



**TITHE AN OIREACHTAIS**

**AN ROGHCHOISTE UM FHORMHAOIRSIÚ BUISÉID**

**TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL 2023**

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**HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS**

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON BUDGETARY OVERSIGHT**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

**33/CBO/029**

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## **1. Content and Format of Report**

At its meeting on the 18 September 2024 the Select Committee agreed that all these items should be included in this report covering the period from 18 January 2023 to 13 December 2023.

This report has been prepared pursuant to Standing Order 100(3), (5) and (6) which provides for the Committee to-

- undertake a review of its procedure and its role generally;
- lay minutes of its proceedings before both Houses; and
- make an annual report to both Houses.

## **2. Establishment and Functions**

### ***2.1. Establishment of the Select Committee***

The Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight is established under Dáil Standing Order 219 to examine the overall fiscal position, public expenditure policy and exchequer receipts policy. The Committee may also consider a matter of public policy with significant impact on the budgetary position or on the overall fiscal position, as well as the overall framework for parliamentary engagement throughout the course of the budgetary cycle.

The Orders of Reference of the Select Committee are set out at [Appendix 1](#)

## **3. Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Membership**

Dáil Standing Order 104(2) provides for a proportion of Chairs to be allocated to each group by means of the D'Hondt System. Deputy Neasa Hourigan was appointed as Chairman of the Select Committee on 9 September 2020 by an Order of Dáil Éireann. Deputy Mairéad Farrell was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Select Committee on 22 September 2020. Deputy Barry Cowen was appointed Cathaoirleach on the 14 June 2023. Deputy Ged Nash was elected Leas-Chathaoirleach on the 13 December 2023.

Membership of the Committee, including all internal changes within the reported period, is listed at [Appendix 2](#).

#### **4. Meetings, Attendance and Recording**

Meetings of the Select Committee took place in the Committee rooms in Leinster House 2000. Meetings were in public unless otherwise ordered by the Committee.

Committee proceedings were broadcast live within Leinster House and also made available to RTE, TV3 and TG4. Proceedings were also live streamed on our website and through our app. Since September 2014 the proceedings of Committees in public session, typically recorded but occasionally live, are broadcast on the dedicated parliamentary channel Oireachtas TV which is available on these channels:

- Saorview 22, Sky 514, Virgin Media 207, eir Vision 504
- Vodafone Channels 201, 207 (Dáil Éireann) and 208 (Seanad Éireann)

An Official Report (Parliamentary Debates) of the public meetings of the Committee may be viewed on the Houses of the Oireachtas website at [www.oireachtas.ie](http://www.oireachtas.ie).

Copies of other reports published by the Select Committee are also available on the Oireachtas Committee website pages at [www.oireachtas.ie](http://www.oireachtas.ie). A list of these reports is set out at [paragraph 7](#).

#### **5. Number and Duration of Meetings**

The Committee met 32 times during the period under report and the number of hours of discussion involved in these meetings was 50 hours and 38 minutes. The subject matter of each meeting, including the groups, organisations or individuals who attended the meetings of the Select Committee, is detailed in [Appendix 3](#). The minutes of proceedings of the Select Committee are attached at [Appendix 4](#).

#### **6. Witnesses attending before the Committee**

During the period, the number of speaking witnesses for the select Committee was 117.

During the period, the number of speaking witnesses for each of the Committees was as follows:

<b>COMMITTEE NAME</b>	<b>NUMBER OF WITNESSES</b>
Select Committee	117

## **7. Committee Reports Published**

During the period under report, the Committee published the following reports:

- \* Post Budget 2023
- \* Work Programme 2022 - 2023
- \* Annual Report 2022
- \* Pre-Stability Programme Update 2023
- \* Section 481 – Film Tax Credit
- \* Examination of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report
- \* Pre-Budget 2024
- \* Proposal for a Sovereign Wealth Fund
- \* Interim Report on the Estimates Process
- \* Work Programme 2023 - 2024
- \* Post Budget 2024

## **8. Report on Functions and Powers**

The Select Committee is currently satisfied with its present procedures and role.

## **APPENDIX 1: Orders of Reference – Dáil Standing Orders**

219. (1) There shall stand established as soon as may be, following the reassembly of the Dáil subsequent to a General Election, a Standing Committee, to be known as the Committee on Budgetary Oversight, to examine and, where it considers it appropriate, report to the Dáil on—

(a) the overall fiscal position, including—

- (i) the aggregated position on revenue and expenditure and the General Government Balance, including structural targets;
- (ii) medium-term projections for the public finances;
- (iii) macro-economic forecasts and developments;
- (iv) general fiscal governance including the application of fiscal rules and risks to the fiscal position; and
- (v) matters arising from the introduction of a supplementary Estimate or Estimates that, in its opinion, have or may have significant budgetary implications: Provided that the Committee shall advise the appropriate Committee or Committees of any decision on its part to undertake such consideration and the reason or reasons therefore;

(b) public expenditure policy, including—

- (i) the expenditure position having regard to the Government Expenditure Ceiling and the expenditure benchmark under the Stability and Growth Pact;
- (ii) Ministerial Expenditure Ceilings applying to individual Estimates or groups of Estimates for the Public Services where significant variations from the expenditure profile could potentially impact on the overall fiscal position; and
- (iii) the adequacy of planned and actual aggregate levels of capital expenditure and the policies and practices in relation to capital expenditure, including public procurement policy and public private partnership policy, intended to ensure the achievement of value for money.

(c) Exchequer receipts policy.

(2) The Committee may consider a matter of public policy with significant impact on the budgetary position or on the overall fiscal position: Provided that prior to the commencement of such consideration, the Cathaoirleach of the Committee shall consult with the relevant sectoral Committee established pursuant to Standing Order 95.

(3) The Committee may also consider the overall framework for parliamentary engagement throughout the course of the budgetary cycle and may make recommendations thereon to the Committee on Standing Orders and Dáil Reform for that Committee's consideration under Standing Order 119(1)(b): Provided that, in so doing, the Committee shall consult with—

- (a) the Committees established pursuant to Standing Order 95 on any recommendations which, in the opinion of the Committee, impact on their role or remit; and
- (b) the relevant Minister or Ministers on any recommendations which, in the opinion of the Committee, impact on the role or remit of a Department or Departments, and shall notify the results of such consultations to Committee on Standing Orders and Dáil Reform.

(4) The Committee shall have the following powers:

- (a) power to send for persons, papers and records as defined in Standing Orders 96(3) and 99;
- (b) power to take oral and written evidence and submissions as defined in Standing Order 96(1) and (2);
- (c) power to appoint sub-Committees as defined in Standing Order 96(4);
- (d) power to engage consultants as defined in Standing Order 96(14);
- (e) power to travel as defined in Standing Order 96(15).

