

Press Release – correction to Comptroller and Auditor General’s evidence to the Public Accounts Committee on 11 May 2017

At the afternoon session of the Public Accounts Committee, the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) has corrected the record of Dáil Éireann on an issue that arose at the morning session of the Committee in relation to Vote 20 An Garda Síochána. This is the text of the statement.

“With the Committee’s indulgence, I want to correct the record in relation to an issue that came up this morning.

It has come to my attention since the earlier session that I gave incorrect information to the Committee about the revision of the Statement on Internal Financial Control for Vote 20.

I said that we raised the requirement for the revision with An Garda Síochána, and that is correct.

I asked that this be done when I carried out my detailed review of the audit on 5 September 2016.

An Garda Síochána provided wording for the adjustment on 13 September, along with the Internal Audit Report summary, and we agreed to the wording.

The Accounting Officer signed the revised SIFC on 16 September 2016, and I reviewed it on 23 September 2016.

We should have changed the date on the SIFC as published, and on the audit certificate. I should have picked up on this and I apologise for that oversight.

The circumstances were exceptional. We will of course be reviewing our finalisation process for appropriation account audits.”

Note for Editors

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The Comptroller and Auditor General is an independent constitutional officer with responsibility for the audit of public funds. Under section 3(11) of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993 he is required upon completion of his audit of the appropriation accounts of government departments and offices to present to Dáil Éireann a copy of each such account together with his certificate thereon.