

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications to the Committee Room:

- Mr. Philip Newsome, Principal Officer, Renewable Electricity;
- Mr. John Finnegan, Principal Officer, Electricity Networks and System Division; and
- Mr. Rory Sommers, Assistant Principal, Retail Energy Policy, and Regulation Division.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting was suspended at 11.29. a.m.

The meeting resumed in private session at 11.30 a.m.

3. Item discussed in Private Session

4. Item discussed in Private Session

5. Adjournment

The Joint Committee adjourned at 11.40 a.m. sine die.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and fluid.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

6 April 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 6 APRIL 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.33 a.m., a quorum being present, and proceeded to private session at 9.34 a.m.

1. ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

Deputies: Joan Collins, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane, Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Róisín Garvey, Paddy Burke and Mark Wall.

Apologies were received from Deputy Charles Flanagan and Senator Paul Gavan.

2. Item discussed in Private Session

3. Item discussed in Private Session

4. Item discussed in Private Session

5. Adjournment

The Joint Committee adjourned at 11.50 a.m. until Wednesday, 27 April 2022.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Denis Naughten", followed by a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

27 April 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 27 APRIL 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 10.05 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane, Joe Carey, Jackie Cahill and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Paddy Burke.

Apologies were received from Deputy Charles Flanagan and Senator Róisín Garvey.

2. Item discussed in Private Session

3. Item discussed in Private Session

4. Item discussed in Private Session

5. Item discussed in Private Session

6. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned until Tuesday 3rd May 2022 at 11.00a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

3 May 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 3 MAY 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 11.05 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Charles Flanagan, Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane, Jackie Cahill and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Mark Wall, Paddy Burke and Róisín Garvey.

Apologies were received from Deputy Joan Collins and Senator Paul Gavan.

2. Item discussed in private session.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.37a.m. until Wednesday 11th May 2022 at 9.30a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

11 May 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 11 MAY 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.34 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane, Joan Collins, Seán Canney, and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Mark Wall, Eugene Murphy, Róisín Garvey, Paddy Burke and Sharon Keogan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Charles Flanagan.

2. STATE “TÚS INITIATIVE” AND THE “RURAL SOCIAL SCHEME”

The Cathaoirleach mentioned that a requested briefing from the Department for Members was not received and asked that the Clerk write to the Department to express the Committee’s disappointment.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the following witnesses to the Committee Room:

Galway Rural Development

- Ms Liz Macdonald, Joint Chair RSS National Committee and RSS Supervisor
- Mr. Sean Larkin, Joint Chair RSS National Committee and RSS Supervisor and
- Mr. Sean Broderick, RSS and Tús Coordinator

Mayo Northeast Leader Programme

- Ms. Ellen Brennan, Tús Coordinator and
- Mr. Martin Corcoran Tús Supervisor

SIPTU

- Mr. Adrian Kane, Divisional Organiser Public Administration and Community Division,
- Mr. Clem Shelvin, Industrial Organiser, Strategic Organisers and Mr.
- Peter Glynn, Sector Organiser, Community Sector.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions and the meeting proceeded to private session at 10.45a.m.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.
5. Item discussed in private session.
6. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.11a.m sine die.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

18 May 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 18 MAY 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.34 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane, Joan Collins, Seán Canney, Rose Conway-Walsh and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Mark Wall, Eugene Murphy, Róisín Garvey and Paddy Burke.

Apologies were received from Deputy Charles Flanagan.

2. NATIONAL POLICY ISSUES FOR CARERS AND NATIONAL MEANS ASSESSMENTS

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the following witnesses from Family Carers Ireland to the Committee Room:

- Ms Catherine Cox, Head of Communications and Policy,
- Ms Clare Duffy, Policy and Public Affairs Manager,
- Mr. John Dunne, Chief Executive Officer,
- Mr. Damien Douglas, Family Carer

The Cathaoirleach also welcomed remote witnesses:

- Ms Anna Buday, Family Carer and
- Ms Niamh Ryan, Family Carer.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting proceeded to private session at 11.53 a.m.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.58 a.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 25th May 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

25 May 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 25 MAY 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.35a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Paul Donnelly, Joan Collins, Seán Canney and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Mark Wall, Eugene Murphy, Róisín Garvey and Paul Gavan.

