

EMBARGO 4.00pm 28th June 2006

RTÉ - Top 10 most highly paid on-air broadcasters for 2004

In accordance with a commitment made by the Director-General of RTÉ to the *Oireachtas Joint Committee on Communications, Marine and Natural Resources*, RTÉ is releasing the information in relation to the 10 most highly paid on-air broadcasters engaged by RTÉ for 2004. Please note that broadcasters who may appear on RTÉ screens but who do not have a direct contractual relationship with RTÉ, either as an employee or as an independent contractor of one form or another, are not included in the attached lists.

10 highest paid broadcasters computed on an earnings basis

| RANK | INDIVIDUAL | STATUS | EARNINGS 2004 | RANK | INDIVIDUAL | STATUS | EARNINGS 2003 |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Pat Kenny Media Services Ltd. (for the services of Pat Kenny) | Contractor | 899,000 | 1 | Pat Kenny Media Services Ltd. (for the services of Pat Kenny) | Contractor | 635,916 |
| 2 | Balcom Management Ltd. (for the services of Gerry Ryan) | Contractor | 487,492 | 2 | Balcom Management Ltd. (for the services of Gerry Ryan) | Contractor | 462,442 |
| 3 | Montrose Services Ltd. (for the services of Marian Finucane) | Contractor | 439,265 | 3 | Montrose Services Ltd. (for the services of Marian Finucane) | Contractor | 360,507 |
| 4 | Claddaghgreen Ltd. (for the services of Joe Duffy) | Contractor | 279,149 | 4 | Claddaghgreen Ltd. (for the services of Joe Duffy) | Contractor | 228,743 |
| 5 | Miriam O'Callaghan | Contractor | 251,251 | 5 | Miriam O'Callaghan | Contractor | 177,083 |
| 6 | Trocity Productions Ltd. (for the services of Ryan Tubridy) | Contractor | 216,150 | 6 | Brian Farrell | Contractor | 175,618 |
| 7 | Derek Mooney | Employee | 189,906 | 7 | Derek Mooney | Employee | 166,432 |
| 8 | John Kelly | Contractor | 188,630 | 8 | John Kelly | Contractor | 151,159 |
| 9 | Sean O'Rourke | Employee | 177,463 | 9 | Charlie Bird | Employee | 148,810 |
| 10 | George Hamilton | Contractor | 168,322 | 10 | Vincent Browne | Contractor | 147,018 |

NOTE 1: Definition of Earnings Basis

Employees: The Earnings shown represent all amounts payable by RTÉ to the employee, including benefits, irrespective of the timing of their payment, for his/her services during the years in question and encompassing both amounts earned under contract and in relation to any additional services provided over and above their contractual commitment. This treatment of the disclosure of Employee Earnings is analogous to the requirements set out in the Companies Acts in respect of the disclosure of Directors' Remuneration.

Contractors: The Earnings shown represent the amounts payable by RTÉ to the contractor, excluding VAT, irrespective of the timing of their payment, for presenter services during the period, and encompassing both amounts earned under contract and in relation to any additional services provided over and above those contractually committed.

NOTE 2: Treatment of Employer's PRSI & irrecoverable contractor's VAT.

As with the computation of disclosable Directors' Remuneration under the *Companies Acts*, the amounts set out above for the earnings of employees exclude employer's PRSI which is viewed as being a charge on the company rather than an element of an employee's remuneration. RTÉ is responsible for employer's PRSI on the income of each of its employees at 2.35% or 10.75%, depending on the time of the employee's recruitment. Correspondingly, the amounts set out above for the earnings of contractors exclude VAT. It should be noted that due to its VAT status RTÉ is not entitled to recover approximately half of the VAT charge billed to it by suppliers including the named contractors.

NOTE 3: Change in accounting policy in relation to method of computation of the 'top 10' schedule

In previous years, RTÉ's report of the 10 highest paid broadcasters was prepared based on **CASH PAYMENTS** made during the year. It set out the ten broadcasters who received the highest payments from RTÉ, irrespective of the period to which the payments related. Consequently, movements in the timing of payments to broadcasters resulted in significant variations in the amounts reported for individual broadcasters from year to year and which might have had little correlation with their contractual earnings during that year. With the aim of continually seeking to improve the quality and usefulness of the information disclosed, RTÉ has decided to change the basis upon which the highest paid broadcasters for 2004 has been prepared to a conventional accrual accounting **EARNINGS BASIS**. This is the same basis as mandated by the *Companies Acts* for the disclosure of directors' remuneration and we hope will result in more readily comparable data disclosed from year to year.

In accordance with the provisions of **Financial Reporting Standard No. 3 'Reporting Financial Performance'** and to ensure comparability, this report also:

- Restates RTÉ's 10 highest paid broadcasters in 2003 on an Earnings basis; and
- In Note 4 below, sets out the 10 highest paid broadcasters in both 2003 and 2004 on a cash payments basis, which was the basis upon which RTÉ reported the 10 highest paid broadcasters in previous years.

NOTE 4: 10 Highest paid broadcasters computed on a cash payments basis

| RANK | INDIVIDUAL | STATUS | CASH PAID 2004 | RANK | INDIVIDUAL | STATUS | CASH PAID 2003 |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | Pat Kenny Media Services Ltd. (for the services of Pat Kenny) | Contractor | 1,097,800 | 1 | Balcom Management Ltd. (for the services of Gerry Ryan) | Contractor | 463,450 |
| 2 | Balcom Management Ltd. (for the services of Gerry Ryan) | Contractor | 488,500 | 2 | Pat Kenny Media Services Ltd. (for the services of Pat Kenny) | Contractor | 343,099 |
| 3 | Montrose Services Ltd. (for the services of Marian Finucane) | Contractor | 441,996 | 3 | Montrose Services Ltd. (for the services of Marian Finucane) | Contractor | 329,227 |
| 4 | Miriam O'Callaghan | Contractor | 286,684 | 4 | Claddaghgreen Ltd. (for the services of Joe Duffy) | Contractor | 228,743 |
| 5 | Claddaghgreen Ltd. (for the services of Joe Duffy) | Contractor | 278,149 | 5 | Brian Farrell | Contractor | 175,618 |
| 6 | John Kelly | Contractor | 180,962 | 6 | Derek Mooney | Employee | 162,950 |
| 7 | Derek Mooney | Employee | 176,410 | 7 | Miriam O'Callaghan | Contractor | 144,432 |
| 8 | George Hamilton | Contractor | 168,536 | 8 | Charlie Bird | Employee | 138,246 |
| 9 | Vincent Browne | Contractor | 154,355 | 9 | John Kelly | Contractor | 137,826 |
| 10 | Bryan Dobson | Employee | 154,053 | 10 | George Hamilton | Contractor | 137,553 |

NOTE 5: Definition of cash payments basis

Employees: the amounts shown represent the payments made by RTÉ to the employee during the period, irrespective of the period to which the payments relate.

Contractors: the amounts shown represent the payments made by RTÉ to the contractor during the relevant period, excluding VAT, for presenter services, irrespective of the period to which the payments relate.