

Appropriation Account 2022

Vote 7

Office of the Minister for Finance

Introduction

As Accounting Officer for Vote 7, I am required each year to prepare the appropriation account for the Vote, and to submit the account to the Comptroller and Auditor General for audit.

In accordance with this requirement, I have prepared the attached account of the amount expended in the year ended 31 December 2022 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of the Minister for Finance, including the Paymaster-General's Office, for certain services administered by the Office of the Minister and for payment of certain grants.

The expenditure outturn is compared with the sums granted by Dáil Éireann under the Appropriation Act 2022, including the amount that could be used as appropriations-in-aid of expenditure for the year.

A surplus of €3.448 million is liable for surrender to the Exchequer.

The Statement of Accounting Policies and Principles and notes 1 to 6 form part of the account.

Statement of Accounting Policies and Principles

The standard accounting policies and principles for the production of appropriation accounts, as set out by the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform in circular 22 of 2022, have been applied in the preparation of the account, with the following exceptions.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated and charged on a monthly basis from the month of acquisition until the month of disposal.

Statement on Internal Financial Control

Responsibility for system of internal financial control

As Accounting Officer, I acknowledge my responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated by the Department.

This responsibility is exercised in the context of the resources available to me and my other obligations as Secretary General. Also, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely manner. Maintaining the system of internal financial controls is a continuous process and the system and its effectiveness are kept under ongoing review.

Shared services

Payroll, finance and human resource functions are provided on a shared services basis by the National Shared Services Office (Vote 18). I have fulfilled my responsibilities in relation to the requirements of the service management agreement between this Department and the National Shared Services Office for the provision of HR, finance and payroll shared services.

The Accounting Officer of the National Shared Services Office is responsible for the operation of controls within the Shared Services Centres.

The Accounting Officer of the National Shared Services Office has put in place an audit process to provide independent assurance on the operation of controls within shared services. This assurance is a combination of

- internal audit work performed by the National Shared Services Office's internal audit unit in respect of payroll and HR, and
- audits conducted by a firm of accountants in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE 3402), designed to report to user departments and their auditors on the controls within shared services. These audits report on the design of controls in respect of finance, and on the effectiveness of controls in respect of payroll and HR operated in 2022.

In April 2022, the National Shared Services Office Financial Shared Services (FSS) system went live for eight client bodies, including this Vote. FSS replaced the existing financial system in use in the Department and this meant that there were two separate accounting systems in place during the 2022 accounting year. As with any new large scale cross-organisational financial system, there were some challenges with the roll-out. In the context of preparing this account, this has required additional manual checks by the Department to ensure the figures being reported are accurate. The Department continues to work with the National Shared Services Office to seek to address these challenges.

The Accounting Officer for the National Shared Services Office has provided me with a letter of assurance on the internal control and audit arrangements and reports on the audits of the operation of controls during 2022. I take assurance from the system of control within shared services as reported to me by the Accounting Officer for the National Shared Services Office.

Financial control environment

I confirm that a control environment containing the following elements is in place.

- Financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability.
- Reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned.
- Formal procedures have been established for reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action.
- There is an Audit Committee to advise me in discharging my responsibilities for the internal financial control system.
- Procedures for all key business processes have been documented.
- There are systems in place to safeguard the assets.

Administrative controls and management reporting

I confirm that a framework of administrative procedures and regular management reporting is in place, including segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability and, in particular, that

- there is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual budget which is kept under review by senior management
- there are regular reviews by senior management of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts
- a risk management system operates within the Department
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the ICT systems
- there are appropriate capital investment control guidelines and formal project management disciplines
- the Department ensures that there is an appropriate focus on good practice in purchasing and that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with all relevant guidelines.

Internal audit and Audit Committee

The Department uses the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform internal audit function under the terms of the service level agreement between the two Departments. The internal audit unit operates under a written charter which has been approved by the Secretary General of the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform. Its work is informed by analysis of the financial risks to which the Department of Finance is exposed and its annual internal audit plans (which are prepared in consultation with the Audit Committee and approved by me), are based on this analysis. These plans aim to cover the key controls on a rolling basis over a reasonable period. The internal audit function is reviewed periodically by me and by the Audit Committee. I have put procedures in place to ensure that the reports of the internal audit function are followed up.