Apologies were received from Deputies Charles Flanagan, Claire Kerrane and Joe Carey.

2. “COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES”

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the following witnesses from SIPTU to the Committee Room:

- Mr. Conor Mahon - CE Supervisor - COMES Clg - Oranmore/Maree/Doughiska CE Scheme, Oranmore, Co. Galway. Chairperson of SIPTU National CE Supervisors Committee,
- Michele Rohan - CE Supervisor - Claregalway/Annaghdown CES (St. James CLG), Claregalway Co. Galway - Vice Chairperson of SIPTU National CE Supervisors Committee,
- Mr. Gabriel Kearney - Chairperson of Sponsorship Committee - of Claregalway/Annaghdown CES (St. James CLG), Claregalway Co. Galway and
- Mr. Peter Glynn - SIPTU Sector Organiser, Community Sector

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting proceeded to private session at 11.50 a.m.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.50 a.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 1st June 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", followed by a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

1 June 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 1 JUNE 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.39a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joan Collins, Joe Carey, Claire Kerrane and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Eugene Murphy and Paul Gavan.

Apologies were received from Deputies Charles Flanagan and Senator Mark Wall.

2. Pension and Social Protection Related Issues

The Cathaoirleach welcomed to the following witnesses from the Irish Foster Care Association to the Committee Room:

- Ms Catherine Bond, C.E.O.
- Mr. Raymond Nolan, Chairperson
- Mr. Brendan Gillen, Finance Subgroup Vice Chairperson
- Ms Clare Corridon, Foster Carer and
- Mr. David Taylor C.E.O., Foster Care Ireland.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting proceeded to private session at 11.23 a.m.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.50 a.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 15th June 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", followed by a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

15 June 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 15 JUNE 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.33a.m., a quorum being present and proceeded to private session at 9.34a.m.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey, Jackie Cahill, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Paddy Burke, Paul Gavan, Eugene Murphy, and Paul Gavan in addition to Victor Boyhan, Paul Daly and Denis O'Donovan from the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Food, and the Marine.

Apologies were received from Deputies Charles Flanagan and Senator Róisín Garvey.

2. Item discussed in private session.


3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.53a.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 22nd June 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

22 June 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 22 JUNE 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 10.09am., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Paul Donnelly, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey and Marc Ó Cathasaigh (in the Chair).

Senators: Eugene Murphy and Paddy Burke.

Apologies were received from Deputies Charles Flanagan, Joan Collins and Denis Naughten and Senators Róisín Garvey and Paul Gavan.

2. Item discussed in private session.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Item discussed in private session.

7. Item discussed in private session.

8. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 10.46 a.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 29th June 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

29 June 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 29 JUNE 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 10.07a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Éamon Ó Cuív, Joan Collins, Claire Kerrane, Charles Flanagan, and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Paddy Burke, and Paul Gavan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Marc Ó Cathasaigh.

2. Item Discussed in private session.

3. Item Discussed in private session.

4. Item Discussed in private session.

5. Item Discussed in private session.

6. Item Discussed in private session.

7. Item Discussed in private session.

8. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 10.39 a.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 6th July 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

6 July 2022

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF 6 JULY 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.34a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Joan Collins, Joe Carey, Paul Donnelly, Rose Conway Walsh, and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Paddy Burke, and Paul Gavan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Charles Flanagan and Senators Mark Wall and Róisín Garvey.

2. PRE-LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY OF THE GENERAL SCHEME OF THE CHARITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022

The Cathaoirleach welcomed to the following witnesses from the Department of Rural and Community Development to the Committee Room:

- Mr. Joe O'Brien T.D., Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities

alongside the following officials from the Department of Rural and Community Development:

- Ms Bairbre Nic Aongusa, Assistant Secretary, Community Development,
- Mr. Kevin Power, Assistant Principal, Community and Voluntary Supports and Programmes Unit and
- Ms Niamh Hoey, Administrative Officer, Community and Voluntary Supports and Programmes Unit.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting proceeded to private session at 10.37 a.m.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Item discussed in private session.

7. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.01 a.m. until 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday 13th July 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and fluid.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

13 July 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 13 JULY 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 16.05p.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Éamon Ó Cuív, Joan Collins, Claire Kerrane, Paul Donnelly, Charles Flanagan and Marc Ó Cathasaigh (in the Chair).

