

Report of Tax Strategy Group Meeting on 28 September 2010

Minutes of the meeting on 14 September

(TSG 10/06)

1. The minutes of the meeting of the 14 September were agreed.

Income Tax and the Universal Social Charge

(TSG 10/07)

2. A discussion on income tax policy took place having regard to the economic and fiscal context as set out in TSG 10/02 - Economic Framework for the Budget. Topics discussed include the reforms and developments in recent years, minimum wage, average industrial wage, the distribution of income earners and the marginal rates. A discussion also took place on the Universal Social Charge.

PRSI Options

(TSG 10/08)

3. This paper was presented by the Department of Social Protection. The issues covered included the Social Insurance Fund and the possible reform of the PRSI system.

Taxation of Property

(TSG 10/09)

4. The Taxation of Property paper dealt with the taxation of immovable property. The paper explored a number of possible options for a property tax including the commitment for a Site Valuation tax in the Renewed Programme for Government and an Annual Residential Property Tax recommended by the Commission on Taxation. Stamp Duty was also discussed and the Group noted that Ireland is the only OECD member without an annual property tax.

Tax Administration

(TSG 10/10)

5. The Tax Administration paper reviewed the general area of Revenue Powers including recent initiatives which were aimed at simplifying the administrative burden in claiming reliefs, current initiatives including Mandatory Disclosure, Automatic Reporting by Financial Institutions and Government Bodies and the Extension of Mandatory E-Filing / Payments and Potential Issues for Budget /Finance Bill 2011.
6. The Chairman expressed the thanks of the Group to Dr. Vincent Palmer of the Department of Finance who is a long serving member of the Group and is due to retire this week.

Attendance list and Next Meeting

7. The attendance list for the meeting is attached.

8. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 5 October 2010, in Room 0.2, South Block, Government Buildings, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin 2.

Rory O'Kelly

30 September 2010

TSG Attendance list, 28 September 2010

Department of Finance:

Derek Moran

Cathy Herbert

Paul Ryan

Pat Murphy

Vincent Palmer

Ambrose Murray

Keith Hennessy

Denise Tully

Kevin Kirwan

John Day

Deirdre Aherne

Joan O'Shea

Liam Smith

Rory O'Kelly

Department of the Taoiseach:

Dónall Geoghegan

John Shaw

Joe Lennon

Revenue Commissioners:

Michael O'Grady

Eugene Creighton

Philip Brennan

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Innovation:

Deirdre McDonnell

Paul Kealy

Department of Social Protection:

Brian O'Raghallaigh

Denis Moynihan

Orlaigh Quinn

Pat McDonnell

Mary Kennedy

Pádraic Ó hUiginn

Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources:

Stephen O'Connor

Department of Health and Children:

Jim Breslin

Office of the Attorney General:

Caroline Daly

Apologies:

Jim O'Brien – Dept. of Finance

Brian Whitney – Dept. of Enterprise, Trade and Innovation

John McCarthy – Dept. of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government