Procurement

The Department ensures that there is an appropriate focus on good practice in purchasing and that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with all relevant guidelines.

The Department has provided details of five non-competitive contracts in the annual return in respect of circular 40/2002 to the Comptroller and Auditor General and the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform.

The Department complied with the guidelines in respect of all contracts in 2022 and this has been reflected in the 40/2002 annual return referenced under procurement above.

Risk and control framework

The Department has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks.

A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks facing the Department and these have been identified, evaluated and graded according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated by the Executive Board on a quarterly basis. The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level.

The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibility for operation of controls assigned to specific staff.

Ongoing monitoring and review

Formal procedures have been established for monitoring control processes so that control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action, to management and the Executive Board, where relevant, in a timely way. I confirm that key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies.

Review of effectiveness

I confirm that the Department has procedures to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures. The Department's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors and the senior management within the Department responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal financial control framework.

Internal financial control issues

No weaknesses in internal financial control were identified in relation to 2022 that require disclosure in the appropriation account.

John Hogan
Accounting Officer
Office of the Minister for Finance

28 March 2023

Comptroller and Auditor General

Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

Vote 7 Office of the Minister for Finance

Opinion on the appropriation account

I have audited the appropriation account for Vote 7 Office of the Minister for Finance for the year ended 31 December 2022 under section 3 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993.

In my opinion, the appropriation account

- properly presents the receipts and expenditure of Vote 7 Office of the Minister for Finance for the year ended 31 December 2022, and
- has been prepared in the form prescribed by the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform.

Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit of the appropriation account in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as promulgated by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. My responsibilities under those standards are described in the appendix to this report. I am independent of the Office of the Minister for Finance and have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the standards.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Report on the statement on internal financial control, and on other matters

The Accounting Officer has presented a statement on internal financial control together with the appropriation account. My responsibilities to report in relation to the information in the statement, and on certain other matters upon which I report by exception, are described in the appendix to this report.

I have nothing to report in that regard.

Seamus McCarthy

Comptroller and Auditor General

11 September 2023

Appendix to the report

Responsibilities of the Accounting Officer

The Accounting Officer is responsible for

- the preparation of the appropriation account in accordance with Section 22 of the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1866
- ensuring the appropriation account complies with the requirements of the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform's *Public Financial Procedures*, and with other directions of the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform
- ensuring the regularity of transactions, and
- implementing such internal control as the Accounting Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the appropriation account free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I am required under section 3 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993 to audit the appropriation account and to report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas stating whether, in my opinion, the account properly presents the receipts and expenditure related to the vote.

My objective in carrying out the audit is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the appropriation account is free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the appropriation account.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. In doing so,

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the appropriation account whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- I assess whether the accounting provisions of the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform's *Public Financial Procedures* have been complied with.

I communicate with the Accounting Officer regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I report by exception if, in my opinion,

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- the accounting records were not sufficient to permit the appropriation account to be readily and properly audited, or
- the appropriation account is not in agreement with the accounting records.

Reporting on the statement on internal financial control

My opinion on the appropriation account does not cover the Accounting Officer's statement on internal financial control, and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the appropriation account, I am required under the ISAs to read the statement on internal financial control and, in doing so, consider whether the information contained therein is materially inconsistent with the appropriation account or with knowledge obtained during the audit, or if it otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement, I am required to report that fact.

Reporting on other matters

I seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit. I am required to report under section 3 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993 if I identify any material instance where public money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them.

I am also required under the 1993 Act to prepare, in each year, a report on such matters arising from my audits of the appropriation accounts as I consider appropriate. In such cases, the audit reports on the relevant appropriation accounts refer to the relevant chapter(s) in my annual *Report on the Accounts of the Public Services*.