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Róisín Garvey and Paul Gavan.

2. Item discussed in private session.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 18.10p.m. sine die.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", is written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

14 September 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 14TH SEPTEMBER 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 10.05 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh (in the Chair), Éamon Ó Cuív, Joan Collins, Joe Carey and Claire Kerrane.

Senators: Paddy Burke, Mark Wall and Paul Gavan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Denis Naughten.

2. Item discussed in private session.

3. Item discussed in private session.

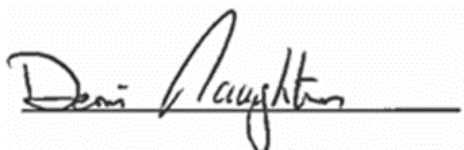
4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Item discussed in private session.

7. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 10.36 a.m. sine die.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

21 September 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 21 SEPTEMBER 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.33a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joan Collins, Paul Donnelly and Denis Naughten (in the Chair).

Senators: Paddy Burke, Mark Wall and Paul Gavan.

Apologies were received from Deputies Charles Flanagan and Claire Kerrane and Senator Róisín Garvey.

2. Pre-Legislative Scrutiny Of The General Scheme Of The Charities (Amendment) Bill 2022

The Cathaoirleach welcomed to the following witnesses to the Committee Room:

Charities Institute Ireland

- Ms Áine Myler, Chief Executive Officer,

The Wheel

- Mr. Ivan Cooper, Director of Policy, and

Mason, Hayes and Curran LLP

- Ms Alice Murphy, Partner

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting proceeded to private session at 10.38 a.m.

- 3. Item discussed in private session.**
- 4. Item discussed in private session.**
- 5. Item discussed in private session.**
- 6. Adjournment**

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.10 a.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 28th September 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and fluid.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

5 October 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 5 OCTOBER 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.45a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey, Paul Donnelly and Marc Ó Cathasaigh (in the Chair).

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Róisín Garvey, Paddy Burke and Mark Wall.

Apologies were received from Deputies Naughten

2. “GENERAL SCHEME OF THE CHARITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL” SESSION A

The Leas Cathaoirleach welcomed the following witnesses from the Charities Regulator to the Committee Room:

- Ms Helen Martin, Chief Executive,
- Ms Madeleine Delaney, Director of Legal Affairs & Registration and
- Mr. Thomas Mulholland, Director of Compliance & Enforcement

The meeting was suspended at 10.50a.m. and resumed in public session at 10.58a.m.

SESSION (B)

The Leas Cathaoirleach welcomed the following witnesses from the Irish Council for Civil Liberties to the Committee Room:

- Mr. Liam Herrick, Executive Director and
- Mr. Ronan Kennedy, Policy Officer for the Democratic Freedoms Initiative.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting was suspended at 11.23a.m. and proceeded to private session at 11.27a.m.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.31 a.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 12th October 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and fluid.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

12 October 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 12 OCTOBER 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.34am., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Paul Donnelly and Marc Ó Cathasaigh (in the Chair).

Senators: Eugene Murphy and Paddy Burke.

Apologies were received from Deputy Naughten and Senators Róisín Murphy and Paul Gavan.

2. “GENERAL SCHEME OF THE CHARITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022”

The Cathaoirleach welcomed to the following witnesses from the Department of Rural and Community Development to the Committee Room:

- Joe O'Brien T.D., Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities,

And Officials from the Community & Voluntary Supports and Programmes Unit, Department of Community and Rural Development

- Ms Ciara Bates, Principal Officer,
- Mr. Kevin Power, Assistant Principal Officer, and
- Ms Niamh Hoey, Administrative Officer.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting proceeded to private session at 10.06a.m.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 10.14am, sine die.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and fluid.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

19 October 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 19 OCTOBER 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 9.33a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joan Collins, Joe Carey, Claire Kerrane and Denis Naughten (Cathaoirleach).

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Paddy Burke, Mark Wall and Paul Gavan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Flanagan.

2. Item discussed in private session.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Item discussed in private session.

7. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 10.24 a.m. until Wednesday 26th October 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

26 October 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 26 OCTOBER 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 10.01 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey, Paul Donnelly and Cathaoirleach Denis Naughten.

