



TITHE AN OIREACHTAIS

**AN COMHCHOISTE UM THURASÓIREACHT, CULTÚR, EALAÍONA, SPÓRT
AGUS MEÁIN**

Clár Oibre 2023

Feabhra 2023

HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS

JOINT COMMITTEE ON

TOURISM, CULTURE, ARTS, SPORT AND MEDIA

Work Programme 2023

February 2023

TCASM/23/01

MEMBERSHIP

(Select Committee membership comprises only Deputies)

- Deputy Niamh Smyth T.D., Fianna Fáil, *Cathaoirleach*
- Deputy Alan Dillon T.D., Fine Gael, *Leas-Chathaoirleach*
- Deputy Ciarán Cannon T.D., Fine Gael
- Deputy Peter Fitzpatrick T.D., Independent
- Deputy Brendan Griffin T.D., Fine Gael
- Deputy Mattie McGrath T.D., Independent
- Deputy Imelda Munster T.D., Sinn Féin
- Deputy Johnny Mythen T.D., Sinn Féin
- Deputy Christopher O’Sullivan T.D., Fianna Fáil
- Senator Malcolm Byrne, Fianna Fáil
- Senator Micheál Carrigy, Fine Gael
- Senator Shane Cassells, Fianna Fáil
- Senator Annie Hoey, Labour Party
- Senator Fintan Warfield, Sinn Féin

NOTES:

- Deputies nominated by the Dáil Committee of Selection and appointed by Order of the Dáil on 8 September 2020.
- Senators nominated by the Seanad Committee of Selection and appointed by Order of the Seanad on 25 September 2020.
- Deputy Niamh Smyth nominated as Chair by the Dáil Committee of Selection and appointed by Order of the Dáil on 8 September 2020.
- Deputy Alan Dillon was elected Leas-Chathaoirleach on 7 October 2020.

Joint Committee on Tourism, Culture, Arts, Sport and Media



Niamh Smyth T.D.
Fianna Fáil
Cathaoirleach



Alan Dillon T.D.
Fine Gael
Leas-Chathaoirleach



Ciarán Cannon T.D.
Fine Gael



Peter Fitzpatrick T.D.
Independent



Brendan Griffin T.D.
Fine Gael



Mattie McGrath T.D.
Independent



Imelda Munster T.D.
Sinn Féin



Johnny Mythen T.D.
Sinn Féin



Christopher O'Sullivan T.D.
Fianna Fáil



Senator Malcolm Byrne
Fianna Fáil



Senator Micheál Carrigy
Fine Gael



Senator Shane Cassells
Fianna Fáil



Senator Annie Hoey
Labour Party



Senator Fintan Warfield
Sinn Féin

INTRODUCTION

The Joint Committee on Tourism, Culture, Arts, Sport and Media was established following Orders of Dáil Éireann and of Seanad Éireann on 31 July 2020 and 16 September 2020 respectively. Standing Orders 100(4) (Dáil Éireann) and 77(4) (Seanad Éireann) require that “as soon as may be following its appointment and thereafter at annual intervals, each Select Committee shall prepare a work programme and shall lay such programme before Dáil Éireann and Seanad Éireann”.

This Work Programme of the Joint Committee on Tourism, Culture, Arts, Sport and Media for 2023 was agreed by the Joint Committee at its meeting on 1st February 2023. In accordance with the Standing Orders of Dáil Éireann and Seanad Éireann, it was agreed that the Work Programme be laid before both Houses of the Oireachtas.

SELECT COMMITTEE

The Dáil Select Committee on Tourism, Culture, Arts, Sport and Media was established by Order of Dáil Éireann on 31st July 2020.

The function of the Select Committee is to consider

- a) Bills,
- b) proposals contained in any motion, including any motion within the meaning of Standing Order 220,
- c) Estimates for Public Services,
- d) other matters as referred to the Select Committee by the Dáil,
- e) annual output statements, and
- f) such value-for-money and policy reviews as the Select Committee may choose in relation to the relevant Department.

