Standards in Public Office Commission Received

2 1 JUN 2019

THE LABOUR PARTY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

CONTENTS	PAGE
ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION	2
OVERVIEW STATEMENT	3
TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT	4
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT	5 - 7
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS	8
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	9
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS	10
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	11 – 19

THE LABOUR PARTY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

TRUSTEES

Emmet Stagg Brian O'Shea Ita McAuliffe

PARTY LEADERSHIP

Party Leader: General Secretary: Brendan Howlin Brian McDowell

REGISTERED OFFICE

11 Hume Street Dublin 2

Email: info@labour.ie Phone: +353 1 6784700

AUDITORS

O'Connor & Associates Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm Harcourt Centre Block 3 Harcourt Road Dublin 2

Email: bbarron@mazars.ie Tel: +353 1 4494400

BANKERS

Bank of Ireland 2 College Green Dublin 2

SOLICITORS

O'Mara Geraghty and McCourt 15 Northumberland Road Dublin 4

THE LABOUR PARTY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

OVERVIEW STATEMENT

Governance of the Party

The key members of the Party include:

Party Leader:

Brendan Howlin

General Secretary:

Brian McDowell

The appropriate officer is Brian McDowell.

Structure of the Party

The Labour Party is a political Party registered with the Registrar of Political Parties. The administration of the Labour Party is organised on a segmental basis with the Labour Parliamentary Party and each constituency, divisional and regional council, Party section and branch is separately responsible for their activities.

Scope of the financial statements

These accounts represent only the activity of the Head Office of the Labour Party including the parliamentary allowances and related expenditure. They do not record or represent the activities of any constituency, divisional or regional council, Party section or branch of the Labour Party, individual parliamentarians or any member of the Labour Party.

THE LABOUR PARTY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The provisions of the Electoral Act 1997 and guidelines issued by the Standards in Public Office Commission requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Party and of the surplus or deficit for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Party will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the Party to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the provisions of the Electoral Act 1997, the guidelines issued by the Standards in Public Office Commission and generally applicable accounting practice in Ireland including FRS 102 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed by the Trustees:

Emmet Stagg

Date: 21 June 2019

OMM HALLA Brian O'Shea

> Brian McDowell General Secretary



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LABOUR PARTY

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Labour Party ('the Party') for the year ended 31 December 2018, which comprise the statement of income and retained earnings, the statement of financial position and the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 1. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish Law and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the provisions of the Electoral Act, 1997 (as amended) and the guidelines issued by the Standards in Public Office Commission ("SIPO").

In our opinion the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Party as at 31 December 2018 and of its surplus for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Act, 1997 (as amended) and the guidelines issued by SIPO.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Party in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which ISAs (Ireland) require us to report to you were:

- the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate: or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Parties ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LABOUR PARTY (continued)

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by the SIPO accounting guidelines

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion the accounting records of the Party were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.
- In our opinion the information given in the overview statement is consistent with the financial statements.

We have nothing to report in this regard.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LABOUR PARTY (continued)

Respective responsibilities

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) 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 these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the IAASA's website at: http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description of auditors responsibilities for audit.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Party's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Party and the Party's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Bernard Barron

for and on behalf of

O'Connor & Associates

June 2019

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Audit Firm

Dublin 2.

21 June 2019

THE LABOUR PARTY STATEMENT OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	Notes	2018 €	2017 €
Income			
State funding	2	1,542,824	1,578,793
Membership and subscriptions	3	99,921	98,961
Donations	4	32,187	18,254
Other amounts remitted by branches	6	11,000	19,170
Miscellaneous income	7	47,375	17,436
Total income		1,733,307	1,732,614
Expenditure			
Staff costs	8	(562,850)	(587,907)
Administration	9	(312,957)	(330,544)
Premises costs	10	(55,103)	(48,417)
Application of donations in kind (including notional		•	•
donations)	11	(399,083)	(396,125)
Financing charges	12	(2,42 7)	(2,914)
Campaign and election costs	13	(364,640)	(191,491)
Miscellaneous expenses	14	(15,895)	(13,239)
Depreciation	15		(11,641)
Total expenditure		(1,712,955)	(1,582,278)
Surplus for the year		20,352	150,336
Accumulated fund at 1 January		1,958,911	1,808,575
Accumulated fund at 31 December		1,979,263	1,958,911