Vote 7 Office of the Minister for Finance

Appropriation Account 2022

	2022		2021
	Estimate provision	Outturn	Outturn
	€000	€000	€000
Programme expenditure			
A Economic and fiscal policy	28,202	24,985	24,014
B Banking and financial services policy	15,778	15,405	12,364
Gross expenditure	43,980	40,390	36,378
<i>Deduct</i>			
C Appropriations-in-aid	1,080	1,038	1,151
Net expenditure	42,900	39,352	35,227

Surplus

The surplus of the amount provided over the net amount applied is liable for surrender to the Exchequer. Under section 91 of the Finance Act 2004, all or part of any unspent appropriations for capital supply services may be carried over for spending in the following year. €100,000 of unspent allocations in respect of the capital elements of subheads A.2 and B.2 were carried forward to 2022.

	2022	2021
	€	€
Surplus to be surrendered	3,548,171	4,283,596
Deferred surrender	(100,000)	—
Surplus to be surrendered	3,448,171	4,283,596

John Hogan

Accounting Officer
Office of the Minister for Finance

28 March 2023

Notes to the Appropriation Account

Note 1 Operating Cost Statement 2022

	2022	2021
	€000	€000
Programme cost	11,676	9,925
Pay	22,640	22,144
Non pay	6,074	4,309
Gross expenditure	40,390	36,378
<i>Deduct</i>		
Appropriations-in-aid	1,038	1,151
Net expenditure	39,352	35,227
Changes in capital assets		
Purchases cash	(241)	
Depreciation	6	15
Changes in net current assets		
Increase in closing accruals	438	
Decrease in inventories	23	(28)
Direct expenditure	39,578	35,214
Expenditure borne elsewhere		
Net allied services expenditure (note 1.1)	14,694	14,418
Notional rents	1,236	1,236
Net programme cost	55,508	50,868

1.1 Net allied services expenditure

The net allied services expenditure amount is made up of the following amounts in relation to Vote 7 borne elsewhere, net of costs of shared services provided to other votes.

		2022	2021
		€000	€000
Vote 12	Superannuation and Retired Allowances	14,213	14,079
Vote 13	Office of Public Works	946	974
Vote 18	National Shared Services Office	246	35
Vote 20	Garda Síochána	232	—
Vote 43	Office of Government Chief Information Officer	420	435
Central Fund - ministerial pensions		267	256
		<u>16,324</u>	<u>15,779</u>
Costs of shared services provided to other votes		<u>(1,630)</u>	<u>(1,361)</u>
		<u>14,694</u>	<u>14,418</u>

Note 2 Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 €000	2021 €000
Capital assets	2.1	241	6
Current assets			
Bank and cash		760	1,194
Inventories	2.2	—	23
Prepayments	2.3	336	387
Other debit balances	2.4	271	125
Total current assets		1,367	1,729
Less current liabilities			
Accrued expenses	2.5	751	364
Other credit balances	2.6	787	857
Net Exchequer funding	2.7	244	462
Total current liabilities		1,782	1,683
Net current assets/(liabilities)		(415)	46
Net assets		(174)	52
Represented by:			
State funding account	2.8	(174)	52

2.1 Capital assets

	IT equipment €000	Office equipment €000	Assets under development €000	Total €000
Gross assets (cost or valuation)				
At 1 January 2022	222	223	—	445
Additions ^a	—	—	241	241
At 31 December 2022	222	223	241	686
Accumulated depreciation				
At 1 January 2022	216	223	—	439
Depreciation for the year	6	—	—	6
At 31 December 2022	222	223	—	445
Net assets at 31 December 2022	—	—	241	241
Net assets at 31 December 2021	6	—	—	6

Note ^a Costs associated with the beneficial ownership register of interests.

2.2 Inventories ^a

at 31 December	2022 €000	2021 €000
Stationery	—	15
IT consumables	—	8
	—	23

Note ^a Commencing in 2022, high-volume, low-value items are fully expensed in the year, and are no longer classified as stock items.

