

Reference ID: JOC26

Query: Furnish the committee with that information in regards to the bogus self-employment investigations

Response:

The investigations being conducted by the department of social protection (Scope section) relate to PRSI classification. Scope investigates workers of RTÉ to establish if the correct class of PRSI is being paid based on the nature of the work being performed by the individual. Individuals who are employees of RTÉ as well as those providing services as Limited Companies and sole traders are being investigated.

Since September 2020, 144 investigations have been carried out.

RTÉ is unsure how many investigations are likely to be carried out. In some correspondence the department of social protection (scope section) refers to 356 workers and in another piece of correspondence 700 workers is mentioned.

Investigations to date are of individuals who are or have provided services to RTÉ as sole traders or through limited companies but also existing employees of RTÉ. Any individual can request an investigation to take place in to their PRSI classification.

RTÉ is fully co-operating with the investigations.

By and large RTÉ is accepting the Scope decisions and is only appealing decisions where there are inaccuracies in fact or law.