(5) Every report which the Committee proposes to make shall, on adoption by the Committee, be laid before the Dáil forthwith, whereupon the Committee shall be

empowered to print and publish such report, together with such related documents it thinks fit.

(6) The Committee shall consist of fifteen members, none of whom shall be a member of the Government or a Minister of State, and four of whom shall constitute a quorum: Provided that—

- (a) the Committee and any sub-Committees which it may appoint shall be constituted so as to be impartially representative of the Dáil; and
- (b) the provisions of Standing Order 106 shall apply to the Committee



## **APPENDIX 2: Membership**

### **List of Members of the Select Committee**

*(The Select Committee membership comprises of Deputies only)*

Deputies:            Richard Boyd-Barrett (SOL-PBP)  
                         Colm Brophy (FF)  
                         Seán Canney (IND)  
                         Ciarán Cannon (FG)  
                         Rose Conway Walsh (SF)  
                         Barry Cowen (FF) [Cathaoirleach]  
                         Pearse Doherty (SF)  
                         Bernard Durkan (FG)  
                         Mairéad Farrell (SF)  
                         Michael Healy-Rae (IND)  
                         Neasa Hourigan (GP) [Cathaoirleach]  
                         John Lahart (FF)  
                         Brian Leddin (GP)  
                         Aindrias Moynihan (FF)  
                         Ged Nash (LAB) [Leas-Chathaoirleach]  
                         Willie O’Dea (FF)  
                         Patricia Ryan (SF)

#### Notes:

1. Deputies nominated by the Dáil Committee of Selection and appointed by Order of the Dáil of 08 September 2020.
2. Kieran O’Donnell TD was discharged from the Committee on 21 December 2022 upon appointment as Minister of State.
3. Colm Brophy TD was appointed to the Committee on 07 March 2023.
4. Mairéad Farrell TD was discharged from the Committee on 26 April 2023 and Rose Conway Walsh TD was appointed in her stead
5. Neasa Hourigan TD was discharged from the Committee on 26 April 2023 and Steven Matthews TD was appointed in her stead.
6. John Lahart TD was discharged from the Committee on 30 May 2023 and Barry Cowen TD was appointed in his stead.
7. Barry Cowen TD was appointed Cathaoirleach on the 14 June 2023.
8. Ged Nash TD was elected the role of Leas-Chathaoirleach on 13 December 2023

### APPENDIX 3: Meetings of the Dáil 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	Organisations, Groups, and Individuals who attended
97 18-01-2023	Tax Expenditures: Film Relief Section 481 Tax Credit (resumed)	In the absence of the quorum necessary to commence the meeting, the Committee stood adjourned at 5.48 p.m. in accordance with Standing Order 112(1) of Dáil Éireann.
98 18-01-2023	Tax Expenditures: Film Relief Section 481 Tax Credit (resumed)	Department of Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Deirdre Donaghy</li> <li>• Mr Ian Kavanagh</li> </ul> Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Mary Nash</li> <li>• Mr Anthony Donnelly</li> </ul>
99 25-01-2023	Examination of chapters 9, 10, 11, 12 of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Aéidin Doris</li> </ul> The Economic and Social Research Institute <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Karina Doorley</li> <li>• Professor Seamus McGuinness</li> <li>• Professor Conor O'Toole</li> <li>• Mr Seamus Coffey</li> </ul>
100 01-02-2023	Examination of chapters 9, 10, 11, 12 of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report (resumed).	In the absence of the quorum necessary to commence the meeting, the Committee stood adjourned at 5.47 p.m. in accordance with Standing Order 112(1) of Dáil Éireann.
101 08-02-2023	Examination of chapters 9, 10, 11, 12 of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report (resumed).	Irish Business and Employers' Confederation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Gerard Brady</li> </ul> Chambers Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Ian Talbot</li> <li>• Mr Shane Conneely</li> </ul>

102 15-02-2023	Examination of chapters 9, 10, 11, 12 of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report (resumed).	<p>Age Action Ireland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Mary Murphy</li> <li>• Dr Nat O'Connor</li> </ul> <p>Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Bríd O'Brien</li> <li>• Mr. Robbert Lynch</li> </ul> <p>Social Justice Ireland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Seán Healy</li> <li>• Ms Susanne Rogers</li> <li>• Ms Colette Bennett</li> </ul>
103 22-02-2023	Examination of chapters 9, 10, 11, 12 of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report (resumed).	<p>The Nevin Economic Research Institute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Tom McDonnell</li> <li>• Mr. Ciarán Nugent</li> <li>• Mr Chris Smart</li> </ul> <p>The Irish Congress of Trade Unions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Laura Bambrick</li> <li>• Mr Ger Gibbons</li> </ul>
104 01-03-2023	Examination of chapters 13 & 15 of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report.	<p>The Climate Change Advisory Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Marie Donnelly</li> <li>• Professor John Fitzgerald</li> </ul> <p>The Economic and Social Research Institute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Kelly de Bruin</li> <li>• Dr Niall Farrell</li> </ul>
105 08-03-2023	Examination of chapters 13 & 15 of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report (resumed)	<p><b>SESSION 1</b></p> <p>Think tank for Action on Social Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Adeelia Goffe</li> <li>• Dr Robert Sweeney</li> <li>• Ms Roisin Greaney</li> </ul> <p><b>SESSION 2</b></p> <p>Irish Farmer's Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Tim Cullinan</li> <li>• Mr Karol Kissane</li> <li>• Ms Rose Mary McDonagh</li> </ul>