ESTIMATES AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Estimates for Public Services are the spending plans of the Minister for a given financial year. When the Estimates are referred to Select Committees for examination, the Committee has an opportunity to question the relevant Minister in relation to proposed spending. *Note: The Select Committee is required to consider the Estimates, but is not empowered to amend same.*

In 2023, the Select Committee may be required to address the Programme Areas of Estimates, Revised Estimates, and Further Revised Estimates for Public Services in respect of Vote 33 (Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media) that are within the Committee's remit—namely, Programme Areas A, B, D, and E.

Supplementary Estimates may be considered by the Committee if additional monies are required by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

It is the intention of the Committee, in its scrutiny of financial matters, to focus on:

- that which the Department has committed to achieving;

- the manner in which monies are allocated across services; and
- the policy issues underpinning any spending provisions.

Furthermore, in keeping with a whole-of-year approach, it is the intention of the Committee to engage with the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in advance of Budget 2024 in order to determine the emerging position on areas within the Committee's remit for that financial year.

The Committee may also examine value-for-money (VFM) reviews, if and when these arise, as part of its scrutiny of Government expenditure.

REFERRALS OF MOTIONS AND OTHER MATTERS

On occasion, miscellaneous matters may arise and may be referred to the Select Committee by the Dáil. It is not possible to determine the nature of these matters, nor to determine at which point in time these might arise.

LEGISLATION

The 2023 Spring Legislation Programme lists the following Bills which fall or may fall within the remit of the Committee:

- Registration of Short-Term Letting Bill 2022.

PRE-LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

In accordance with Standing Order 174A(1), prior to its presentation or introduction to the Dáil, the general scheme or draft heads of a Bill shall be given by a member of the Government or Minister of State to the Committee empowered under Standing Order 95 to consider Bills published by the member of the Government: Provided that the Business Committee may waive this requirement, in accordance with Standing Order 30, on foot of a request by the member of Government or Minister of State. Committees are empowered to consider the draft Heads of Government Bills, but they are not required to do so. It is the prerogative of the Committee to decide, on a case-by-case basis, whether it wishes to engage in pre-legislative scrutiny in respect of any Government Bill.

JOINT COMMITTEE

The duties of the Joint Committee are discharged in two distinct manners:

- consideration of items referred to the Committee by one or both Houses of the Oireachtas; and
- consideration of items selected for business by the Committee itself, drawing upon the areas within its orders of reference.

EUROPEAN UNION ENGAGEMENTS

As a sectoral Committee, the remit of the relevant Department in respect of European affairs delineates the remit of the Committee in this regard. In its scrutiny of European matters, the Committee may consider issues as they arise, in addition to the following:

- European Union legislative and non-legislative proposals;
- engagements with Ministers in advance of European Council meetings;
- engagements with the relevant Department's Secretary General in relation to statutory Departmental EU Scrutiny Reports, as per Section 2(5) of the European Union (Scrutiny) Act 2002;
- attendance at European interparliamentary committee meetings; and
- engagement with relevant bodies at European level, including, but not limited to, the European Commission, the European Parliament and its committees, and the European Council, in addition to EC committees and working groups.

KEY POLICY PRIORITIES

The Joint Committee is empowered to consider such policy issues as it may choose from within its orders of reference. From January to December 2023, the Committee will focus on key priority topics as these fall within the remit of both the Committee and the relevant Department, in addition to conducting its core business in relation to legislation and other matters.

The key policy issues identified for examination by the Joint Committee in 2023 are as follows:

GENERAL

- Science, research, development, and innovation within the remit of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media;
- Progress on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), set out in the United Nations 2030 Agenda, insofar as is the responsibility of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media;
- Progress on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Report of the Oireachtas Special Committee on Climate Action insofar as is the responsibility of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media; and
- The identification of skills shortages in the tourism, culture, arts, sport, and media sectors.

TOURISM

STATE AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES

- The work of Fáilte Ireland; and
- The work of Tourism Ireland.