2.3 Prepayments

at 31 December	2022 €000	2021 €000
IT licences and support	260	238
Training	34	70
Subscriptions	39	42
Other prepayments	3	37
	336	387

2.4 Other debit balances

at 31 December	2022	2021
	€000	€000
Recoupable travel expenditure	26	5
Recoupable travel pass expenditure	15	20
Recoupable salaries	72	—
Other debit suspense items	158	100
	271	125

2.5 Accrued expenses

at 31 December	2022	2021
	€000	€000
Secondment costs	600	190
Office premises expenses	34	109
General administration	52	34
Consultancy and other services	65	31
	751	364

2.6 Other credit balances

at 31 December	2022	2021
	€000	€000
Amounts due to the State		
Income tax	324	316
Pay related social insurance	205	199
Professional services withholding tax	13	1
Value added tax	40	38
Pension contributions	71	71
Local property tax	1	1
Universal social charge	65	63
	719	689
Payroll deductions held in suspense	68	69
Recoupable salaries	—	95
Other credit suspense items	—	4
	787	857

2.7 Net Exchequer funding

at 31 December	2022	2021
	€000	€000
Surplus to be surrendered	3,448	4,284
Deferred surrender	100	—
Exchequer grant undrawn	(3,304)	(3,822)
Net Exchequer funding	244	462
Represented by:		
Debtors		
Bank and cash	760	1,194
Debit balances: suspense	271	125
	1,031	1,319
Creditors		
Due to the State	(719)	(689)
Credit balances: suspense	(68)	(168)
	(787)	(857)
	244	462

2.8 State funding account

	Note	2022	2021
		€000	€000
Balance at 1 January		52	39
Disbursements from the Vote			
Estimate provision	Account	42,900	
Deferred surrender	Account	(100)	
Surplus to be surrendered	Account	<u>(3,448)</u>	
Net vote		39,352	35,227
Expenditure (cash) borne elsewhere	1.1	14,694	14,418
Non cash expenditure – notional rent	1	1,236	1,236
Net programme cost	1	<u>(55,508)</u>	<u>(50,868)</u>
Balance at 31 December		<u>(174)</u>	<u>52</u>

2.9 Matured liabilities

	2022	2021
	€000	€000
at 31 December		
Estimate of matured liabilities not discharged at year end	2	2

2.10 Contingent liabilities

There is litigation in progress regarding Irish Bank Resolution Corporation (IBRC) and Permanent TSB. These actions are being defended and no estimate of the potential liability has been made.

Certain third party protections (in the form of warranties and indemnities) have been provided in connection with the sale of Irish Life Limited, the disposal of the Bank of Ireland contingent capital notes, the disposal of shares in Bank of Ireland and AIB, and the liquidation of IBRC.

These do not represent a complete list of litigation or third party protections. These particular items have been included as at the time they were instigated or provided they were of particular significance to the Minister and the State.

Note 3 Vote Expenditure

Analysis of administration expenditure

Administration expenditure set out below has been apportioned across the programmes, to present complete programme costings.

		2022		2021
		Estimate provision	Outturn	Outturn
		€000	€000	€000
i	Salaries, wages and allowances	23,771	22,640	22,144
ii	Travel and subsistence	894	557	150
iii	Training and development	564	306	516
iv	Professional, consultancy and other services	—	13	25
v	Operating expenses	2,556	3,493	2,454
vi	Premises and accommodation expenses	1,081	598	647
vii	Communication expenses	309	258	322
viii	Asset and equipment expenses	340	849	195
		29,515	28,714	26,453

Note Changes were made to the administration subheads to facilitate the new single cross Government chart of accounts for all Votes. Eight votes, including this vote, moved to the new chart of accounts in 2022. The figures for 2021 have been re-analysed to align with the new subheads.

Significant variations

The following outlines the reasons for significant variations (+/- 25% and €100,000).

ii Travel and subsistence

Estimate provision €894,000; outturn €557,000

While there was a return to in-person meetings in 2022, the number of meetings held virtually rather than in person was greater than anticipated.

iii Training and development

Estimate provision €564,000; outturn €306,000

The underspend was due to lower take up than anticipated on some courses and on the Refund of Fees Scheme. In addition, some course costs have been reduced with the move to virtual delivery methods. There has been an increased take up in programmes provided by OneLearning, which as a shared service training provider across the civil service has been able to generate savings in cost per head for courses.

v Operating expenses

Estimate provision €2.556 million; outturn €3.493 million

Negative interest charges for the Surplus Public Expenditure Monies (SPEM) account are a charge on Vote 7. The charge for 2022 was higher than had been anticipated.

vi Premises and accommodation expenses

Estimate provision €1.081 million; outturn €598,000

The underspend on this subhead largely relates to difficulties in scheduling planned capital works.

viii Asset and equipment expenses

Estimate provision of €340,000; outturn €849,000

The overspend on this subhead was largely due to development of a piece of software that was not included in the estimate under this subhead.