		<p>The Irish Road Haulage Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Eugene Drennan</li> <li>• Mr John Nolan</li> <li>• Mr Paul Jackman</li> </ul>
106 22-03-2023	Stability Programme Update	<p><b>SESSION 1</b> Economic and Social Research Institute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Conor O'Toole</li> <li>• Dr Kieran McQuinn</li> <li>• Ms Wendy Disch</li> </ul> <p><b>SESSION 2</b> The Central Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Vasileios Madouros</li> <li>• Dr Martin O'Brien</li> <li>• Dr Robert Kelly</li> </ul>
107 29-03-2023	Private meeting	N/A
108 19-04-2023	Discussion of Chapter 15 of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report	<p>The Irish Heart Foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Chris Macey</li> </ul>
109 26-04-2023	Stability Programme Update	<p>Minister For Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Michael McGrath, TD</li> </ul> <p>Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Paschal Donohue, TD</li> </ul>
110 03-05-2023	Private meeting	N/A
111 10-05-2023	Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report	<p>Commission on Taxation and Welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Niamh Moloney, Chair of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare</li> </ul> <p>Commission members</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Philip Kermodé</li> <li>• Dr Barra Roantree</li> <li>• Ms Anne Vaughan</li> <li>• Mr Colm O'Reardon, Secretary to the Commission</li> </ul> <p>From the Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Sinead Ryan</li> <li>• Mr Colin O'Connor</li> <li>• Mr Gary Hynds.</li> </ul>
112 24-05- 2023	Sovereign Wealth Funds	<p><b>SESSION 1</b></p> <p>National Treasury Management Agency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Nick Ashmore, Director of the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund</li> <li>• Mr Ian Black, Chief Financial and Operating Officer.</li> </ul> <p><b>SESSION 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Stephen Kinsella</li> </ul>
113 31-05-2023	Sovereign Wealth Funds (resumed).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Svein Gjedrem</li> </ul> <p>Norwegian economist and former Governor of the Central Bank of Norway</p>
114 14-06-2023	Taxes on Assets and Wealth	<p>Oxfam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Jim Clarken</li> <li>• Mr Simon Murtagh</li> </ul> <p>University of Limerick</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Sheila Killian</li> </ul>
115 22-06-2023	Fiscal Assessment Report	<p>The Irish Fiscal Advisory Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Michael McMahon Vice Chairperson</li> <li>• Dr Adele Bergin</li> <li>• Mr Alessandro Giustiniani</li> <li>• Ms Dawn Holland</li> <li>• Mr Eddie Casey,</li> </ul>

		Chief Economist and Head of Secretariat
116 28-06-2023	Public Service Performance Report	Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Patrick Moran Principal Officer</li> <li>• Ms Caroline O'Loughlin Assistant Principal</li> </ul>
117 05-07-2023	Sovereign Wealth Funds: Discussion on the "Future-Proofing the Public Finances - the next steps" publication (resumed).	Department of Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Matthew McGann</li> <li>• Mr Pat Leahy</li> <li>• Mr Colm Roche</li> </ul>
118 11-07-2023	Private meeting	N/A
119 12-07-2023	Summer Economic Statement 2023	Minister for Finance, and Department officials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Michael McGrath, TD</li> </ul> Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Paschal Donohoe, TD</li> </ul>
120 19-09-2023	Pre-Budget Discussion	Session One The Central Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Gillian Phelan, Head of Monetary Policy</li> <li>• Dr Martin O'Brien, Head of Irish Economic Analysis</li> <li>• Dr Robert Kelly, Director of Economics and Statistics</li> <li>• Ms Una Quinn</li> <li>•</li> </ul> Session Two Economic and Social Research Institute <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Kieran McQuinn</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Claire Keane</li> </ul>
121 20-09-2023	Pre-Budget Discussion	<p><b>Session One</b></p> <p>The Irish Fiscal Advisory Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Adele Bergin, Council Member</li> <li>• Dr Eddie Casey, Chief Economist and Head of Secretariat</li> <li>• Professor Michael McMahon, Acting Chairperson</li> </ul> <p><b>Session Two</b></p> <p>The Nevin Economic Research Institute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Tom McDonnell</li> <li>• Mr. Ciarán Nugent</li> </ul>
122 27-09-2023	Pre-Budget Discussion	<p>Minister for Finance, and officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Michael McGrath, TD</li> </ul> <p>Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform, and officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Paschal Donohoe, TD</li> </ul>
123 04-10-2023	Private meeting	N/A
124 18-10-2023	Post-Budget Engagement	<p>Economic and Social Research Institute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Karina Doorley, Senior Research Office, Tax, Welfare and Pensions</li> <li>• Dr Dora Tuda, Research Officer Tax, Welfare and Pensions team.</li> </ul>
125 25-10-2023	Post-Budget Engagement	<p>Irish Congress of Trade Unions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Owen Reidy, General Secretary, Congress</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Tom McDonnell, Co-director of the Nevin Economic Research Institute.</li> </ul> <p>Irish Business and Employers Confederation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Fergal O'Brien, Executive Director, Lobbying and Influence</li> <li>• Ms Hazel Ahern-Flynn, Economist</li> </ul> <p>Social Justice Ireland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. John McGeady, CEO</li> <li>• Ms Susanne Rogers, Research and Policy Analyst</li> <li>• Ms Michelle Murphy, Research and Policy Analyst</li> </ul>
126 15-11-2023	Existing Levels of Service Costs	<p>Dept. of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Jasmina Behan Assistant Secretary, Work and Pensions Division</li> <li>• Mr. John Kinnane Acting Assistant Secretary, Expenditure Policy Division</li> </ul>
127 22-11-2023	Existing Levels of Service Costs (resumed).	<p>Irish Fiscal Advisory Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Michael McMahon, Acting Chairperson</li> <li>• Dr. Eddie Casey, Chief Economist</li> <li>• Mr. Killian Carroll, Economist</li> </ul>
128 29-11-2023	New Tax Expenditures in Budget 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officials from the Department of Finance</li> <li>• Ms Clare Costello, Principal Officer</li> <li>• Ms Deirdre Donaghy,</li> </ul>



		<p>Principal Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Gary Hynds, Principal Officer</li> <li>• Mr Ian Power, Principal Officer</li> <li>• Ms Joanne Mulholland, Assistant Principal</li> <li>• Ms Joanne Mulholland, Assistant Principal</li> <li>• Mr. Patrick Brennan, Assistant Principal</li> <li>• Ms Sorsha Foran, Assistant Principal</li> </ul> <p>Office of the Revenue Commissioners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Paul Tancred, Principal Officer</li> </ul>
<p>129 06-12-2023</p>	<p>Supplementary Estimates</p>	<p>Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform, and officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Paschal Donohoe, TD</li> <li>• Mr. John Kinnane Acting Assistant Secretary, Expenditure Policy Division</li> <li>• Mr. Eoin Dorgan Assistant Secretary, Public Service Delivery Division</li> <li>• Ms Niamh Callaghan Budget Strategy and Coordination Unit</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX 4: Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee

### Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight Record of Adjourned Meeting of 18th January 2023

1. The Committee was scheduled to meet at 5.30 p.m. in Committee Room 2.
2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Richard Boyd-Barrett, Neasa Hourigan (Cathaoirleach) and Aindrias Moynihan

Apologies were received from Deputy Canney

3. **Adjournment**

In the absence of the quorum necessary to commence the meeting, the Committee stood adjourned at 5.48 p.m. in accordance with Standing Order 112(1) of Dáil Éireann.



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Neasa Hourigan, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
25th January 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 18th January 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 6.02 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Richard Boyd-Barrett, Bernard Durkan, Mairead Farrell, Michael Healy-Rae, Neasa Hourigan (Cathaoirleach), Aindrias Moynihan and Patricia Ryan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Sean Canney

*Members agreed to go into private session to deal with some housekeeping matters at 6.02 p.m.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**

4. **Item discussed in private session.**

*The meeting went back into public session at 6.07 p.m.*

5. **Tax Expenditures: Film Relief Section 481 Tax Credit (*resumed*)**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms Deirdre Donaghy and Mr. Ian Kavanagh from the Department of Finance and Ms Mary Nash and Mr. Anthony Donnelly from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

Ms Deirdre Donaghy from the Department of Finance was invited to give an opening statement.

Ms Mary Nash from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media was invited to give an opening statement.

On conclusion a discussion ensued with members.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## 6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7.47 p.m. until Wednesday 25<sup>TH</sup> January.



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Neasa Hourigan, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
25th January 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 25th January 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.40 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Richard Boyd-Barrett, Sean Canney, Bernard Durkan, Neasa Hourigan (Cathaoirleach), Aindrias Moynihan, Pearse Doherty, Mairéad Farrell, Ged Nash and Patricia Ryan.

*The committee went into private session 5.40 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

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.**

*The meeting went into public session at 5.52 p.m.*

9. **Examination of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report – Chapters 9,10, 11 and 12**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Dr Aedín Doris from Maynooth University, Dr Karina Doorley, Professor Conor O’Toole and Professor Seamus McGuinness from the Economic and Social Research Institute and Mr Seamus Coffey from University College Cork.

Dr Aedín Doris was invited to give an opening statement.

Dr Karina Doorley was invited to give an opening statement.

Mr Seamus Coffey was invited to give an opening statement.

Discussion ensued with members of the committee.

*The meeting was suspended at 6.45 p.m. for a vote in the Dail.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 7.04 p.m.*

At the conclusion the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7.58 p.m. until Wednesday 1st February 2023.



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Neasa Hourigan, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
8th February 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Record of Adjourned Meeting of 1st February 2023**

1. The Committee was scheduled to meet at 5.30 p.m. in Committee Room 2.

**2. Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Neasa Hourigan (Cathaoirleach) and Sean Canney

Apologies were received from Deputy Doherty

**3. Adjournment**

In the absence of the quorum necessary to commence the meeting, the Committee stood adjourned at 5.47 p.m. in accordance with Standing Order 112(1) of Dáil Éireann.



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Neasa Hourigan, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
8th February 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 15th February 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.30 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Richard Boyd-Barrett, John Lahart, Sean Canney, Neasa Hourigan (Cathaoirleach), Aindrias Moynihan, Mairéad Farrell, Ged Nash, Michael Healy-Rae and Patricia Ryan.

Apologies received from Bernard Durkan

*The committee went into private session 5.30 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**

4. **Item discussed in private session.**

5. **Item discussed in private session.**

*Members not having any additional business the meeting resumed in public at 5.35 p.m.*

6. **Examination of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report – Chapters 9,10, 11 and 12 (resumed).**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms Mary Murphy and Dr. Nat O'Connor from Age Action Ireland, Ms Bríd O'Brien and Mr. Robbert Lynch from the Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed and Dr. Seán Healy, Ms Susanne Rogers and Ms Colette Bennett from Social Justice Ireland.

The Cathaoirleach invited Dr. Seán Healy to give an opening statement.

The Cathaoirleach invited Ms Mary Murphy to give an opening statement.

The Cathaoirleach invited Ms Bríd O'Brien to give an opening statement.

On conclusion a discussion ensued with members.



*The meeting was suspended for a vote in the Dail at 6.49 p.m.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 7.07 p.m.*

*The meeting was suspended for a vote in the Dail at 7.31 p.m.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 8.22 p.m.*

At the conclusion of the meeting the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9.18 p.m. until Wednesday 22nd February 2023.



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Neasa Hourigan, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
22nd February 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 22nd February 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.30 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Sean Canney, Neasa Hourigan (Cathaoirleach), Aindrias Moynihan, Mairéad Farrell (Leas-Chathaoirleach), Ged Nash, Michael Healy-Rae and Patricia Ryan.

The Leas-Chathaoirleach chaired the meeting.

*The committee went into private session at 5.30 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**

4. **Item discussed in private session.**

The meeting resumed in public at 5.33 p.m.

5. **Examination of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report – Chapters 9,10, 11 and 12 (resumed).**

The Leas-Chathaoirleach welcomed Dr Tom McDonnell, Mr. Ciarán Nugent and Mr Chris Smart from the Nevin Economic Research Institute and Dr Laura Bambrick and Mr. Ger Gibbons from The Irish Congress of Trade Unions.

The Leas-Chathaoirleach invited Dr Tom McDonnell to give an opening statement.

The Leas-Chathaoirleach invited Mr. Ger Gibbons to give an opening statement.

A discussion ensued with members.

At the conclusion the Leas-Chathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## 6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7.19 p.m. until Wednesday 1st March 2023.



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Neasa Hourigan, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
1st March 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 1st March 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.34 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Seán Canney, Neasa Hourigan (Cathaoirleach), Aindrias Moynihan, Mairéad Farrell (Leas-Chathaoirleach), Bernard Durkan, Pearse Doherty, Ged Nash and Patricia Ryan.

Apologies received from Deputy Boyd Barrett.

*The committee went into private session at 5.34 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**
4. **Item discussed in private session.**
5. **Item discussed in private session.**
6. **Examination of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report – Chapters 13 and 15**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms Marie Donnelly and Professor John Fitzgerald from The Climate Change Advisory Council and Dr Kelly de Bruin and Dr Niall Farrell from The Economic and Social Research Institute

The Cathaoirleach invited Dr Kelly de Bruin to give an opening statement.

The Cathaoirleach invited Ms Marie Donnelly to give an opening statement.

A discussion ensued with members.

At the conclusion the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## 7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7.51 p.m. until Wednesday 8th March 2023.



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Neasa Hourigan, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
8th March 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 8th March 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.30 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Richard Boyd-Barrett, Sean Canney, Bernard Durkan, Neasa Hourigan (Cathaoirleach), Aindrias Moynihan, Mairéad Farrell, John Lahart, Michael Healy-Rae, Pearse Doherty and Patricia Ryan.

*The committee went into private session 5.30 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**
4. **Item discussed in private session.**
5. **Item discussed in private session.**

With no other business to be considered, witnesses were admitted,

*The meeting resumed in public at 5.55 p.m.*

6. **Examination of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report – Chapters 13 and 15 (resumed)**

***Session 1: Representatives from the Think Tank for Action on Social Change***

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Dr. Adeelia Goffe, Dr. Robert Sweeney and Ms Roisin Greaney from the Think Tank for Action on Social Change.

The Cathaoirleach invited Dr Robert Sweeney to give an opening statement.

A discussion then ensued with the members.

*The meeting was suspended at 6.24 p.m. due to a vote in the Dail.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 7.07 p.m.*

At the conclusion the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending.

*The meeting was suspended at 7.35 p.m. to allow for the next set of witnesses to take their seats.*

*The meeting resumed in public session at 7.39 p.m.*

***Session 2: Representatives from the Irish Farmer's Association and from the Irish Road Haulage Association.***

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Tim Cullinan, Mr. Karol Kissane and Ms Rose Mary McDonagh from the Irish Farmer's Association (IFA) and Mr. Eugene Drennan, Mr. John Nolan and Mr. Paul Jackman from the Irish Road Haulage Association (IRHA).

The Cathaoirleach invited Mr. Tim Cullinan to give the IFA's opening statement.

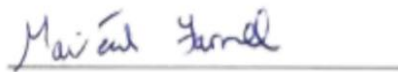
The Cathaoirleach invited Mr. Eugene Drennan to give IRHA's opening statement.

A discussion then ensued with the members.

At the conclusion the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9.26 p.m. until Wednesday 22nd March 2023.



Mairéad Farrell, T.D.  
Leas-Chathaoirleach  
29th March 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Record of Adjourned Meeting of 22nd March 2023**

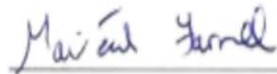
1. The Committee was scheduled to meet at 5.30 p.m. in Committee Room 2.

**2. Members Present**

No members were present.

**3. Adjournment**

In the absence of the quorum necessary to commence the meeting due to the Dáil voting bloc, the Committee stood adjourned at 5.53 p.m. in accordance with Standing Order 112(1) of Dáil Éireann.

  
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Mairéad Farrell, T.D.  
Leas-Chathaoirleach  
29th March 2023



**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 22nd March 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 6.07 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Seán Canney, Neasa Hourigan (Cathaoirleach), Aindrias Moynihan, Mairéad Farrell (Leas-Chathaoirleach), Bernard Durkan, Pearse Doherty, Michael Healy-Rae, Richard Boyd-Barrett and Patricia Ryan.

It was agreed to defer the Committee's private business to the next meeting.

3. **Stability Programme Update**

***Session 1: Representatives from the Economic and Social Research Institute***

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Dr Conor O'Toole, Dr Kieran McQuinn and Ms Wendy Disch from the Economic and Social Research Institute, ESRI.

The Cathaoirleach invited Dr Kieran McQuinn to give an opening statement.

A discussion then ensued with the members.

At the conclusion the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending.

*The meeting was suspended at 7.37 p.m. to allow for the next set of witnesses to take their seats.*

*The meeting resumed in public session at 7.40 p.m.*

***Session 2: Representatives from the Central Bank***

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Vasileios Madouros, Dr Martin O'Brien, and Dr Robert Kelly from The Central Bank

The Cathaoirleach invited Mr Vasileios Madouros to give the opening statement. A discussion then ensued with the members.

At the conclusion the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending.

#### 4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9.01 p.m. until Wednesday 29th March 2023.



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Mairéad Farrell, T.D.  
Leas-Chathaoirleach  
29th March 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 29th March 2023**

1. The Committee met in private session at 5.31 p.m. in Committee Room 2 on Microsoft Teams, a quorum being present.

**2. Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Seán Canney, Aindrias Moynihan, Mairéad Farrell (Leas-Chathaoirleach), Pearse Doherty, Richard Boyd-Barrett and Patricia Ryan and John Lahart.

**3. Item discussed in private session.**

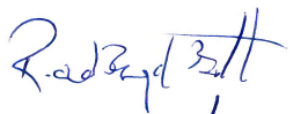
**4. Item discussed in private session.**

**5. Item discussed in private session.**

**6. Item discussed in private session.**

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7.06 p.m. until Wednesday April 19th at 5.30 p.m. in Committee Room 2.

  
3/05/23

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Richard Boyd Barrett, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach Sealadach  
3rd May 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 19th April 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.37 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Seán Canney, John Lahart, Aindrias Moynihan, Bernard Durkan, Pearse Doherty, Ged Nash, Michael Healy-Rae, Richard Boyd-Barrett, and Patricia Ryan.

Deputy Rose Conway-Walsh substituted for Mairead Farrell.

Members agreed to Deputy Ryan's nomination of Deputy Boyd Barrett as temporary Cathaoirleach.

*Members agreed to go into private session at 5.38 to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**
4. **Item discussed in private session.**
5. **Item discussed in private session.**
6. **Any Other Business**

Members had no other business they wished to raise.

At 6.05 p.m. Deputy Nash took the chair.

*The committee went into public session at 6.06 p.m.*

7. **Discussion of Chapter 15 of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Chris Macey from the Irish Heart Foundation.

After a note on privilege Mr Macey was invited to give an opening statement.

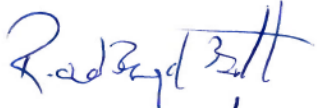
A discussion then ensued with the members.

At 6.29 p.m. Deputy Durkan took the chair.

At the conclusion the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending.

## 8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7.11 p.m. until Wednesday 26th April 2023.

  
3/05/23

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Richard Boyd Barrett, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach Sealadach  
3rd May 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 26th April 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.34 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Richard Boyd-Barrett, Sean Canney, Bernard Durkan, Aindrias Moynihan, Pearse Doherty, John Lahart, Ged Nash, Colm Brophy, Michael Healy-Rae and Patricia Ryan.

Deputy Rose Conway-Walsh substituted for Deputy Mairead Farrell.

Members agreed to Deputy Boyd-Barrett's nomination of Deputy Nash as temporary Cathaoirleach.

*The committee went into private session at 5.35 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**
4. **Item discussed in private session.**

*There being no other business witnesses were admitted and the meeting went into public session at 5.43 p.m.*

5. **Stability Programme Update - Minister of Finance and Minister of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Minister Michael McGrath and Minister Pascal Donohue, and their officials, to the meeting to discuss the Stability Programme Update.

After a note on privilege the Ministers were invited to give an opening statement.

A discussion then ensued with members of the committee.

*The meeting was suspended to allow members to attend a vote in the Dáil at 6 p.m.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 6.26 p.m.*

*The meeting was suspended to allow members to attend a vote in the Dáil at 6.52 p.m.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 7.17 p.m.*

Deputy Durkan took the chair at 7.21 p.m.

*The meeting was suspended to allow members to attend a vote in the Dáil at 8.10 p.m.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 8.38 p.m.*

Deputy Canney took the chair at 8.38 p.m.

Deputy Durkan took the chair at 8.40 p.m.

At the conclusion the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## **6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9.04 p.m. until Wednesday 3rd May 2023.

