Receipt Brief

11 October 2026

Taoiseach Micheál Martin
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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)

Receipt Brief

EVIDENCE. CONTEXT. ACCOUNTABILITY.

Case Study 001 / IMMIGRATION ADMINISTRATION

OCTOBER 2026 • IRELAND

THE DOCUMENTS WERE THERE. THE REFUSAL SAID OTHERWISE.

A five-month IRP renewal case raises questions about data handling and portal records.

21 WEEKS, 5 DAYS

FROM APPLICATION SUBMISSION TO REFUSAL

6 WEEKS, 6 DAYS

FROM ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS TO REFUSAL

THREE DIFFERENT RECORDS ON ONE SYSTEM.

ONE PORTAL. THREE VERSIONS.

APPLICANT PORTAL
Upload success.

MINISTER
Documents missing.

BORDER
No application exists.

WHAT HAPPENED TO PERSONAL DATA?

13 AUG — DOCUMENTS UPLOADED WITH EVIDENCE

Additional documents requested and submitted the same day.

21 SEP — ISD CLAIM: DOCUMENTS AWAITED

Minister of State TD conveyed that documents were outstanding; applicant disputed this with submission evidence.

24 SEP — ISD CLAIM: NO APPLICATION EXISTED

Border immigration officer reportedly stated that no application existed.

30 SEP — REFUSED: DOCUMENTS MISSING

Refusal issued on grounds of missing documents, despite prior submission evidence.

WHERE IS THE BACK-END AUDIT TRAIL?

Were the uploads stored, linked to the correct application, accessed, or reviewed? What happened to the personal data and document records?

THE PAPER TRAIL / PORTAL OUTCOMES

CASE EVIDENCE • QUERIES & COMPLAINTS

05	QUERIES	CLOSED WITHOUT AN ANSWER
01	QUERY	PARTIAL RESPONSE
03	COMPLAINTS	NO RESPONSE RECEIVED AWAITING 40+ DAYS
!	PORTAL	COMPLAINTS NOT VISIBLE

HOW MANY DECISIONS WERE MADE WITHOUT REVIEWING EVIDENCE ALREADY PROVIDED?

AND WHO VERIFIED THE RECORDS BEFORE THE REFUSAL?

HOW MANY PEOPLE LOST THEIR RIGHTS?

IF THE OMBUDSMAN CANNOT INVESTIGATE IMMIGRATION ADMINISTRATION, WHO ENSURES PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY?