

## Minister Appoints Decentralisation Implementation Committee

Following the announcement in the Budget of a new decentralisation programme involving the relocation of over 10,000 public service jobs to 53 provincial centres throughout 25 counties, the Minister for Finance, Mr. Charlie McCreevy TD, has this evening (3 December 2003) named the members of the Implementation Committee whose responsibility it will be to drive forward the implementation of the programme.

The Minister is particularly pleased to confirm that Mr. Phil Flynn has accepted his invitation to chair the Committee. Mr. Flynn is a former General Secretary of IMPACT. As chair of the Committee, Mr. Flynn will report directly to the special Cabinet sub-committee on Decentralisation.

The other members of the Implementation Committee are Mr. Dermot Quigley (former Chairman of the Revenue Commissioners), Ms. Jane Williams (Managing Director, Sia Group), Mr. Fred Devlin (Chartered Surveyor), Mr. Eddie Sullivan (Secretary General, PSMD, Department of Finance) and Mr. Sean Benton (Chairman, Office of Public Works).

In addition, a joint Department of Finance/OPW unit will be established to support the Implementation Committee and to liaise with Departments. Furthermore, each Minister will establish a dedicated decentralisation unit within his/her Department.

Ends.