



1st February 2012

Mr. Ted McEnery
Clerk to the Committee
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Dear Mr. McEnery,

I refer to your letter of 18th January last regarding examination of the activities of the Implementation Body for the Public Service Agreement.

The Implementation Body was established under the *Public Service Agreement 2010 – 2014* to, *inter alia*, drive implementation of the Agreement and its sectoral components, to monitor and oversee progress and to deal with implementation issues that arise. Accordingly, as a component of a voluntary industrial relations agreement, it is my view that the Implementation Body is not accountable to the Committee of Public Accounts in a formal sense.

The Body will shortly commence work on the second annual review of the Public Service Agreement. Arising from this review an Annual Progress Report will be finalised by the Body and forwarded to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform by late May/early June. We will arrange for copies of the Report to be sent to Oireachtas members following its consideration by the Minister and Government.

However, having considered the Body's Report, should the Committee feel that it would be helpful to receive a briefing on it, my understanding is that the independent Chair, Mr. P.J. Fitzpatrick, is agreeable to doing so at that juncture.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Watt
Secretary General