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Paddy Burke, Mark Wall, and Paul Gavan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Joan Collins.

2. Item discussed in private session.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 10.35 a.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 9th November 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", followed by a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

9 November 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 9 NOVEMBER 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.29a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joan Collins, Joe Carey, Claire Kerrane and Denis Naughten (Cathaoirleach).

Senators: Eugene Murphy Paddy Burke, Mark Wall, and Paul Gavan.

2. THE OPERATION OF THE APPEALS OFFICE AND THE REGULATIONS COVERING THE OPERATION OF IT.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed to the following witnesses from the Department of Social Protection to the Committee Room:

- Mr. John McKeon, Secretary General, Department of Social Protection and
- Ms Joan Gordon, Chief Appeals Officer, Social Welfare Appeals Office.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting proceeded to private session at 10.32 a.m.

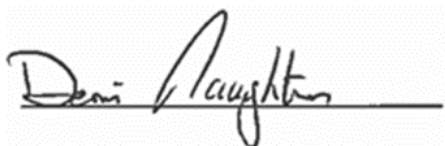
3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.03 a.m. sine die.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Denis Naughten', written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

30 November 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 30 NOVEMBER 2022

The Joint Committee met in private session at 10.03a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joan Collins, Claire Kerrane and Denis Naughten (Cathaoirleach).

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Róisín Garvey and Mark Wall.

2. Item discussed in private session.

3. Item discussed in private session.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 10.49 am until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 7th December 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

7 December 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 7 DECEMBER 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.31 a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey, Claire Kerrane, Paul Donnelly, and Marc Ó Cathasaigh (Leas Cathaoirleach).

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Paddy Burke, and Mark Wall.

Apologies were received from Deputy Flanagan and Senator Paul Gavan.

2. “PRE-LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY OF THE GENERAL SCHEME OF THE AUTOMATIC ENROLMENT RETIREMENT SAVINGS SYSTEM BILL 2022”

The Cathaoirleach welcomed to the following witnesses to the Committee Room from the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU):

- Dr Laura Bambrick, Social Policy Officer and
- Mr. Liam Berney, Industrial Relations Officer.

The Leas Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting proceeded to private session at 11.02 a.m.

3. Item discussed in private session.

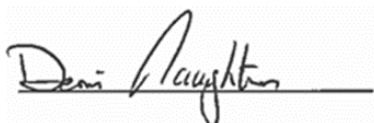
4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Item discussed in private session.

7. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 11.02 a.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday 14th December 2022.



Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

14 December 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 14 DECEMBER 2022

The Joint Committee met in public session at 9.33a.m., a quorum being present.

1. Attendance

The following members were present:

Deputies: Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey, Claire Kerrane, Paul Donnelly, and Denis Naughten (Cathaoirleach).

Senators: Eugene Murphy, Mark Wall and Paul Gavan.

SESSION 1

2. “THE AUTOMATIC ENROLMENT RETIREMENT SAVINGS SYSTEM BILL”

The Cathaoirleach welcomed to the Committee Room the following witnesses from the Department of Social Protection:

- Mr. Tim Duggan, Assistant Secretary, AE/PRSI & International Policy,
- Ms Clare Dowling, Principal Officer, Auto Enrolment Programme and
- Mr. Ciaran Diamond, Assistant Principal.

SESSION 2

3. “COMMUNITY WELFARE SERVICE”

The Cathaoirleach welcomed to the Committee Room the following witnesses from the Department of Social Protection:

- Mr. Rónán Hession, Assistant Secretary, Working Age & Family Policy,
- Mr. Des Henry, Principal Officer, Supplementary Welfare Allowance Policy & Schemes and
- Mr. Noel Hand, Principal Officer, Community Welfare Service.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

The meeting proceeded to private session at 12.27 a.m.

4. Item discussed in private session.

5. Item discussed in private session.

6. Item discussed in private session.

7. Item discussed in private session.

8. Adjournment

The Joint Committee stood adjourned at 12.32 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and fluid.

Denis Naughten T.D.

Cathaoirleach

18 January 2023

Appendix 2a: Meetings of the Select Committee

The following are the details, in date order, of the scheduled meetings of the Select Committee which took place during the period under report.