*Richard Boyd Barrett*  
*3/05/23*

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Richard Boyd Barrett, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach Sealadach  
3rd May 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 3rd May 2023**

1. The Committee met in private session at 5.33 p.m., a quorum being present.

**2. Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Rose Conway-Walsh, Aindrias Moynihan, Bernard Durkan, Patricia Ryan, John Lahart and Richard Boyd Barrett.

Apologies received from Deputy Pearse Doherty.

Members accepted Deputy Conway-Walsh's nomination of Deputy Boyd-Barrett as temporary chair.

**3. Item discussed in private session.**

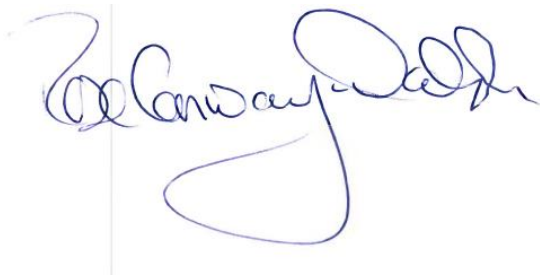
**4. Item discussed in private session.**

**5. Item discussed in private session.**

**6. Item discussed in private session.**

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6.11 p.m. until Wednesday 10th May 2023.



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Rose Conway-Walsh, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach Sealadach  
17th May 2023



**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 10th May 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.35 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Aindrias Moynihan, Ged Nash, Pearse Doherty, Rose Conway-Walsh and Michael Healy-Rae.

Apologies received from Deputy Patricia Ryan and Deputy Stephen Matthews.

As the Committee does not have a Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach Deputy Doherty nominated Deputy Conway-Walsh as temporary chair.

*The committee went into private session at 5.36 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**
4. **Item discussed in private session.**
5. **Item discussed in private session.**

*The meeting resumed in public at 5.42 p.m.*

*The meeting was suspended at 5.42 p.m. to let members attend a vote in the Dail chamber.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 6.03 p.m.*

6. **Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Professor Niamh Moloney, Chair of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare, Commission members Philip Kermode, Dr Barra Roantree and Anne Vaughan, along with Colm O'Reardon, Secretary to the Commission and his colleagues from the Secretariat, Sinead Ryan, Colin O'Connor and Gary Hynds.

After a note on privilege the Cathaoirleach invited Professor Niamh Moloney to give an opening statement.

On conclusion a discussion ensued with members.

*The meeting was suspended at 6.38 p.m. to let members attend a vote in the Dail chamber.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 6.53 p.m.*

At the conclusion of the meeting the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7.35 p.m. until Wednesday 24th May 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ged". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

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Ged Nash, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach Sealadach  
24th May 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 24th May 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.36 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Aindrias Moynihan, Ged Nash, Pearse Doherty, Rose Conway-Walsh, Richard Boyd-Barrett, Sean Canney, Brian Leddin, Patricia Ryan and Michael Healy-Rae.

Apologies were received from Deputy Stephen Matthews.

As the Committee did not have a Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach, Deputy Conway-Walsh nominated Deputy Nash as temporary Chair.

*The committee went into private session at 5.37 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**

4. **Item discussed in private session.**

5. **Item discussed in private session.**

*Witnesses were admitted and the meeting resumed in public at 5.48 p.m.*

6. **Sovereign Wealth Fund**

***Session 1: Representatives from the National Treasury Management Agency***

The Cathaoirleach welcomed from the National Treasury Management Agency, Mr. Nick Ashmore, Director of the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund and Mr. Ian Black, Chief Financial and Operating Officer.

After a note on privilege the temporary Cathaoirleach invited Mr. Nick Ashmore to give an opening statement.

On conclusion a discussion ensued with members.

*The meeting was suspended at 6.32 p.m. to allow members attend a vote in Dail Chamber.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 6.50 p.m.*

At the conclusion of the session the temporary Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

*The meeting was suspended at 7.13 p.m. to allow the next witness to be admitted.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 7.18 p.m. with Deputy Canney as temporary Chair.*

## **Session 2**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Professor Stephen Kinsella.

After a note on privilege the temporary Cathaoirleach invited Professor Kinsella to give an opening statement.

*The meeting was suspended at 7.33 p.m. to allow members attend a vote in Dáil Chamber.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 7.49 p.m.*

A discussion ensued with members.

*The meeting was suspended at 7.59 p.m. to allow members attend a vote in Dáil Chamber.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 8.22 p.m.*

Deputy Leddin took the Chair at 8.45 p.m.

Deputy Canney took the Chair at 8.50 p.m.

At the conclusion of the meeting the temporary Cathaoirleach thanked the witness for attending the meeting.

## 7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9.10 p.m. until Wednesday 31st May 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rose Conway-Walsh', written over a vertical line.

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Rose Conway-Walsh, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach Sealadach  
31st May 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 31st May 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.35 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Aindrias Moynihan, Ged Nash, Rose Conway-Walsh, Patricia Ryan, Richard Boyd Barrett, Sean Canney and Michael Healy-Rae.

Apologies received from Deputy Doherty

As the Cathaoirleach was unavoidably absent Deputy Healy-Rae nominated Deputy Conway-Walsh as temporary Chair.

*The committee went into private session at 5.36 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**
4. **Item discussed in private session.**
5. **Item discussed in private session.**

*In the absence of other business, the meeting went into public session at 5.43 p.m.*

6. **Sovereign Wealth Fund**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Svein Gjedrem, Norwegian economist and former Governor of the Central Bank of Norway

After a note on privilege the Cathaoirleach invited Mr Gjedrem to give an opening statement.

On conclusion a discussion ensued with members.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## 7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6.59 p.m. until Wednesday 14th June 2023.



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
14th June 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 14th June 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.43 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Aindrias Moynihan, Richard Boyd Barrett, Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Rose Conway-Walsh, Bernard Durkan, Patricia Ryan, and Michael Healy-Rae.

Deputy Pa Daly in substitution for Deputy Pearse Doherty  
Deputy Martin Kenny in substitution for Deputy Patricia Ryan

Apologies received from Deputy Doherty, Deputy Ged Nash, Deputy Steven Matthews and Deputy Sean Canney.

As this is his first meeting as Cathaoirleach Deputy Barry Cowen made the following declaration:

I do solemnly declare that I will duly and faithfully and to the best of my knowledge and ability, execute the office of Cathaoirleach of the Committee on Budgetary Oversight without fear or favour, apply the rules as laid down by the House in an impartial and fair manner, maintain order and uphold the rights and privileges of members in accordance with the Constitution and Standing Orders.

*The committee went into private session at 5.44 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**
4. **Item discussed in private session.**
5. **Item discussed in private session.**

There being no other business the meeting went into public session at 5.50 p.m.

