

**IMPLEMENTATION
BODY**

17th, 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 15th February last to Mr. Robert Watt, Secretary General of the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform, which he has referred to me, regarding the Committee of Public Accounts request for a briefing on the work of the Implementation Body and on the progress to date in implementing the *Public Service Agreement 2010 – 2014*.

I am very happy to provide the Committee with such a briefing. I had thought that it might be more useful to the Committee to provide such a briefing on the conclusion of the forthcoming review of the Agreement but I am very happy to provide an earlier briefing as requested.

Unfortunately I have a family commitment on the 1st March and would very much appreciate if the Committee could accommodate me with an alternative date. I will ask the Secretary to the Body, Mr. Colin Menton, to contact you directly with a view to setting an alternative date.

As the Committee are aware, Accounting Officers are answerable for the efficiencies delivered through the application of the Agreement. For its part, the Implementation Body has also called for more urgency and ambition around the implementation of the change and reform agenda under the Agreement and the delivery of savings and efficiencies. This has been echoed and endorsed by the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform which, as you know, is leading the reform and modernisation agenda.

As the Implementation Body is a non-statutory body and a component of an industrial relations agreement, its primary mandate is to monitor the efficiencies, reforms and savings which have to be delivered by management across the entire public service, with the co-operation of staff interests, and to report to Government on the progress being achieved. I am happy to be given the opportunity to perform a similar service to the Members of the Committee.

Yours sincerely,


P.J. Fitzpatrick
Chair