Programme A Economic and Fiscal Policy

		2022		2021
		Estimate provision	Outturn	Outturn
		€000	€000	€000
A.1	Administration – pay	12,451	10,258	11,976
A.2	Administration – non pay	3,266	4,242	3,135
A.3	Committee and commissions	705	215	426
A.4	Consultancy services and other services	780	512	268
A.5	Fuel grant	11,000	9,758	8,209
		28,202	24,985	24,014

Significant variations

The following outlines the reasons for significant variations in programme expenditure (+/- 5% and €100,000). Overall, the expenditure in relation to Programme A was €3.217 million lower than provided. An underspend of €1.217 million which relates to administration expenditure has already been explained. The remaining underspend on this programme of €2 million was mainly due to the following.

A.3 Committee and commissions

Estimate provision €705,000; outturn €215,000

The estimate on this subhead was provided to cover the work of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare (COTW) (estimate of €335,000, outturn of €128,000) and the Disabled Drivers Medical Board of Appeal (DDMBA) (estimate of €370,000, outturn of €87,000).

The DDMBA underspend arose due to the resignation of all members of the Board and subsequent suspension of the appeals process since end November 2021. The COTW underspend arose because, due to high levels of COVID infection, a number of stakeholder events which had been planned to take place in person were switched to an online format. The Commission also concluded its work earlier than budgeted for.

A.4 Consultancy services and other services

Estimate provision €780,000; outturn €512,000

Due to the nature of this subhead, the work programme cannot be predicted with certainty and budgets must be set at a prudent level to allow the units to address issues as they arise.

A.5 Fuel grant

Estimate provision €11 million; outturn €9.758 million

An estimate of €11 million was provided for the fuel grant under the Disabled Drivers and Passengers (Tax Concessions) Scheme. The grant is paid in respect of fuel used in the previous 12 months but claims can be made for use in any of the previous four years. Spend on the fuel grant is dependent on a number of factors such that there will be some variance between actual versus estimated spend.

Programme B Banking and Financial Services Policy

		2022		2021
		Estimate provision	Outturn	Outturn
		€000	€000	€000
B.1	Administration – pay	11,320	12,381	10,168
B.2	Administration – non pay	2,478	1,832	1,175
B.3	Committees and commissions	35	25	16
B.4	Consultancy and other services	1,454	676	438
B.5	Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman	491	491	567
		15,778	15,405	12,364

Significant variations

The following outlines the reasons for significant variations in programme expenditures (+/- 5% and €100,000). Overall, the expenditure in relation to Programme B was €373,000 lower than originally provided. There was an overspend of €415,000 which related to administration expenditure and has already been explained, and the balance of the variance of €788,000 was mainly due to the following.

B.4 Consultancy and other services

Estimate provision €1.454 million; outturn €676,000

Due to the nature of this subhead, the work programme cannot be predicted with certainty and budgets must be set at a prudent level to allow the units to address issues as they arise.

Note 4 Receipts

4.1 Appropriations-in-aid

		2022		2021
		Estimated	Realised	Realised
		€000	€000	€000
1	Recoupment of expenses under bank guarantee scheme	150	49	240
2	Receipts from additional superannuation contributions on public service remuneration	780	753	732
3	Miscellaneous	150	236	179
Total		1,080	1,038	1,151

Significant variations

The following outlines the reasons for significant variations in appropriations-in-aid (+/- 5% and €100,000). Overall, appropriations-in-aid were €42,000 less than the estimate as forecast.

1 Recoupment of expenses under bank guarantee scheme

Estimate €150,000; realised €49,000

In 2021, the Department moved to a dedicated suspense account for banking sector recoupments. The receipts relate to prior years.

