

Report of Tax Strategy Group Meeting on 20 July 2011

Introduction to Tax Strategy Group

1. Ms. Ann Nolan (D/Finance, TSG Chairman) welcomed new members to the Group and outlined briefly its role and purpose, a summary note is attached.

TSG Rota 2011

(TSG 11/01)

2. The draft Rota was adopted by the Group.

Presentation on Property Tax Reliefs

3. Mr. Brendan O'Connor (D/Finance) made a brief presentation on Property Tax reliefs, their history and economic impact.

Any Other Business

4. None.

Attendance list and Next Meeting

5. The attendance list for the meeting is attached.
6. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 13 September 2011, in Room 0.2, South Block, Government Buildings, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin 2.

John Day

11 August 2011

TSG Attendance list, 20 July 2011

Department of Finance:

Ann Nolan (Chairman)
Derek Moran
Pat Murphy
Gary Tobin
Valerie Robinson
Brendan O'Connor
John Day

Department of Public Expenditure and Reform

Pat Leahy

Department of the Taoiseach

Paul O'Brien

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Tánaiste)

Mark Garrett

Revenue Commissioners:

Michael O'Grady

Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation

Paul Kealy
Martin Shanagher
Ciarán Conlon

Department of Social Protection

Denis Moynihan

Office of the Attorney General

Caroline Daly

Apologies:

Department of the Taoiseach:

Andrew McDowell

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Tánaiste)

Colm O'Reardon

Revenue Commissioners:

Eugene Creighton

Department of Social Protection:

Briain Ó Raghallaigh

Tax Strategy Group

The Tax Strategy Group (TSG) is an inter-Departmental Working Group chaired by the Department of Finance which was set up in 1993 with the purpose of examining tax issues in the run up to each year's Budget and Finance Bill. It was subsequently extended to cover Social Welfare issues, particularly in the context of the interaction between the tax and social welfare systems.

The membership comprises senior officials and advisors from the Departments of Finance, Taoiseach, Foreign Affairs and Trade (Tánaiste), Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Public Expenditure and Reform, Social Protection, the Office of the Attorney General and the Revenue Commissioners.

The terms of reference of the TSG are:

“To examine and develop proposals for measures in the areas of taxation, PRSI and levies, for the Budget and Finance Bill within agreed Government parameters for the overall Budget position and in the context of the framework of a medium-term and longer-term strategy set out in the Government's Programme and,

To examine the strategic approach for a general social welfare package and to assess the interaction of income tax/PRSI/levies with social welfare proposals including child income support, and in particular the impact of this interaction on the labour market and income distribution”.

The Group meets from early September to late November to consider Budget-related issues, with a number of meetings in December/January to consider Finance Bill items.

It is long standing policy that the papers presented to the Group are **strictly confidential** and kept under **lock and key** in a secure place at all times

Following the completion of the Budget and Finance Bill process, the TSG papers are put on the Department's website, with the approval of the Minister and subject to the normal FOI release conditions being applied.