



/ June 2016

Mr John Paul Phelan TD
Chairman
Committee on Arrangements for Budgetary Scrutiny
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Dear John Paul

Please find the Government's submission to the Select Committee on Arrangements for Budget Scrutiny attached for your attention. It outlines the Government's proposals regarding the reform of the budgetary process to ensure that all members of the Oireachtas have the opportunity to examine, debate and make recommendations to Government on budgetary priorities

The Programme for Government sets out the Government's objective to work in close partnership with the Oireachtas. The reforms the Government are proposing for the budgetary process are a major innovation in empowering the Dáil to influence and critique budget allocations and priorities, making budgetary debate and discussion in Ireland more realistic, informed and effective.

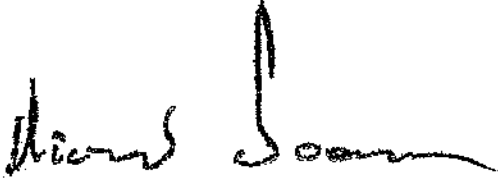
The proposed reforms are outlined in detail in the enclosed Submission, and include:

- The publication of the Government's Summer Economic Statement in June;
- Holding the National Economic Dialogue at the end of June;
- The publication of a Mid-Year Expenditure Report in July;
- Circulation of the Tax Strategy Papers to the relevant sectoral Oireachtas Committees in late July, and;
- Enhanced ex post scrutiny of the implementation of budget proposals.

As part of the engagement with the Houses of the Oireachtas on this issue, we are available to appear before the Committee on Arrangements for Budgetary Scrutiny to discuss the proposals, if this would be of assistance to the Committee.

It is our shared belief that this approach will lead to a transparent, inclusive and effective budgetary process that sees the Government and the Dáil working together to secure the country's economic and social future.

Yours sincerely



MICHAEL NOONAN T.D.
MINISTER FOR FINANCE



PASCHAL DONOHOE T.D.
MINISTER FOR PUBLIC
EXPENDITURE AND REFORM