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements and should be read in conjunction with them.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

THE LABOUR PARTY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

	Notes	2018 €	2017 €
Fixed assets Tangible assets	15		
Current assets Receivables	16	2,103	4,990
Cash and cash equivalents	17	2,082,585	2,073,808
		2,084,688	2,078,798
Current liabilities			
Payables and accruals	18	(105,425)	(119,887)
Total assets less current liabilities		1,979,263	1,958,911
Accumulated fund	19	1,979,263	1,958,911

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements and should be read in conjunction with them.

Signed by the Trustees:

Emmet Stagg

Date: 21 June 2019

Brian O'Shea

Ba. . C

Brian McDowell General Secretary

THE LABOUR PARTY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

		2018 €	2017 €
	Notes		
Net cash flows from operating activities	20	9,430	195,951
Cash flows from investing activities Interest received			506
Net cash flows from investing activities			506
Cash flows from financing activities Interest paid		(653)	(892)_
Net cash flows used in financing activities		(653)	(892)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		8,777	195,565
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		2,073,808	1,878,243
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	17	2,082,585	2,073,808

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 General information

These financial statements comprising the statement of income and retained earnings, the statement of financial position, the statement of cash flows and the related notes constitute the individual financial statements of the Labour Party for the financial year ended 31 December 2018.

The Labour Party is a political Party registered with the Registrar of Political Parties. The registered office is 11 Hume Street, Dublin 2 which is also the principal place of business of the Party.

These accounts record the activities of the Head Office of the Labour Party including the parliamentary allowance, Electoral Act allowance and the related expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2018. The accounts do not represent the activities of any constituency, divisional or regional council, Party or section of or branch of the Labour Party, individual parliamentarians or any member of the Labour Party during the period. The accounts are prepared on an accrual basis. Income and expenses are recognised as they are notified to the Party Head Office.

1.2 Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102) and with the provisions of the Electoral Act 1997 (as amended) together with the guidelines issued by the Standards in Public Office Commission.

1.3 Summary of significant accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Party's financial statements.

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The Trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include any adjustments to the carrying amounts and classification of assets and liabilities that may arise if the Party was unable to continue as a going concern.

The financial statements are prepared in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the Party.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Party's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in note 1.4.

The accounts are prepared in accordance with SIPO accounting guidelines.

b) Revenue recognition

The Party recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably, and it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the Party. The income of the Party comprises mainly of members' contributions, state funding, donations and donations in kind.

i) Members' contributions

Members' contributions are accounted for on the basis of contributions remitted in respect of the accounting period they are received and include remittances received after the year end.

ii) State funding

Party Leaders' Allowance, Electoral Act and other state funding are accounted for on the basis of contributions remitted in respect of the accounting period they are received and include remittances received after the year end.

iii) Donations and Donations in kind

Donations are accounted for on the basis of donations remitted in respect of the accounting period in which they are received.

Donations in kind relate to the supply of goods or services to the Party whereby the rate at which these are supplied is below the commercial rate. The value of donations in kind or notional donations are accounted for as income within the period they relate to at the fair value of the goods or services obtained. The related application of these donations in kind and notional donations is included in the statement of income and retained earnings.

c) Depreciation and fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. Depreciation is provided on the fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of the assets over their expected useful lives as follows:

Office equipment and furniture 33.33% straight line

A full year's depreciation is charged in the year of acquisition.

The carrying value of tangible fixed assets is reviewed annually for impairment and whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

Repairs, maintenance and minor inspection costs are expensed as incurred.

d) Expenditure recognition

The accounts are prepared on an accrual basis. Expenses are recognised as they are notified to the Party Head Office.

e) Employee benefits

The Party provides a range of benefits to employees including paid holiday arrangements and defined contribution pension plans. The defined contribution plan is an AVC scheme which employees can opt to pay into. Short term benefits, including holiday pay and other similar non-monetary benefits, are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.

f) Financial instruments

The Party has chosen to adopt Sections 11 and 12 of FRS 102 in respect of financial instruments.

i) Financial assets

Basic financial assets, including trade and other receivables are initially recognised at the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

At the end of each reporting period financial assets measured at amortised cost are assessed for objective evidence of impairment. If an asset is impaired the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in the statement of income and retained earnings.