TOURISM POLICY

- The impact of Brexit on tourism;
- Sustainable tourism, including the development of blueways and greenways, as well as means of attracting tourists to the regions;
- Rural tourism;
- Progress made on the implementation of Project Ireland 2040 under the National Development Plan 2018-2027; and
- The differences in standards between Airbnb and accommodation approved by Fáilte Ireland.

SPECIFIC TOURISM INITIATIVES

- Joint regional marketing initiatives;
- The Wild Atlantic Walkway;
- The Irish Sea Way (Carlingford to Cobh); and
- The role and future role of regional tourism cooperatives, such as Reeks District.

CULTURE AND ARTS

CULTURAL AND ARTS POLICY

- The development of the local, amateur, and community arts sector(s), including how Government can support community arts, drama, and music in rebuilding society following COVID-19;
- The role of local government in supporting the arts;
- Public art – challenges and perspectives;
- The Basic Income Scheme for Artists;
- Progress made on the delivery of Government commitments for the night-time economy;
- Arts strategy, including Culture 2025; and
- Progress made in relation to commemorations, specifically with regard to the planning of commemorative events connected with the Decade of Centenaries 2012-2023, alongside other commemoration events in the cultural sector relating to relevant anniversaries.

CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- The implementation of the National Development Plan 2018-2027 in respect of progress made on large capital projects and national cultural infrastructure capital schemes;
- Capital investment in cultural infrastructure, including the consideration of cultural spaces in new constructions, the provision of affordable workspaces for artists and creative practitioners, and “meanwhile use” legislation for vacant buildings; and

- The development of National Cultural Institutions, such as the National Gallery, the National Library, the National Museum of Ireland, the National Opera House, and the National Theatre.

DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC ARTFORMS

- The development of professional musical theatre in Ireland;
- Supports for Irish writers; and
- The Section 481 film incentive and the development of Ireland as a global centre for film and content creation.

SPORT

STATE AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES

- The work of Sport Ireland;
- The work of Local Sports Partnerships;
- Governance in the Football Association of Ireland; and
- Progress made in improving capacity and governance in sport, specifically in relation to adoption of the Governance Code for the Community, Voluntary, and Charity Sector.

SPORTING POLICY

- Inclusion in sport: progress made in increasing sports participation and interest at all levels across Irish society, including participation of women in sport, alongside progress made in building stronger and safer communities;
- The implementation of the National Sports Policy;
- Progress made in developing a Major Events Strategy, and consideration of major sporting events; and
- Supports for athletics in Ireland, including supports for professional athletes and general participation in running.

PERFORMANCE STRATEGY

- Progress made in improving standards of performance and in developing sports facilities at national, regional, and local level;

- Olympic preparations and athlete support; and
- Progress made in moving toward the publication of a High-Performance Strategy that stipulates Ireland's direction for at least 12 years, establishing clear and ambitious medal targets over three Olympic and Paralympic cycles.

SPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

- Progress made regarding the Sports Capital Programme and the large-scale sports infrastructure fund (LSSIF);
- National sporting infrastructure and funding sources for infrastructural development; and
- The development of the National Sports Campus.

MEDIA

MEDIA AND BROADCASTING POLICY

- The work and final report of the Future of Media Commission;
- The future of local and regional newspapers and radio;
- The State's response to online disinformation and media/digital literacy, including social media and fake news;
- Progress made on the regulation of broadcasting and internet content; and
- The development of policy in relation to the funding of public service broadcasters (RTÉ and TG4), and the development of the broadcasting sector in general.

CULTURAL AND CREATIVE CONTENT

- The role of streaming services, such as Netflix, Amazon Prime, and Disney Plus, in the growth of the Irish content creation industry.

CHAIRPERSONS DESIGNATE OF STATE BOARDS

In accordance with Standing Order 96(7), the Committee has the power to require that the Chairperson designate of a body or agency under the aegis of a Department shall, prior to his or her appointment, attend before the Committee to discuss his or her strategic priorities for the role. It presents an opportunity for Chairpersons designate to discuss, with the Committee, the approach they will take as Chairperson and to give their views as to their projected contributions to the agency or body to which it is proposed they be appointed.



