



**Coimisiún Thithe  
an Oireachtais  
Houses of the  
Oireachtas Commission**

*Minutes of Commission Meeting  
Monday 9 May 2022*

The fourth meeting of the Commission of 2022 took place at 11.00 a.m. via MS Teams.

**1. MEMBERS PRESENT**

Deputy Seán Ó Fearghaíl, Ceann Comhairle (Chairperson), Senator Mark Daly, Cathaoirleach of the Seanad (Deputy Chairperson), Deputy Joe Carey; Deputy Francis Noel Duffy; Senator Seán Kyne; Deputy Jennifer Murnane O'Connor; Senator Ned O'Sullivan; and Mr. Peter Finnegan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Louise O'Reilly and Senator Lynn Ruane.

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of 4 April 2022 were agreed by the Commission.

**3. REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Financial and Output Reporting - Quarter 1, 2022**

Senator Mark Daly, Cathaoirleach and Chair of the Finance Committee, presented the report from the Finance Committee for the period January – March 2022.

The Commission noted the report.

It was agreed that the Finance Committee would consider and report back to the Commission on (i) official travel by members and staff; and (ii) catering services in the Houses.

**4. HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS COVID-19 ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

The Commission was briefed on a draft proposal to undertake a *Houses of the Oireachtas Covid-19 Oral History Project*.

It agreed to consider the draft proposal again at a future meeting.

**5. DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME**

**ICT Projects Status and Expenditure Report (April 2022)**

The Commission noted the 2022 ICT Digital Transformation Projects Status and Expenditure Report: April 2022.

**6. PROPOSALS FROM THE WORKING GROUP ON PORTRAITURE AND OTHER ART**

The Commission deferred consideration of this item.

**7. SCHEME FOR SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS**

**Update on SIPTU pay claim submitted for staff employed under the Scheme**

The Commission received an update on the SIPTU pay claim submitted for staff employed under the Scheme for Secretarial Assistance for Members and agreed that it be circulated to all members of the Houses.

**8. STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2021**

**Annual Progress Report 2022**

The Secretary General presented the third annual progress report on implementation of the Strategic Plan for 2019-2021 to the Commission pursuant to section 16 of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission Acts (Commission Acts).

The Commission noted progress on implementation of the strategy in 2022.

It also noted that the Implementation Report will be published with the Commission's annual report which will be laid before the Houses pursuant to section 6 of the Commission Acts.

The Commission and the Secretary General expressed appreciation to staff of the Service for their work and achievements over the past year.

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### *(i) Correspondence*

The Commission noted the following:

- (a) email from Deputy Ivana Bacik regarding the provision of covered bicycle parking spaces;
- (b) letter on behalf of the Joint Committee on the Irish language, Gaeltacht and the Irish-speaking Community in relation to the provision of services to members through Irish;
- (c) email from Deputy Bernard Durkan in relation to the removal of the ATM from LH2000;
- (d) Correspondence from the OPW on (i) car parking management app; and (ii) appropriate paving for the Leinster House forecourt.

It was noted that a meeting would be arranged to discuss the programme of work for the Leinster House campus.

### *(ii) Legal Briefing*

The Chief Parliamentary Legal Adviser briefed the Commission on legal matters.

### *(iii) Working Group on the Houses of the Oireachtas Commemorative Programme for the 2021-2023 phase of the Decade of Centenaries*

The Cathaoirleach briefed the Commission on the ongoing work of the Working Group on the Houses of the Oireachtas Commemorative Programme for the 2021-2023 phase of the Decade of Centenaries.

## **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 13 June 2022.**

SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL T.D.

Ceann Comhairle and Chairperson of the Commission

Dated: