

Dáil Topical Issue Speech — Anne Street, Wexford: Site Assembly Irregularities

Date:	16 November 2016	Author:	Deputy Mick Barry TD (Solidarity)
Forum:	Dáil Éireann — 32nd Dáil, Topical Issue Debate	Status:	PUBLIC — no redaction required
Resp. Minister:	Minister of State Deputy Sean Canney TD (OPW)		
Relevant Section:	p. 64 of the Official Report (16 November 2016)		
Official record:	https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/debateRecord/dail/2016-11-16/debate/mul@/main.pdf		

REPORT PARAGRAPH

Arising from the issuing of the incorrect Review/Report by Wexford County Council on the 10th October 2016, Deputy Mick Barry raised the Review/Report in the Dáil on the 16th November 2016 stating that the Review/Report had not answered openly and transparently critical questions about how the Anne Street site was assembled.

EVIDENTIAL SIGNIFICANCE

Deputy Barry's Topical Issue intervention of 16 November 2016 establishes the following on the official Oireachtas record:

1. The Council Executive's response to the affected parties' concerns had **not answered openly and transparently** the critical questions raised by elected members.
2. The Minister of State's earlier claim that the OPW had no involvement in the site assembly was **wholly incorrect** — documentation released showed the OPW was intimately involved.
3. The OPW had undertaken in July 2016 to meet affected parties and release all relevant documents. As of 16 November 2016, **this had not happened**.
4. Deputy Barry called on Minister Canney (OPW) to arrange the promised meeting immediately and release all files relating to the site assembly, planning application, and planning permission.

KEY PASSAGES FROM OFFICIAL RECORD

"...the response of the Council Executive has not answered openly and transparently critical questions raised by these elected members."

"Innocent parties have been seriously affected by the irregularities evident in this situation and they deserve justice to be done by the State and the agencies acting for the State in this matter."

— Deputy Mick Barry TD, Dáil Éireann, 16 November 2016

RELEVANCE TO THIS REPORT

This source records a second parliamentary intervention on the Anne Street site assembly, made six weeks after the October 2016 Review/Report was issued. It places directly on the Oireachtas record that the Review/Report did not answer critical questions openly and transparently. It also establishes that the OPW was intimately involved in the site assembly, and that commitments made by the OPW in July 2016 to meet affected parties and release files remained unfulfilled as of this date.

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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.