Niamh Smyth, T.D.

Cathaoirleach

February 2023

APPENDIX 1

ORDERS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE

STANDING ORDERS 94, 95 AND 96: SCOPE OF ACTIVITY AND POWERS OF SELECT COMMITTEES AND FUNCTIONS OF DEPARTMENTAL SELECT COMMITTEES

Scope and context of activities of Select Committees

94. (1) The Dáil may appoint a Select Committee to consider and, if so permitted, to take evidence upon any Bill, Estimate or matter, and to report its opinion for the information and assistance of the Dáil. Such motion shall specifically state the orders of reference of the Committee, define the powers devolved upon it, fix the number of members to serve on it, state the quorum, and may appoint a date upon which the Committee shall report back to the Dáil.

(2) It shall be an instruction to each Select Committee that—

(a) it may only consider such matters, engage in such activities, exercise such powers and discharge such functions as are specifically authorised under its orders of reference and under Standing Orders;

(b) such matters, activities, powers and functions shall be relevant to, and shall arise only in the context of, the preparation of a report to the Dáil;

(c) it shall not consider any matter which is being considered, or of which notice has been given of a proposal to consider, by the Joint Committee on Public Petitions in the exercise of its functions under Standing Order 125(1); and

(d) it shall refrain from inquiring into in public session or publishing confidential information regarding any matter if so requested, for stated reasons given in writing, by—

- (i) a member of the Government or a Minister of State, or
- (ii) the principal office-holder of a State body within the responsibility of a Government Department or
- (iii) the principal office-holder of a non-State body which is partly funded by the State,

Provided that the Committee may appeal any such request made to the Ceann Comhairle, whose decision shall be final.

(3) It shall be an instruction to all Select Committees to which Bills are referred that they shall ensure that not more than two Select Committees shall meet to consider a Bill on any given day, unless the Dáil, after due notice to the Business Committee by a Cathaoirleach of one of the Select Committees concerned, waives this instruction.

Functions of Departmental Select Committees

95. (1) The Dáil may appoint a Departmental Select Committee to consider and, unless otherwise provided for in these Standing Orders or by order, to report to the Dáil on any matter relating to—

(a) legislation, policy, governance, expenditure and administration of—

- (i) a Government Department, and
- (ii) State bodies within the responsibility of such Department, and

(b) the performance of a non-State body in relation to an agreement for the provision of services that it has entered into with any such Government Department or State body.

(2) A Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order shall also consider such other matters which—

(a) stand referred to the Committee by virtue of these Standing Orders or statute law, or

(b) shall be referred to the Committee by order of the Dáil.

(3) The principal purpose of Committee consideration of matters of policy, governance, expenditure and administration under paragraph (1) shall be—

(a) for the accountability of the relevant Minister or Minister of State, and

(b) to assess the performance of the relevant Government Department or of a State body within the responsibility of the relevant Department, in delivering public services while achieving intended outcomes, including value for money.

(4) A Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order shall not consider any matter relating to accounts audited by, or reports of, the Comptroller and Auditor General unless the Committee of Public Accounts—

(a) consents to such consideration, or

(b) has reported on such accounts or reports.

(5) A Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order may be joined with a Select Committee appointed by Seanad Éireann to be and act as a Joint Committee for the purposes of paragraph (1) and such other purposes as may be specified in these Standing Orders or by order of the Dáil: provided that the Joint Committee shall not consider—

(a) the Committee Stage of a Bill,

(b) Estimates for Public Services, or

(c) a proposal contained in a motion for the approval of an international agreement involving a charge upon public funds referred to the Committee by order of the Dáil.

(6) Any report that the Joint Committee proposes to make shall, on adoption by the Joint Committee, be made to both Houses of the Oireachtas.

(7) The Cathaoirleach of the Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order shall also be Cathaoirleach of the Joint Committee.

