



Minutes

Subject: Minutes of Nineteenth Meeting of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare

Date: 11 March 2022

Time: 09:25 – 13:00

Venue: WebEx video conference and NECC.

In attendance:

Commission Members: Professor Niamh Moloney (Chair), Marie Bradley, Philip Brennan, Sandra Clarke*, Rowena Dwyer, Philip Kermode, Dr. Aoife Ní Lochlainn, Rena Maycock, John-Mark McCafferty*, Dr. Tom McDonnell, Fergal O'Brien, Dr. Barra Roantree* and Anne Vaughan.

Secretariat: Colm O'Reardon*, Gary Hynds, Sinéad Ryan, Liam Cunnane, Hugh Cronin, Paul Dockery, Anne Marie Doherty*, Aideen Foley*, Lara Mullen, Deirdre Ní Alluráin*, Colin O'Connor*, Lynda O'Keeffe*, Mairéad Ross and Oisín Tarrant*.

*attended via WebEx

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair opened the meeting and briefly outlined the agenda.

The Chair thanked Commission members and the Secretariat for their participation and support in organising the stakeholder events held the previous week. The success of the events and the importance of stakeholder input into the work of the Commission was acknowledged.

2. Minutes

The minutes of meeting 18 (25 February) were approved without amendment.

3. Children and families

A Secretariat paper, "*Children and families in the tax and welfare systems*", was shared with the Members in advance of the meeting.

Members discussed the range of issues presented in the paper and there was a broad agreement to move forward with the majority subject to some clarification.

4. Personal taxes

A Secretariat paper, "*Personal Taxes*", formed the basis of discussion for the meeting.

Members examined areas of consensus with regards to potential reforms to the income tax, USC and PRSI systems and also identified matters where further discussion was required. The potential Exchequer cost or yield, behavioural changes, equity and distributional impacts of different reforms informed this debate.

5. Capital taxes subgroup update

Rowena Dwyer gave a brief update that the capital taxes subgroup has held three meetings to date to discuss the taxation of capital and potential reforms. The need for fiscal sustainability and promoting horizontal equity are principles guiding their work. The subgroup hopes to present its recommendations at the next meeting of the COTW.

6. Report structure overview

The Secretary presented an overview of the proposed structure of the report noting that many of the topics have already been considered by the Members.

7. AOB

Meeting closed at 13.00

Specific Action Points

Colour Code:

Completed

In progress

Ongoing/Repeated Action

Not Started

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ID	Action	Lead	Deadline	Status
Ref#	Brief summary of action point	Secretariat, Chair with Secretariat, DFIN, Other	Meeting X, May- 21, Other	Completed, In progress, Not started, Other
COTW01	Commission Membership to return signed principles and procedures document	Commission	18 June 2021	In progress
COTW02	Decision Time training session	Commission	9 June 2021	Completed
COTW03	Issue papers for meeting 2.	Secretariat	9 June 2021 (with Chair) 11 June 2021 (with Commission)	Completed
COTW04	Devise detailed project plan	Secretariat	N/A (On-going)	In progress
COTW05	Respond to follow up requests from meeting 2	Secretariat	25 June 2021	Completed
COTW06	Circulate Minister Heather Humphrey's speech to Commission members	Secretariat	23 July 2021	Completed
COTW07	Draft outline of public consultation and circulate same to Secretariat	Secretariat	3 September 2021	Completed

ID	Action	Lead	Deadline	Status
COTW08	Prepare paper on high level design principles of a taxation and welfare system	Secretariat	10 September 2021	Completed
COTW09	Gather feedback from members on consultation questions	Secretariat	10 September 2021	Completed
COTW10	Finalise public consultation structure and questions	Secretariat	24 September 2021	Completed
COTW11	Prepare follow-up briefing note on tax levers for public health	Secretariat	14 January 2022	Completed
COTW12	Draft paper on Commission approach to review of tax expenditures	Secretariat	8 October 2021	Completed
COTW13	Prepare briefing on tax expenditure review process and draft recommendations for reform	Secretariat	26 November 2021	Completed
COTW14	Update to high level design principles paper on foot of feedback from Commission	Secretariat	8 October 2021	In progress
COTW15	Prepare follow up briefing notes on options regarding changes to the social insurance system	Secretariat	17 December 2021	Completed
COTW16	Prepare Property Tax workshop for meeting on 26 th November	Secretariat	26 November 2021	Completed
COTW17	Prepare follow-up paper on environment, including alternative sources of revenue	Secretariat	February 2022	Completed
COTW18	Discussion paper on Site Value Tax/Commercial Rates reflecting workshop output.	Secretariat	February 2022	Completed
COTW19	Consider proposal and draft TOR for establishment of a Capital Taxes sub-group	Secretariat	17 December 2021	Completed

ID	Action	Lead	Deadline	Status
COTW20	Prepare follow-up paper on treatment of children and dependents, across tax and welfare systems	Secretariat	March 2022	In progress
COTW21	Finalise response to Pensions Commission output	Secretariat	February 2022	Completed
COTW22	Organise public stakeholder events	Secretariat	March 2022	Completed
COTW23	Prepare and deliver presentation on proposed report structure	Secretariat	March 2022	Completed
COTW24	Prepare follow-up paper on the taxation of investment income	Secretariat	March 2022	In progress
COTW25	Prepare follow up paper on the topic of capital taxes	Secretariat	March 2022	In progress