6. **Taxes on Assets and Wealth**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Jim Clarken and Mr Simon Murtagh from Oxfam and Professor Sheila Killian from University of Limerick to the meeting.



This was the first meeting examining, in more depth, the taxation on assets and wealth.

After a note on privilege the Cathaoirleach invited Mr Clarken to give an opening statement.

A discussion then ensued with members.

At the conclusion of the session the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7.04 p.m. until Thursday 22nd June 2023



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
22nd June 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 22nd June 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 9.34 a.m. in CR1, a quorum being present.

**2. Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Richard Boyd Barrett, Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Bernard Durkan, Colm Brophy and Patricia Ryan.

Deputy Sorca Clarke substituted for Deputy Doherty.

Deputy Mairead Farrell substituted for Deputy Rose Conway-Walsh.

Apologies received from Deputy Doherty, Deputy Ged Nash, Deputy Steven Matthews, Deputy Sean Canney, and Deputy Rose Conway-Walsh.

*The committee went into private session at 9.34 a.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

**3. Item discussed in private session.**

**4. Item discussed in private session.**

**5. Item discussed in private session.**

**6. Item discussed in private session.**

*After the admitting of the witnesses the meeting went into public session at 9.50 a.m.*

**7. Fiscal Assessment Report**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed from the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council, Vice Chairperson Professor Michael McMahon, council members Dr. Adele Bergin, Mr. Alessandro Giustiniani, Ms Dawn Holland and Chief Economist and Head of Secretariat, Mr. Eddie Casey.

After a note on privilege the Cathaoirleach invited Professor Michael McMahon to give an opening statement.

A discussion then ensued with members.

At the conclusion of the session the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11.14 a.m. until Wednesday 28th of June 2023

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barry Cowen', written in a cursive style.

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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
28th June 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 28th June 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.34 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Colm Brophy, Rose Conway-Walsh, Ged Nash, Aindrias Moynihan, Richard Boyd Barrett, Michael Healy-Rae and Patricia Ryan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Doherty

*The committee went into private session at 5.35 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

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.**

*There being no other business the meeting went into public session at 5.48 p.m.*

8. **Public Service Performance Report**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed, from the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform, Mr. Patrick Moran and Ms Caroline O'Loughlin.

After a note on privilege the Cathaoirleach invited Ms Caroline O'Loughlin to give an opening statement.

Deputy Rose Conway-Walsh took the chair at 5.52 p.m.

A discussion then ensued with members.

At the conclusion of the session the temporary Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

**9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6.52 p.m. until Wednesday 5th of July 2023



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
3rd July 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 5th July 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.39 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Colm Brophy, Rose Conway-Walsh, Ged Nash, Sean Canney, Bernard Durkan, Michael Healy-Rae and Patricia Ryan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Doherty and Deputy Matthews

*The committee went into private session at 5.39 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

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

*Meeting went into public session at 7.29 p.m.*

7. **'Future-proofing the Public Finances-The Next Steps' publication (*resumed*)**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed, from the Department of Finance, Mr. Matthew McGann, Mr. Pat Leahy, and Mr. Colm Roche.

After a note on privilege the Cathaoirleach invited Mr. Matthew McGann to give an opening statement.

A discussion then ensued with members.

At the conclusion of the session the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## 8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8.18 p.m. until Tuesday 11th of July 2023



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
11th July 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight  
Minutes of Meeting of 11th July 2023**

1. The Committee met in private session at 3.28 p.m. on Teams, a quorum being present.

**2. Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Bernard Durkan, Michael Healy-Rae, Rose Conway-Walsh, Ged Nash and Patricia Ryan.

**3. Item discussed in private session.**

**4. Item discussed in private session.**

**5. Item discussed in private session.**

**6. Report on the Commission on Taxation and Welfare**

Members resumed consideration of the draft report and agreed a number of amendments thereto.

Members also agreed that all members of the Committee would be notified of two additional amendments and the Committee would discuss these in private sessions at the meeting the next day 12 July.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4.14 p.m. until Wednesday 12th of July 2023



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
19th September 2023



**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 12th July 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.31 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Rose Conway-Walsh, Ged Nash, Sean Canney, Bernard Durkan, Aindrias Moynihan, Richard Boyd-Barrett, Pearse Doherty, Brian Leddin and Patricia Ryan.

*The committee went into private session at 5.31 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**

4. **Item discussed in private session.**

*The meeting went into public at 5.56 p.m.*

5. **Summer Economic Statement 2023**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Michael McGrath TD, Minister for Finance and Mr Paschal Donohoe TD, Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform, and their officials.

After a note on privilege the Cathaoirleach invited Mr McGrath to give an opening statement.

The Cathaoirleach then invited Mr Donohoe to give an opening statement.

A discussion then ensued with the members.

*The meeting was suspended at 6.59 p.m. to allow members attend a vote in the Dail chamber.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 7.18 p.m.*

At the conclusion of the session The Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## 6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8.08 p.m. until Tuesday 19th September 2023.



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
19th September 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 19th September 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 1.44 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Rose Conway-Walsh, Ged Nash, Sean Canney, Bernard Durkan, Aindrias Moynihan, Richard Boyd-Barrett and Patricia Ryan.

Deputy Darren O'Rourke substituted for Deputy Doherty.

Deputy Durkan was nominated by Deputy Barrett as temporary chair.

Apologies were received from Deputy Matthews and Deputy Doherty

*The committee went into private session at 1.45 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

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

*The meeting went into public session at 2.02 p.m. with the Cathaoirleach Deputy Cowen in the Chair.*

7. **Pre-Budget Engagement**

***Session 1: Representatives from the Central Bank***

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Robert Kelly, Martin O'Brien and Gillian Phelan from the Central Bank.

After a note on privilege the Cathaoirleach invited Dr Robert Kelly to give an opening statement.

On conclusion a discussion ensued with members.

At the conclusion of the session the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

*The meeting was suspended at 3.19 p.m. to allow the next set of witnesses take their seats.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 3.28 p.m.*

### **Session 2: Representatives from the Economic and Social Research Institute**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Professor Kieran McQuinn, in the Committee Room, and Doctor Claire Keane, who joined online, from the ESRI.

After a note on privilege the Cathaoirleach invited Professor McQuinn to give an opening statement.

On conclusion a discussion ensued with members.

At the conclusion of the session the Cathaoirleach thanked the witnesses for attending the meeting.

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4.36 p.m. until Wednesday 27th September 2023.



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
27th September 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 27th September 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.33 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

**2. Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Rose Conway-Walsh, Ged Nash, Richard Boyd-Barrett, Bernard Durkan, Michael Healy-Rae, Pearse Doherty, Sean Canney, Patricia Ryan and Aindrias Moynihan.