Financial assets are derecognised when (a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or (b) substantially all the risks and rewards of the ownership of the asset are transferred to another party or (c) control of the asset has been transferred to another party who has the practical ability to unilaterally sell the asset to an unrelated third party without imposing additional restrictions.

ii) Financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables and bank loans, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the liability is extinguished, that is when the contractual obligation is discharged, cancelled or expires.

g) Provision and contingencies

Provisions are recognised when the Party has an obligation at the statement of financial position date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

Contingent liabilities, resulting from past events, arise when (i) it is not probable that there will be an outflow of resources or that the amount cannot be reliably measured at the reporting date, or (ii) the existence will be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of uncertain future events not wholly within the Party's control. Contingent liabilities are disclosed in the financial statements unless the probability of an outflow of resources is remote.

Contingent assets are not recognised. Contingent assets are disclosed in the financial statements when an inflow of economic benefits is probable.

h) Taxation

Any surpluses arising in the income and expenditure account are not liable to taxation.

1.4 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The Trustees consider the accounting estimates and assumptions below to be its critical accounting estimates and judgements:

Useful lives of tangible fixed assets

The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and, in certain circumstances, estimates of residual values. The trustees regularly review these useful lives and change them, if necessary, to reflect current conditions.

2. STATE FUNDING

	2018	2017
	€	€
Exchequer funding under Section 19 of the Electoral Act 1997,		
as amended	524,809	524,809
Party leader allowance	618,932	657,859
Other state funding (Note 5)	399,083	396,125
	1,542,824	1,578,793

3. MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

The amount reported for membership and subscriptions is comprised as follows:

	2018	2017
	€	€
Collected by Head Office/ National units	99,921	98,961
	99,921	98,961

All memberships and subscriptions consist of individual subscriptions.

4. DONATIONS

	2018	2017
	€	€
Individual donations	32,187	18,254
	32,187	18,254

Under Section 24 of the Electoral Act 1997, a separate accounting disclosure is made in respect of donations received.

5. DONATIONS IN KIND (INCLUDING NOTIONAL DONATIONS)

The estimated value of donations in kind and notional donations received by the Party in the year was €399,083 (2017: €396,125). This is included in other state funding as set out in Note 2. Notional donations relate to the value of services provided by the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission. This was applied as outlined in Note 11. Individual donations are included in the separate accounting disclosure referred to in Note 4.

6. OTHER AMOUNTS REMITTED BY BRANCHES

		2018	2017
		€	€
	General election fund	8,130	14,830
	Branch affiliation fees	2,870	4,340
		11,000	19,170
7.	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME		
		2018	2017
		€	€
	Miscellaneous	47,375	14,430
	Trade union affiliation fees	· -	2,500
	Investment income	47,375	506 17,436
		41,010	17,430
8.	STAFF COSTS		
		2018	2017
		€	€
	Staff salaries and pensions	509,053	533,224
	Employers PRSI	51,671	51,485
	Training and development costs	2,126	3,198
		562,850	587,907

The total amount paid to key management personnel (2) in 2018 (2017: 2) was €142,327 (2017: €149,639).

14 staff members were employed at year end. The whole-time equivalent of staff employed throughout the year was 15 (2017: 11).

The Party operates an externally operated defined contribution scheme for employees. The total contribution costs for the year were €51,671 (2017: €51,485). There is a balance of €NIL (2017: €NIL) due at the year end.