4.2 Extra receipts payable to the Exchequer

	2022	2021
	€000	€000
Balance at 1 January	—	—
Collected	—	1
Transferred to the Exchequer	—	(1)
Balance at 31 December	—	—

Note 5 Staffing and Remuneration

5.1 Employee numbers

Full time equivalents	2022	2021
Number of staff at year end	<u>313</u>	<u>324</u>

5.2 Pay

	2022	2021
	€000	€000
Pay	20,041	19,246
Higher, special or additional duties allowances	167	167
Other allowances	490	899
Overtime	159	128
Employer's PRSI	1,783	1,704
Total pay	<u>22,640</u>	<u>22,144</u>

5.3 Allowances and overtime payments

	Number of recipients	Recipients of €10,000 or more	Highest individual payment	
			2022	2021
			€	€
Higher, special or additional duties allowances	17	6	31,728	25,707
Other allowances	103	5	50,717	7,096
Overtime	60	6	22,470	17,245
Extra remuneration in more than one category	11	7	26,602	20,704

5.4 Department staffing by pay band

The number of Department employees whose total employee benefits (including basic pay, allowances, overtime; excluding employer PRSI, employer pension costs) for the financial year fell between €20,000 and €59,999 and within each band of €10,000 from €60,000 upwards are as follows.

Pay band (€)		Number of employees	
From	To	2022	2021
20,000	59,999	194	209
60,000	69,999	16	20
70,000	79,999	18	23
80,000	89,999	35	32
90,000	99,999	21	21
100,000	109,999	13	8
110,000	119,999	10	13
120,000	129,999	9	1
130,000	139,999	2	1
140,000	149,999	—	1
150,000	159,999	—	4
160,000	169,999	3	1
170,000	179,999	1	—
180,000	189,999	—	1
190,000	199,999	2	—
200,000	209,999	—	—
210,000	219,999	—	—
220,000	229,999	1	—

5.5 Other remuneration arrangements

This account includes expenditure of €443,712 in respect of five officers who were serving outside the Department for all or part of 2022 and whose salaries were paid by the Department.

5.6 Payroll overpayments

at 31 December	Number of recipients	2022 €	2021 €
Overpayments	19	18,060	30,917
Recovery plans in place	9	9,266	5,418

5.7 Severance/redundancy

During 2022, two staff members whose employment was terminated, received redundancy payments of €7,308 and severance payments of €23,018. No early payment of pension, additional added years of notional service, or any other enhancement to the accrued pension terms have been granted.

5.8 Remuneration and benefits of Accounting Officer

The Accounting Officer's remuneration and taxable benefits for the financial year was as follows.

	2022	2021
	€000	€000
Basic pay		
Derek Moran – retired 14 July 2021	—	117
John Hogan – appointed 8 June 2021	225	116
	225	233

The value of retirement benefits earned in the period is not included above.

All of the individuals referenced above are members of the pre-1995 superannuation scheme for established civil servants and their entitlements to retirement benefits do not extend beyond the standard terms of that pension scheme.

Note 6 Miscellaneous

6.1 Banking system functions

The Minister for Finance delegated a number of banking system functions to the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) under statutory instrument (SI) 115 of 2010. This delegation was revoked with effect from 5 August 2011 under SI 395 of 2011 and the NTMA Banking Unit has since been seconded to the Department of Finance. At the direction of the Minister, the costs of the unit, comprising staff costs and certain consultancy costs, continue to be met by the NTMA.

6.2 Committees and commissions

	2022	2021
	€000	€000
Permanent commission		
Credit Union Advisory Committee ^a	25	16
Disabled Drivers Medical Board of Appeal ^b	86	312
Fixed purpose commission		
Commission on Taxation and Welfare ^c	128	114
	239	442

- Note ^a The Committee's statutory function (under section 180 of the Credit Union Act 1997) is to advise regarding
- improvement of the management of credit unions
 - protection of the interest of members and creditors of credit unions and
 - other matters relating to credit unions upon which the Minister, the Central Bank or such other persons may be specified by the Minister, may from time to time seek by way of advice from the Committee.
- ^b The Disabled Drivers Medical Board of Appeal acts as an appeal body for those applicants refused a primary medical certificate by a senior medical officer in respect of the Disabled Drivers and Disabled Passengers (Tax Concessions) Scheme. The Board was established in 1989. The entire board resigned in November 2021 which contributed to the lower spend in 2022.
- ^c The Commission on Taxation and Welfare was established to independently consider how best the taxation and welfare systems can support economic activity and promote increased employment and prosperity, while ensuring that there are sufficient resources available to meet the costs of public services and supports in the medium and longer term. The report by the Commission on Taxation and Welfare was launched on September 14 2022.

