An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media



Ms. Stephanie Fitzpatrick rtersa2018@gmail.com

06 September 2022

Our Ref: CHG-MO-01862-2022

Dear Stephanie,

As Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media, I have responsibility for the governance of RTÉ, including the legislative and regulatory framework for broadcasting.

Section 91 of the Broadcasting Act provides for the RTÉ pension Scheme on TCAGSM Ministerial approval with the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform. The RTÉ Superannuation Scheme, established under Statute, is sponsored by RTÉ. The Scheme is managed by a Board of Trustees who has responsibility for overseeing the scheme's operations, including the investment of the scheme's assets.

You will be aware that RTÉ made a request in 2020 to its parent department at the time, The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment seeking a regulatory change to the scheme rules in order to transfer the expenses associated with managing the Scheme's investments from RTÉ over for discharge by the Scheme funds.

This request for an amendment to the scheme rules was not granted by the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform.

I have noted the concerns you have raised in your recent correspondence regarding any future possible appeal process which may be entered into by RTÉ. However, I am currently not aware that any such process has commenced.

In the event that RTÉ proceed to appeal this decision then my Department and I will review the request and forward it to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform who will ultimately decide on the matter. Consideration will be given to the need to protect the interests of the members as well as the overall sustainability of the Scheme.

Yours sincerely,

attaring Master

Catherine Martin Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media