

**Audit Board Minutes**  
**Date: 4 July 2025**  
**Location: Mayor Street**

In attendance: Seamus McCarthy, C&AG (Chair)  
Colette Drinan, Secretary and Director of Audit  
Andy Harkness, Director of Audit  
Deirdre Quaid, Director of Audit  
Mitchell McIntyre, Deputy Director, secretary to the Audit Board

**1. Agreement of agenda**

The draft agenda was agreed.

**2. Noting of any conflicts of interest**

No conflicts of interest were reported in relation to the items scheduled for discussion at the meeting.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting, matters arising and action list**

The minutes of the meeting of 4 April 2025 were agreed and approved for publication on the Office intranet and website.

The action list was reviewed and discussed.

- The Board noted progress made on the project to complete quality review of all legislative summaries prepared for the legislative summary database. The Board will receive another update at its October meeting.
- The Board noted that additional comparative years are included in the financial audit programme paper for this meeting. This action point was closed.

**4. Emerging risks**

The Board noted that the 25<sup>th</sup> INTOSAI Congress will be hosted by Egypt in the city of Sharm El Sheikh in October 2025. The Office will finalise the delegation it sends to the event based on the security situation closer to the event.

**5. Financial audit programme (paper A)**

The Board noted the paper which reported progress to date on the Office's three financial audit KPI targets for 2025. The paper also noted that all four 2023 y/e audits that were not certified at the end of 2024 had been certified by 30 June 2025.

The Board requested a note be added to the paper explaining the increase in the percentage of accounts, measured by turnover, certified in 2025.

**6. Performance audit update (paper B)**

The Board noted the status of ongoing special reports. The Director of Performance Audit gave a high-level overview of the status of chapters for the Report on the accounts of the public services 2024. The Board also discussed preliminary findings from appropriation account audits

one of which may require a chapter and three that may require reporting as paragraphs in the Vote Accounting and Budgeting chapter.

## **7. New/final audits (paper C)**

The Board noted the paper and agreed the changes presented.

The audits of the final accounts of the following bodies have been completed, and they are therefore removed from the tables.

- Ireland Apple Escrow Fund
- National Asset JVA DAC
- National Asset Management Agency Investment DAC
- National Asset Management DAC
- National Asset Management Group Services DAC

The Board agreed that a legislative summary needs to be prepared before an entity is removed from the list of new audits. It was requested that a procedure be prepared regarding the preparation of legislative summaries.

## **8. Quarterly Oireachtas update (paper D)**

The Board noted this paper.

## **9. Disclosures log (paper E)**

The Board noted the paper, which sets out summary details of disclosure cases that are currently open and those that have been closed since the last meeting.

The Board noted that to close and remove a disclosure from the list the C&AG must be provided a memo explaining the issue disclosed, the actions taken, the findings and their implication and a conclusion on whether to close the disclosure.

## **10. Proposed 2025 year-end audits for EQR (paper F)**

The Board approved the 2025 account year-end audits proposed for EQR as presented in the paper.

The approved list will be saved to the management information drive and the EQRs assigned.

The Board requested a review of the process to select audits for EQR be brought to the December 2025 meeting. The review should focus on the integration of the risk model into the selection process and to be more specific as to the reason each audit is selected.

The Board also requested that the planning stage EQR require a review of the entity's audit risk categorisation including the rating given. Audit teams should set a target date for the planning stage EQR to ensure timely completion.

## **11. Strategy implementation progress report (paper G)**

The Board noted the paper and welcomes the progress the Office is making in completing the strategy actions underpinning the Office Statement of Strategy 2021-2025.

The Board also discussed progress on the preparation of the 2026-2030 strategic plan.

## **12. Draft Office Performance Report 2024 (paper H)**

The Board noted the report and provided a few minor amendments. The Board also requested the team confirm the calculation of the gender pay gap average hourly rate and to provide an explanation for the pay gap in the report.

## **13. Annual review of system of quality management 2024 (papers I and I.1)**

The Board noted the Annual review of the system of quality management 2024.

The Board requested several revisions to the statement of effectiveness and requested a revised version be presented at the December 2025 meeting.

## **14. Any other business**

The Board discussed the preliminary agenda for the annual office conference scheduled for 6 and 7 November 2025.

The next Audit Board meeting is scheduled for Friday 10 October 2025.