Meeting No. and Date	Topic	Stakeholders in attendance
S08 02/02/2022	2022 Revised Estimates for Public Services - Vote 42 (Community and Rural Development)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Heather Humphreys, Minister for Rural and Community Development Joe O'Brien Minister of State, Community and Rural Development
S09	Cancelled Meeting	
S10 16/02/2022	2022 Revised Estimates for Public Services - Vote 37 (Social Protection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heather Humphreys, Minister for Social Protection
S11 23/11/2022	Session1: 2022 Supplementary Estimates for Public Services - Vote 37 (Social Protection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heather Humphreys, Minister for Rural and Community Development; and Social Protection Joe O'Brien Minister of State, Community and Rural Development
S11 23/11/2022	Session 2: 2022 Supplementary Estimates for Public Services - Vote 42 (Community and Rural Development)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heather Humphreys, Minister for Rural and Community Development Joe O'Brien, Minister of State, Rural and Community Development

Appendix 2b: Proceedings of the Select Committee (Imeachtaí)

IMEACHTAÍ AN ROGHCHOISTE UM CHOIMIRCE SHÓISIALACH, FORBAIRT POBAIL AGUS TUAITHE AGUS NA HOILEÁIN.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL PROTECTION COMMUNITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE ISLANDS.

Dé Céadaoin, 2, Feabhra, 2022

Wednesday, 2 February 2022

1. Chruinnigh an Coiste ar 10.30 a.m.

1. The Committee met at 10.30 a.m.

2. COMHALTAÍ I LÁTHAIR

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Bhí na comhaltaí seo a leanas i láthair:

The following Members were present:

An Teachta Donnacha Ó Neachtain (*i gCeannas*), An Teachta Heather Mhic Unfraidh (*An tAire Coimirce Sóisialaí, Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail*), An Teachta Seosamh Ó Briain, (*Aire Stáit ag an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail*), na Teachtaí Éamon Ó Cuív, Seosamh Ó Ciardha, Siobhán Ní Choileáin, Pól Ó Donnghaile, Clár Ní Chearáin agus Marc Ó Cathasaigh.

Deputy Denis Naughten (*in the Chair*), Deputy Heather Humphreys (*Minister for Social Protection, Community and Rural Development*), Deputy Joe O'Brien (*Minister of State Department of Community and Rural Development*) Deputies Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey, Joan Collins, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane and Marc Ó Cathasaigh.

3. BREITHNIÚ AR MHEASTACHÁIN
ATHBHREITHNITHE I GCOMHAIR SEIRBHÍSÍ
POIBLÍ

3. CONSIDERATION OF REVISED ESTIMATES
FOR PUBLIC SERVICES

Bhreithnigh an Coiste na Meastacháin Athbhreithnithe seo a leanas i gcomhair Seirbhísí Poiblí don bhliain dar críoch an 31 Nollaig, 2022

The Committee considered the following Revised Estimates for Public Services for the year ending 31st December 2022

Vóta 42 (An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail) (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe) 2022

Críochnaíodh an breithniú ar an Meastachán Athbhreithnithe’.

Cuireadh teachtaireacht chun na Dála de réir Bhuan-Ordú 90 á chur in iúl di gur chríochnaigh an Coiste a bhreithniú ar an Meastachán Athbhreithnithe.

4. ATHLÁ.

Chuaigh an Coiste ar athló ar 11:45 a.m.

Vote 42 (Community and Rural Development) (Revised Estimates) 2022

Consideration of the Revised Estimate was concluded.

Message sent to the Dáil in accordance with Standing Order 90 acquainting it that the Committee had completed its consideration of the Revised Estimate.

4. ADJOURNMENT.

The Committee adjourned at 11:45 a.m.