*The committee went into private session at 5.33 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

**3. Item discussed in private session.**

**4. Item discussed in private session.**

**5. Item discussed in private session.**

**6. Item discussed in private session.**

*The meeting resumed in public at 5.38 p.m.*

**7. Pre-Budget Engagement (*resumed*)**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Michael McGrath TD, Minister for Finance and Mr Paschal Donohoe TD, Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform, and their officials to the meeting.

After a note on privilege Mr McGrath was invited to give an opening statement. On conclusion Mr Donohoe was invited to give an opening statement.

A discussion then ensued with members.

On conclusion the witnesses were thanked for attending.

## 8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7.39 p.m. until Wednesday 4th October 2023.



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
4th October 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 4th October 2023**

1. The Committee met in private session at 5.37 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

**2. Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Michael Healy-Rae, Sean Canney, Patricia Ryan, Bernard Durkan and Aindrias Moynihan.

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 meeting was adjourned at 6.01 p.m. until Wednesday 18th October 2023.



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
18th October 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 18th October 2023**

1. The Committee met in private session at 5.40 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Rose Conway Walsh, Pearse Doherty, Michael Healy-Rae, and Aindrias Moynihan.

Apologies received from Deputy Ged Nash.

*The committee went into private session at 5.40 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

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

*Members not having any other business, the meeting resumed in public at 5.53 p.m. after witnesses were admitted.*

7. **Post Budget Engagement: Representatives from the Economic and Social Research Institute**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Dr Karina Doorley and Dr Dora Tuda from the Economic and Social Research Institute. It was noted that Dr Conor O'Toole was unable to attend and that he was due to address issues around the macroeconomic context. In his absence it was noted that if there were any issues outside the attending witness's expertise that the committee accepted an offer to revert with written answers.

After a note on privilege Dr Doorley was invited to give an opening statement.

A discussion then ensued with members.



On conclusion the witnesses were thanked for attending.

## 8. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6.44 p.m. until Wednesday 25th October 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Cowen', written in a cursive style.

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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
25th October 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 25th October 2023**

1. The Committee met in private session at 5.37 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Rose Conway Walsh and Michael Healy-Rae.

Mairéad Farrell substituted for Pearse Doherty.

Ruairí Ó Murchú substituted for Patricia Ryan.

Apologies received from Deputy Canney and Deputy Moynihan, who were travelling on Committee business, Deputy Doherty and Deputy Ryan.

*The committee went into private session at 5.37 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

3. **Item discussed in private session.**
4. **Item discussed in private session.**
5. **Item discussed in private session.**

There being no other business the meeting resumed in public at 5.40 p.m. after witnesses had been admitted.

6. **Post Budget Engagement**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Fergal O'Brien and Ms Hazel Ahern-Flynn from the Irish Business and Employers Confederation, Mr. Owen Reidy and Dr Tom McDonnell from Irish Congress of Trade Unions and Mr. John McGeady, Ms Susanne Rogers and Ms Michelle Murphy from Social Justice Ireland

After a note on privilege Mr Owen Reidy was invited to give an opening statement for the ICTU.

On conclusion Mr Fergal O'Brien was invited to give an opening statement for IBEC.

On conclusion Mr John McGeady was invited to give an opening statement for Social Justice Ireland.

A discussion then ensued with members.

On conclusion the witnesses were thanked for attending.

## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6.38 p.m. until Wednesday 15th of November 2023.



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
15th November 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 22nd November 2023**

1. The Committee met in private session at 5.37 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Rose Conway-Walsh, Sean Canney and Patricia Ryan.

Apologies were received from Deputies Steven Matthews and Aindrias Moynihan.

*The committee went into private session at 5.37 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

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

*There being no other business the meeting resumed in public at 5.42 p.m., after the witnesses were admitted.*

7. **Existing Levels of Service Costs (resumed): Irish Fiscal Advisory Council**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed, from the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council, Professor Michael McMahon, Acting Chairperson, Dr. Eddie Casey, Chief Economist and Mr. Killian Carroll, Economist.

After a note on privilege Professor Michael McMahon was invited to give an opening statement.

On conclusion a discussion ensued with members.

On conclusion the witnesses were thanked for attending.

## 8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6.08 p.m. until Wednesday 29th of November 2023.



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
29th November 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 6th December 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.35 p.m. in Committee Room 2, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Aindrias Moynihan, Patricia Ryan, Richard Boyd Barrett, Bernard Durkan and Michael Healy-Rae.

Deputy David Cullinane attended in substitution for Deputy Rose Conway-Walsh.

Deputy Durkan temporarily assumed the chair.

Apologies were received from Deputy Canney, Deputy Conway-Walsh and Deputy Nash.

*The committee went into private session at 5.35 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

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

*There being no other business the meeting resumed in public at 5.47 p.m. after the witnesses were admitted.*

7. **Supplementary Estimates**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Paschal Donohoe, Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform, and his officials, to the meeting to discuss the 2023 Supplementary Estimates.

After a note on privilege the Minister was invited to give an opening statement.

On conclusion a discussion ensued with members.

*The meeting was suspended at 6.27 p.m. to allow members to vote in the Dáil chamber.*

*The meeting resumed in public at 7.28 p.m.*

On conclusion the witnesses were thanked for attending.

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7.54 p.m. until Wednesday 13th December 2023.



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach  
13th December 2023

**Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight**  
**Minutes of Meeting of 13th December 2023**

1. The Committee met in public session at 5.36 p.m. in Committee Room 4, a quorum being present.

2. **Members Present**

The following members were present:

Deputies: Aindrias Moynihan, Patricia Ryan, Bernard Durkan, Barry Cowen (Cathaoirleach), Ged Nash, Rose Conway-Walsh and Michael Healy-Rae.

Apologies were received from Deputy Matthews

*The committee went into private session at 5.36 p.m. to deal with some housekeeping matters.*

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.**

*In the absence of any other business the meeting went into public session at 5.44 p.m. after witnesses had been admitted.*

8. **Leas-Chathaoirleach Statement**

Deputy Ged Nash made the declaration as required under Standing Order 104(3A).

9. **Irish Fiscal Advisory Council**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed, from the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council, Professor Michael McMahon, Acting Chairperson, and Council members Mr Alessandro Giustiniani, Dr Adele Bergin, Ms Dawn Holland and Dr Eddie Casey, Chief Economist and Head of Secretariat.



After a note on privilege Professor McMahon was invited to give an opening statement.

On conclusion of the opening statement a discussion with Members ensued.

On conclusion the witnesses were thanked for taking part.

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6.43 p.m. until Wednesday 17th January 2024



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Barry Cowen, T.D.  
Cathaoirleach

17th January 2024