

Oral Parliamentary Questions Answered on 5 July 2011 (for full exchange see www.oireachtas.gov.ie)

5. Deputy Micheál Martin asked the **Taoiseach** his plans to meet with the Croke Park Implementation Body and also with public service trade unions. **[17280/11]**

6. Deputy Gerry Adams asked the **Taoiseach** his plans to meet public sector trade unions or the Croke Park Implementation body. **[18453/11]**

7. Deputy Joe Higgins asked the **Taoiseach** if he will report on the Croke Park Implementation Body and any arrangements made to meet with the leaders of the public sector trade unions. **[18577/11]**

The Taoiseach: I propose to take Questions Nos. 5 to 7, inclusive, together.

I met the chairman and members of the Croke Park implementation body, together with the Minister with responsibility for public expenditure and reform, Deputy Brendan Howlin, on 29 June. During the course of that meeting I heard their account of the progress being made and I conveyed my personal commitment to the most vigorous and ambitious implementation of the terms of the agreement, having regard to the major challenges which we face in ensuring the affordability and effectiveness of the public service. I met the public service union representatives who are members of the implementation body in this context. I have also met representatives of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions to discuss issues of mutual concern, including the importance of the public service reform agenda, and I addressed the biennial conference of the congress in Killarney yesterday, 4 July