

Newspaper Article — The Irish Times — Thursday, 14 January 2016

Date:	14 January 2016	Author:	Marie O'Halloran, The Irish Times
Forum:	The Irish Times — Thursday, 14 January 2016	Status:	SUMMARY ONLY — original article copyright protected; retained internally

REPORT PARAGRAPH

The Irish Times on the 14th January 2016 covered Deputy Joe Higgins' Dáil speech made on the 13th January 2016.

EVIDENTIAL SIGNIFICANCE

1. The article establishes that the Anne Street site assembly concerns received national mainstream media coverage the day after the Dáil debate, confirming the matter was publicly prominent from January 2016 onwards.
2. The article records that Taoiseach Enda Kenny was present in the chamber when Deputy Higgins raised the matter — underlining the political significance of the intervention.
3. Critically, the article records Minister Phelan's position that the OPW 'was not a party to the assembly of these sites.'
4. The article corroborates the official Oireachtas record of the 13 January 2016 debate and confirms that the concerns were simultaneously placed in the national public domain through mainstream media on the same date.

KEY PASSAGES FROM OFFICIAL RECORD

"prima facie evidence of very serious irregularities"

— Deputy Joe Higgins TD, as reported in *The Irish Times*, 14 January 2016 (phrase also appears verbatim in the official Oireachtas record of 13 January 2016)

RELEVANCE TO THIS REPORT

This source corroborates the official Oireachtas record of 13 January 2016 and establishes that the Anne Street site assembly concerns received national media coverage from the outset. It also places on the record the Ministerial position — that the OPW was not a party to the site assembly — which is directly relevant to subsequent events in this report. This source is not relied upon as proof of the truth of the allegations it reports, but as evidence that the controversy was publicly reported nationally at the time.

Article: 'Higgins calls for investigation into Wexford site', by Marie O'Halloran, The Irish Times, Thursday 14 January 2016. The article is accessible to Irish Times subscribers. The original newspaper scan is retained in the internal evidence file and is not reproduced publicly due to copyright.

Statements and allegations referred to in this summary were made in the course of Dáil proceedings by the named speaker and are reported here as matters raised in Parliament. This summary does not adopt or assert those statements as established findings of fact.

This summary has been prepared for the purposes of the Martin Power public report on the Anne Street, Wexford site assembly. It does not make any legal finding. It identifies the source, summarises the relevant point relied upon, and records its relevance to the Anne Street Report for public-facing evidential reference.