Denis Naughten T.D.
Deputy Denis Naughten

IMEACHTAÍ AN ROGHCHOISTE UM CHOIMIRCE SHÓISIALACH, FORBAIRT POBAIL AGUS TUAITHE AGUS NA HOILEÁIN.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL PROTECTION COMMUNITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE ISLANDS

Dé Céadaoin, 16 Feabhra, 2022

Wednesday, 16 February 2022

1. Chruinnigh an Coiste ar 9:32 a.m.

1. The Committee met at 9:32 a.m.

2. COMHALTAÍ I LÁTHAIR.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bhí na comhaltaí seo a leanas i láthair:

The following Members were present:

An Teachta Donnacha Ó Neachtain (*i gCeannas*), An Teachta Heather Mhic Unfraidh (*An tAire Coimirce Sóisialaí, Forbartha Pobail agus Tuaithe, agus na nOileán*), na Teachtaí, Clár Ní Chearáin, Seosamh Ó Ciardha, Pól Ó Donnghaile, Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Siobhán Ní Choileáin agus Éamon Ó Cuív.

Deputy Denis Naughten (*in the Chair*), Deputy Heather Humphreys (*Minister for Social Protection, Community and Rural Development and The Islands*), Deputies Claire Kerrane, Joe Carey, Paul Donnelly, Marc Ó Cathasaigh, Joan Collins and Éamon Ó Cuív.

3. BREITHNIÚ AR MHEASTACHÁIN ATHBHREITHNITHE I GCOMHAIR SEIRBHÍSÍ POIBLÍ.

3. CONSIDERATION OF REVISED ESTIMATES FOR PUBLIC SERVICES.

Bhreithnigh an Coiste na Meastacháin Athbreithnithe seo a leanas i gcomhair Seirbhísí Poiblí don bhliain dar críoch an 31 Nollaig, 2022

The Committee considered the following Revised Estimates for Public Services for the year ending 31st December 2022

Vóta 37 (Coimirce Sóisialaí) Meastachán Athbhreithnithe) 2022

Vote 37 (Social Protection) (Revised Estimates) 2022

Críochnaíodh an breithniú ar an Meastachán Athbhreithnithe.

Consideration of the Revised Estimate was concluded.

Cuireadh teachtaireacht chun na Dála de réir Bhuan-Ordú 90 á chur in iúl di gur chríochnaigh an Coiste a bhreithniú ar an Meastachán Athbhreithnithe.

4. ATHLÁ.

Chuaigh an Coiste ar athló ar 12:16 p.m.

Message sent to the Dáil in accordance with Standing Order 90 acquainting it that the Committee had completed its consideration of the Revised Estimate.

4. ADJOURNMENT.

The Committee adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten T.D.
Deputy Denis Naughten

IMEACHTAÍ AN ROGHCHOISTE UM CHOIMIRCE SHÓISIALACH, FORBAIRT POBAIL AGUS TUAITHE AGUS NA HOILEÁIN.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL PROTECTION COMMUNITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE ISLANDS

Dé Céadaoin, 23 Samhain, 2022

Wednesday, 23 November 2022

1. Chruinnigh an Coiste ar 9:33 a.m.

1. The Committee met at 9:33 a.m.

2. COMHALTAÍ I LÁTHAIR.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bhí na comhaltaí seo a leanas i láthair:

The following Members were present:

An Teachta Donnacha Ó Neachtain (*i gCeannas*), An Teachta Heather Mhic Unfraidh (*An tAire Coimirce Sóisialaí, Forbartha Pobail agus Tuaithe, agus na nOileán*), An Teachta Seosamh Ó Briain, (*Aire Stáit ag an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail*), na Teachtaí, Clár Ní Chearáin, Seosamh Ó Ciardha, Pól Ó Donnghaile, Marc Ó Cathasaigh agus Éamon Ó Cuív.

Deputy Denis Naughten (*in the Chair*), Deputy Heather Humphreys (*Minister for Social Protection, Community and Rural Development and The Islands*), Deputy Joe O'Brien (*Minister of State Department of Community and Rural Development*), Deputies Claire Kerrane, Joe Carey, Paul Donnelly, Marc Ó Cathasaigh and Éamon Ó Cuív.

3. BREITHNIÚ AR MHEASTACHÁIN
FORLÍONTACH I GCOMHAIR SEIRBHÍSÍ POIBLÍ.

3. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY
ESTIMATES FOR PUBLIC SERVICES.

Bhreithnigh an Coiste na Meastacháin
Forlíontach seo a leanas i gcomhair
Seirbhísí Poiblí don bhliain dar críoch an
31 Nollaig, 2022

The Committee considered the following
Supplementary Estimates for Public
Services for the year ending 31st
December 2022

Vóta 37 (Coimirce Sóisialaí) Meastachán
Fhorlíontacha do Poiblí 2022)

Vote 37 (Social Protection)
(Supplementary Estimates 2022)

Críochnaíodh an breithniú ar an Meastachán Forlíontach.

