

Report of Tax Strategy Group Meeting on 24 October 2006

Minutes of the meeting on 10 October 2006 (TSG 06/20)

1. The minutes of the meeting of 10 October 2006 were agreed.

Housing Taxation Policy – Update (TSG 06/22)

2. A paper on Housing Taxation Policy was presented to the Group and a general discussion on the issues took place. Included in the issues were the importance of the housing market to the economy, the level of growth in the industry, house prices and social Housing. An appendix to the paper and a paper on House Price Affordability was distributed at the meeting. The Department of the Environment is to provide further statistics on the mean/median house prices.

Revenue Powers/Simplification Issues (TSG 06/21)

3. A paper on Revenue powers was presented to the Group. This examined the general area of these powers following on from the work of the Revenue Powers Group and in the light of events and views expressed since the Report was published in February 2004. It also looks at more recent issues that arise in a consideration of Revenue Powers and their current contextual background. The Group also discussed possible measures aimed at simplifying the administrative burden involved in claiming the most common tax reliefs and easing the burden on SMEs..

EU Issues – State Aids and Treaty Freedoms (TSG 06/23)

4. The Group was given an overview of court cases at EU level which involve State Aids, Treaty Freedoms and Infringements in which Ireland has a particular interest.

Long Term Tax Issues (TSG 06/24)

5. A paper dealing with Long Term Tax Issues was presented to the Group and a general discussion followed. The Group noted the projections indicating a substantial increase of people aged 65 and over in the coming decades.

Attendance list and Next Meeting

7. The attendance list for the meeting is attached. The next meeting is scheduled for 14 November 2006 at 10.30 am in the Department of Finance.

Rory O'Kelly

24 October 2006

TSG Attendance list of 10th October 2006

Department of Finance:

Donal McNally

Kevin Cardiff

Pat Murphy

Liam Murphy

Paddy Barry

Vincent Palmer

Michael McGrath

Gary Tobin

Finian Judge

John O'Connell

Karl Ryan

John Fitzpatrick

John Howlin

Ronan O'Reilly

Colin Hunt

Rory O' Kelly

Department of the Taoiseach:

Gerry Hickey

John Callinan

Revenue Commissioners:

Josephine Feehily

Eamon O'Dea

Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment:

Denise Mullins

Martin Shanagher

Office of the Tánaiste:

John O'Brien

Cormac Lucey

Office of the Attorney General

Caroline Daly

Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government

Máire O'Mahony

Maria Graham

Denis Conlon

Apologies

Marie O'Neill

Tom Mulherin