(8) Where a Select Committee proposes to consider—

(a) EU draft legislative acts standing referred to the Select Committee under Standing Order 133, including the compliance of such acts with the principle of subsidiarity,

(b) other proposals for EU legislation and related policy issues, including programmes and guidelines prepared by the European Commission as a basis of possible legislative action,

(c) non-legislative documents published by any EU institution in relation to EU policy matters, or

(d) matters listed for consideration on the agenda for meetings of the relevant Council (of Ministers) of the European Union and the outcome of such meetings, the following may be notified accordingly and shall have the right to attend and take part in such consideration without having a right to move motions or amendments or the right to vote:

(i) members of the European Parliament elected from constituencies in Ireland,

(ii) members of the Irish delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, and

(iii) at the invitation of the Committee, other members of the European Parliament.

(9) A Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order may, in respect of any Ombudsman charged with oversight of public services within the policy remit of the relevant Department consider—

(a) such motions relating to the appointment of an Ombudsman as may be referred to the Committee, and

(b) such Ombudsman reports laid before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas as the Committee may select: Provided that the provisions of Standing Order 130 apply where the Select Committee has not considered the Ombudsman report, or a portion or portions thereof, within two months (excluding Christmas, Easter or summer recess periods) of the report being laid before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas.

Powers of Select Committees

96. Unless the Dáil shall otherwise order, a Committee appointed pursuant to these Standing Orders shall have the following powers:

(1) power to invite and receive oral and written evidence and to print and publish from time to time—

(a) minutes of such evidence as was heard in public, and

(b) such evidence in writing as the Committee thinks fit;

(2) power to appoint sub-Committees and to refer to such sub-Committees any matter comprehended by its orders of reference and to delegate any of its powers to such sub-Committees, including power to report directly to the Dáil;

(3) power to draft recommendations for legislative change and for new legislation;

(4) in relation to any statutory instrument, including those laid or laid in draft before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas, power to—

(a) require any Government Department or other instrument-making authority concerned to—

(i) submit a memorandum to the Select Committee explaining the statutory Instrument, or

(ii) attend a meeting of the Select Committee to explain any such statutory instrument: Provided that the authority concerned may decline to attend for reasons given in writing to the Select Committee, which may report thereon to the Dáil, and

(b) recommend, where it considers that such action is warranted, that the instrument should be annulled or amended;

(5) power to require that a member of the Government or Minister of State shall attend before the Select Committee to discuss—

(a) policy, or

(b) proposed primary or secondary legislation (prior to such legislation being published),

for which he or she is officially responsible: Provided that a member of the Government or Minister of State may decline to attend for stated reasons given in writing to the Select Committee, which may report thereon to the Dáil: and provided further that a member of the Government or Minister of State may request to attend a meeting of the Select Committee to enable him or her to discuss such policy or proposed legislation;

(6) power to require that a member of the Government or Minister of State shall attend before the Select Committee and provide, in private session if so requested by the attendee, oral briefings in advance of meetings of the relevant EC Council (of Ministers) of the European Union to enable the Select Committee to make known its views: Provided that the Committee may also require such attendance following such meetings;

(7) power to require that the Chairperson designate of a body or agency under the aegis of a Department shall, prior to his or her appointment, attend before the Select Committee to discuss his or her strategic priorities for the role;

(8) power to require that a member of the Government or Minister of State who is officially

responsible for the implementation of an Act shall attend before a Select Committee in relation to the consideration of a report under Standing Order 197;

(9) subject to any constraints otherwise prescribed by law, power to require that principal office-holders of a—

(a) State body within the responsibility of a Government Department or

(b) non-State body which is partly funded by the State, shall attend meetings of the Select Committee, as appropriate, to discuss issues for which they are officially responsible: Provided that such an office-

holder may decline to attend for stated reasons given in writing to the Select Committee, which may report thereon to the Dáil;

and

(10) power to—

(a) engage the services of persons with specialist or technical knowledge, to assist it or any of its sub-Committees in considering particular matters; and

(b) undertake travel;

Provided that the powers under this paragraph are subject to such recommendations as may be made by the Working Group of Committee Cathaoirligh under Standing Order 120(4)(a).