Consideration of the Supplementary Estimate was concluded.

Cuireadh teachtaireacht chun na Dála de réir Bhuan-Ordú 90 á chur in iúl di gur chríochnaigh an Coiste a bhreithniú ar an Meastachán Forlíontach.

Message sent to the Dáil in accordance with Standing Order 90 acquainting it that the Committee had completed its consideration of the Supplementary Estimate.

4. ATHLÁ.

4. ADJOURNMENT.

Chuaigh an Coiste ar athló ar 11:25 a.m.

The Committee adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denis Naughten", written over a horizontal line.

Denis Naughten, T.D.
Deputy Denis Naughten

IMEACHTAÍ AN ROGHCHOISTE UM CHOIMIRCE SHÓISIALACH, FORBAIRT POBAIL AGUS TUAITHE AGUS NA HOILEÁIN.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL PROTECTION COMMUNITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE ISLANDS.

Dé Céadaoin, 23 Samhain, 2022

Wednesday, 23 Samhain 2022

1. Chruinnigh an Coiste ar 11.32 a.m.

1. The Committee met at 11.32 a.m.

2. COMHALTAÍ I LÁTHAIR

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Bhí na comhaltaí seo a leanas i láthair:

The following Members were present:

An Teachta Donnacha Ó Neachtain (*i gCeannas*), An Teachta Heather Mhic Unfraidh (*An tAire Coimirce Sóisialaí, Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail*), An Teachta Seosamh Ó Briain, (*Aire Stáit ag an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail*), na Teachtaí Éamon Ó Cuív, Seosamh Ó Ciardha, Pól Ó Donnghaile, Clár Ní Chearáin agus Marc Ó Cathasaigh.

Deputy Denis Naughten (*in the Chair*), Deputy Heather Humphreys (*Minister for Social Protection, Community and Rural Development*), Deputy Joe O'Brien (*Minister of State Department of Community and Rural Development*) Deputies Éamon Ó Cuív, Joe Carey, Paul Donnelly, Claire Kerrane and Marc Ó Cathasaigh.

3. AN CRUINNÍÚ AR FIONRAÍ.

3. MEETING SUSPENDED.

Ordaíodh: An Cruinniú a chur ar fionraí anois. (*An Teachta Donnacha Ó Neachtain*).

Ordered: That the Meeting be now suspended. (*Deputy Denis Naughten*).

Cuireadh an Cruinniú ar fionraí dá réir sin ar 12.22 p.m.

The Meeting was accordingly suspended at 12.22 p.m.

Ar 13.32 p.m. athchromadh ar an gCruinniú.

The meeting resumed at 13.32 p.m.

4. BREITHNIÚ AR MEASTACHÁN FORLÍONTACH I GCOMHAIR SEIRBHÍSÍ POIBLÍ.

4. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR PUBLIC SERVICES.

Bhreithnigh an Coiste na Meastachán Forlíontach seo a leanas i gcomhair

The Committee considered the following Supplementary Estimates for Public

Seirbhísí Poiblí don bhliain dar críoch an 31 Nollaig, 2022

Vóta 42 (An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail) (Meastachán Fhorlíontacha do Sheirbhísí Poiblí 2022)

Críochnaíodh an breithniú ar an Meastachán Forlíontach.

Cuireadh teachtaireacht chun na Dála de réir Bhuan-Ordú 90 á chur in iúl di gur chríochnaigh an Coiste a bhreithniú ar an Meastachán Forlíontach.

5. ATHLÁ.

Chuaigh an Coiste ar athló ar 13.33 p.m.

Services for the year ending 31st December 2022

Vote 42 (Community and Rural Development) (Supplementary Estimates 2022)

Consideration of the Supplementary Estimate was concluded.

Message sent to the Dáil in accordance with Standing Order 90 acquainting it that the Committee had completed its consideration of the Supplementary Estimate.

5. ADJOURNMENT.

The Committee adjourned at 13:33 p.m.



Denis Naughten, T.D.
Deputy Denis Naughten

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