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Deputy Colm Brophy
Chair of the Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
D02 XR20

23rd March 2018

Re: Review of Local Property Tax


Dear Deputy Brophy,

I refer to the Review of the Local Property Tax being undertaken by the Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight and I enclose for consideration by the Select Committee a submission in this regard on behalf of Dublin City Council's Finance Strategic Policy Committee. The submission has been prepared by PMCA Economic Consulting supported by engagement with myself as Finance Strategic Policy Committee Chairperson and committee members.

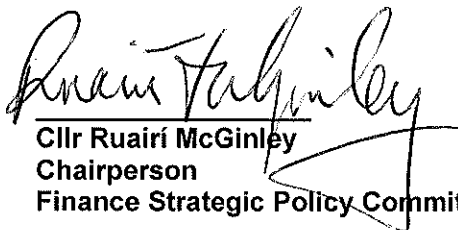
The report makes the following key recommendations:

- That an independent appraisal of local authority needs and resources should be conducted at an early opportunity.
- That additional funding for Dublin City Council, as the country's Capital City should be considered.
- That local authorities retain 100% of Local Property Tax raised in their areas as soon as possible.
- That current equalisation arrangements should cease and be replaced with a new arrangement in which supplementary funding is received from the Exchequer.
- That local authorities should be required to provide information on how LPT funds available to them are spent.
- That exemptions in the current system should not be renewed.
- That given the likelihood that the LPT will remain for the foreseeable future, as a means of householders contributing to local authority services, ensuring the adequacy of deferral arrangements in conjunction with income levels will be important.
- That the aforementioned independent review would be mindful of the need to ensure 'relative price stability'.

- That arrangements should be put in place as soon as possible to support sound budgetary planning relating to the revaluation date and the local authority budget cycle.

Dublin City Council's Finance Strategic Policy (SPC) Committee requests that an SPC delegation be afforded the opportunity to discuss the submission with the Select Committee either in full session or nominated members. I ask that you propose suitable dates/times for the purpose as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,


Cllr Ruairi McGinley
Chairperson
Finance Strategic Policy Committee