9. ADMINISTRATION

	2018	2017
	€	€
Equipment rental and maintenance	16,894	16,894
Printing and publishing	28,755	30,523
Professional services	53,717	80,921
Postage and packaging	17,261	16,518
Communication and telephone costs	14,244	22,814
Staff travel	32,499	27,041
Auditors' remuneration and expenses	8,675	9,800
Research	18,690	-
Cable ties	3,982	9,815
Advertising	8,040	16,718
Members events	19,238	9,737
Party sections	33,545	31,000
Other administrative expenses	57,417	58,763
	312,957	330,544

10. PREMISES COSTS

	2018 €	2017 €
Rental and related charges	27,447	27,447
Insurance	22,568	16,136
Heating and electricity	2,917	2,512
Upkeep and maintenance	2,171	2,322
	55,103	48,417

11. APPLICATION OF DONATIONS IN KIND (INCLUDING NOTIONAL DONATIONS)

The value of donations in kind and notional donations is set out in Note 5. This amount was applied to non-campaign/ election expenses as follows:

	2018	2017
	€	€
Staff costs	299,995	297,410
Staff pension costs	58,429	60,108
Associated accommodation	34,706	33,176
Computer equipment use	4,422	4,446
Outsourced graphic design	1,531	985
	399,083	396,125

12. FINANCING CHARGES

	2018	2017
	€	€
Other financing costs	2,427	2,914
•	2,427	2,914

13. CAMPAIGN AND ELECTION COSTS

Campaign costs include election costs (as defined under Section 31 of the Electoral Act 1997, as amended) and other expenses incurred in relation to elections or referendum campaigns, or Party/policy promotion and comprise:

	2018 €	2017 €
General campaign costs	155,553	2,675
National conferences	195,024	177,230
Other conferences and meetings	14,063	11,586
·	364,640	191,491
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE		
	2018	2017

	2018	2017
	€	€
Miscellaneous expense	15,895	13,239
	15,895	13,239

15. TANGIBLE ASSETS

14.

	Office equipment & furniture
Gross cost	€
At 1 January 2017	45,230
At 31 December 2018	45,230
Accumulated depreciation	
At 1 January 2017	45,230
Charge for the financial year	
At 31 December 2018	45,230_
Net book value	
At 31 December 2018	
At 1 January 2017	

16.	RECEIVABLES		
		2018	2017
		€	€
	Prepayments	2,103	4,990
		2,103	4,990
17.	CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
17.	OAON AND OAON EQUIVALENTO		
		2018	2017
		€	€
	Current accounts	396,505	1,196,545
	Deposit/savings accounts	1,681,525	872,497 89
	Cash on hand Other cash balances	58 4, 4 97	4,677
	Other cash balances	2,082,585	2,073,808
		<u> </u>	2,070,000
18.	PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS		
10.	TATABLES AND ASSIGNACES		
		2018	2017
		€	€
	Accruals	77,824	85,796
	Payroll taxes	18,118	15,850
	Payables	9,483	18,241
		105,425	119,887
19.	ACCUMULATED FUND		
15.	ACCOMOLATED FORD		
		2018	2017
		€	€
	Balance at beginning of the year	1,958,911	1,808,575
	Surplus for the year	20,352	150,336
	Balance at the end of the year	1,979,263	1,958,911
20.	NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
		2010	0047
		2018 €	2017 €
	Surplus for the financial year	20,352	150,336
	Adjustments for:		44 644
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Interest income	-	11,641 (506)
	Interest income Interest payable	653	892
	Decrease in receivables	2,887	12,721
	(Decrease)/increase in payables	(14,462)	20,867
	Net cash flows from operating activities	9,430	195,951

21. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

Due:	2018 €	2017 €
	05.000	10.001
Within one year	25,300	16,894
Between one and five years	-	4,223
After five years		
	25,300	21,117

22. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the Party since the year end which require amendment to or disclosure in these financial statements.

23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

In 2018 Brendan Howlin continued as Party Leader and continued paying an annual membership subscription of €2,400.

There were no other related party transactions during the year (2017: €nil).

Key management personnel compensation

The total compensation paid to key management personnel during the year is disclosed in Note 8 to the financial statements.

24. RESTRICTED FUNDING

Funding received under the Electoral Act 1997 and the Oireachtas (Ministerial and Parliamentary Offices) (Amendment) Act 2014 was 2018: €1,143,741 (2017 €1,182,668). This funding may only be used for the purposes specified in those Acts. The total amount of funding received under those Acts but not yet expended at the year-end for the specified purposes was 2018: €1,395,969 (2017: €1,416,714).

25. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees of the Labour Party on 21 June 2019.