6.3 Compensation and legal costs

Payments/costs paid by the Department in the year

	Claims by members of the public	Total 2022 ^a	Total 2021 ^a
Number of cases	1	1	3
	€000	€000	€000
Department's own legal costs	22	22	110
Payments by/on behalf of Department			
Compensation	—	—	—
Legal costs	—	—	1
Other costs	—	—	—
2022 Total	22	22	111
2021 Total	111	111	

Note ^a These costs have been refunded to the Department by a third party in 2022.

6.4 Surplus Public Expenditure Monies (SPEM) account

	2022	2021
	€000	€000
Negative interest charge	2,715	1,637

Note The Surplus Public Expenditure Monies (SPEM) account exists to facilitate tracking of the borrowing and repayment of surplus funds held in the supply account of the Paymaster General. Negative interest charges on balances in the SPEM account at the Central Bank are a charge on Vote 7. However, most of these charges are effectively reimbursed, via the surrender to the Central Fund of 80% of Central Bank annual surpluses.

6.4 Deferred surrender

Deferred surrender comprises savings in 2022 of €100,000 in capital expenditures in the following subheads that were carried over to 2023.

	€000
Description of subhead:	
A.2 Administration – non pay	50
B.2 Administration – non pay	50
	100

Appendix A Accounts of bodies and funds under the aegis of the Department of Finance

The following table lists the bodies and funds under the aegis of the Department where the Department has an obligation to present financial statements. It indicates, at the end of March 2023, the period to which the last audited financial statements relate and the date on which they were presented to the Oireachtas.

Body/Departmental fund	Last accounting period	Date of audit report	Date received by Minister/ Department	Date presented to the Oireachtas
Central Bank	2021	5 Apr 2022	29 Apr 2022	24 May 2022
Credit Union Fund	2021	13 Jul 2022	13 Jul 2022	4 Aug 2022
Credit Union Restructuring Board ^a	2021	6 Dec 2022	13 Dec 2022	15 Dec 2022
Finance Accounts	2021	30 Jun 2022	1 Jul 2022	4 Aug 2022
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman	2021	30 Jun 2022	28 Jul 2022	2 Sep 2022
Intestate Estates Fund Account	2021	11 Nov 2022	11 Nov 2022	14 Nov 2022
Irish Financial Services Appeals Tribunal	2021	29 Mar 2022	30 Mar 2022	4 May 2022
Irish Fiscal Advisory Council	2021	13 Sep 2022	30 Sep 2022	17 Oct 2022
Home Building Finance Ireland	2021	25 Apr 2022	29 Apr 2022	2 June 2022
Home Building Finance Ireland Lending DAC	2021	25 Apr 2022	29 Apr 2022	2 June 2022
Hepatitis C and HIV Compensation Tribunal Special Account	2021	26 Aug 2022	26 Aug 2022	29 Aug 2022
Hepatitis C and HIV Compensation Tribunal Reparation Fund	2021	26 Aug 2022	26 Aug 2022	29 Aug 2022
Land Bond (Winding Up) Account	2021	20 Oct 2022	20 Oct 2022	21 Oct 2022
Local Loans Fund	2021	18 Oct 2022	18 Oct 2022	19 Oct 2022
National Asset Management Agency	2021	22 Apr 2022	17 May 2022	10 Jun 2022
National Asset Management Agency subsidiaries (13)	2021	24 Jun-2022	12 Jul 2022	13 Jul 2022
National Treasury Management Agency	2021	16 May 2022	31 May 2022	7 Jul 2022
Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland	2021	28 Apr 2022	29 Apr 2022	10 Jun 2022
Sundry Moneys Deposit Account	2021	19 Dec 2022	19 Dec 2022	20 Dec 2022

Note ^a The Credit Union Restructuring Board (ReBo) was operationally wound down on 31 July 2017. The Credit Union Restructuring Board (Dissolution) Act 2020 allowed for its dissolution. A caretaker board is in place until a date for dissolution has been agreed.