Receipt Brief

28 October 2026

Minister Jack Chambers
Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure,
Public Service Reform and Digitalisation

Via email: Minister@per.gov.ie

Extending the Ombudsman's Remit

Dear Minister Chambers,

I am writing following a referral from the Department of the Taoiseach (reference DOT-TM25-02942-2026), seeking clarification of the Government's position on Ombudsman Ger Deering's proposal for a minor legislative amendment, as presented to the Joint Committee on Public Petitions and the Ombudsmen on 22 September 2026. Specifically:

- Has the Government formally considered the Ombudsman's proposal to extend his office's remit to the administration of immigration and naturalisation law?
    - If the Government intends to proceed, to what timeframe is intended?
    - If the Government does not intend to proceed, what is the rationale for maintaining the exclusion?

The Ombudsman's statement highlights an existing gap in independent administrative oversight of immigration and naturalisation services, including matters affecting people working and contributing to Irish society.

I would welcome a written response clarifying the Government's position, which Receipt Brief can accurately reflect in publications.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Vallance
Founder | Receipt Brief

[1]Houses of the Oireachtas | Joint Committee on Public Petitions and the Ombudsmen debate - Tuesday, 22 Sep 2026

Roinn an Taoisigh
Department of the Taoiseach

12 October 2026

Ms Stephanie Vallance
Founder
Receipt Brief
By email: info@receiptbrief.com

Reference Number: DOT-TM25-02942-2026

Dear Ms Vallance

Thank you for your recent email to the Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, T.D. regarding extending the Ombudsman's remit.

As the specific issues you have outlined fall under the remit of the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Services, Reform and Digitalisation, Jack Chambers, T.D., I am forwarding a copy of your correspondence to the Minister's office for appropriate attention and direct reply to you.

Yours sincerely

Ciara Mahon
Department of the Taoiseach
Telephone: 01 619 4021
Email: taoiseach@taoiseach.gov.ie

Receipt Brief

11 October 2026

Taoiseach Micheál Martin
Via email: taoiseach@taoiseach.gov.ie; micheal.martin@oireachtas.ie
Copied emails: info@justice.ie; jim.ocallaghan@oireachtas.ie

Extending the Ombudsman's Remit

Dear Taoiseach,

I am writing to seek clarification of the Government's position following Ombudsman Ger Deering's statement to the Joint Committee on Public Petitions and the Ombudsmen on 22 September 2026. Specifically:

- Do you as Taoiseach support the request for minimal legislative change?
- Has the Government formally considered the legislative change?
    - If the Government intends to proceed, which Minister will lead the proposal, and within what timeframe?
    - If the Government does not intend to proceed, what is the rationale for maintaining the exclusion?

The Ombudsman's statement highlights a gap in administrative oversight and marked a significant step towards a fair and humane experience for the many people contributing to Ireland. I have enclosed a case study documenting administrative failures, some of which were reported as existing over a year ago.[1]

I would appreciate a written response addressing the Government's position, its intended course of action, and the anticipated time frame for a decision.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Vallance
Founder | Receipt Brief

[1]Dublin InQuirer (2025) For some citizenship-seekers asked to submit more documents, technical glitches trigger refusals. Available at: https://www.dublininquirer.com/for-some-citizenship-seekers-asked-to-submit-more-documents-technical-glitches-trigger-refusals/ (Accessed 05 October 2026)