

DÁIL ÉIREANN

AN COMHCHOISTE UM AIRGEADAS, CAITEACHAS POIBLÍ AGUS ATHCHÓIRIÚ, AGUS AN TAOISEACH

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND REFORM, AND TAOISEACH

Dé Céadaoin, 30 Meán Fómhair 2020

Wednesday, 30 September 2020

Tháinig an Comhchoiste le chéile ag 1.15 p.m.

The Joint Committee met at 1.15 p.m.

Comhaltaí a bhí i láthair / Members present:

Teachtaí Dála / Deputies	Seanadóirí / Senators
Mick Barry,	Pat Casey,
Pearse Doherty,	Alice-Mary Higgins,
Bernard J. Durkan,	Marie Sherlock.
Mairéad Farrell,	
Jim O'Callaghan,	
Neale Richmond,	
Peadar Tóibín.	

* In éagmais / In the absence of Deputy Steven Matthews.

Teachta / Deputy John McGuinness sa Chathaoir / in the Chair.

Business of Joint Committee

Chairman: This is the first meeting of the Joint Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach. Due to Covid-19 the business of our meeting will be conducted in a very different type of way. If any members have any suggestions as to how we might do that, please feel free to come forward with them. For my part, as Chairman, I will do the best I can in being impartial and fair to the members. The item on the agenda before us now is the election of the Vice-Chairman. We can consider this today or leave it until next week, it will be up to the members.

The members can make nominations as to who might be interested and these can be sent into the clerk to the committee and we can take it then at the next meeting. Is that agreed?

Deputy Pearse Doherty: That is agreed.

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan: I should mention, Chairman, that I was told to allow my name to go forward. I did not ask that my name go forward.

Chairman: Deputy Durkan does not have to allow his name to go forward.

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan: No, I do not.

Chairman: They only asked the Deputy he does not have to-----

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan: That is all right, Chairman. We will take it as read that there was a gun put to my head to go forward. Whether that is acceptable or not, I do not know.

Chairman: We will see if there are any other contenders-----

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan: Exactly.

Chairman: We will then judge the quality of the candidate over the coming week.

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan: I would be all in favour of that, normally.

Chairman: Democracy has to prevail-----

Deputy Pearse Doherty: And if he has really earned it.

Chairman: We will leave the Deputy hanging for a week.

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan: It would not be the first time.

Chairman: Is that agreed?

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan: Agreed.

Deputy Pearse Doherty: Yes, and obviously as this is a joint committee, either a Senator or a Deputy can be a vice-chairperson.

Chairman: I believe that is correct. We will now go into private session.

The joint committee went into private session at 1.18 p.m. and resumed in public session at 2.04 p.m.

30 SEPTEMBER 2020

Chairman: The purpose of our returning to public session is to note the fact that we have postponed our discussion on EU matters and that we will come back to them at our next meeting.

The meeting is now adjourned and I thank all in attendance.

The joint committee adjourned at 2.05 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 7 October 2020.