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## **RTÉ Executive Board Expenses 2009-2007**

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In response to a number of FOI requests from media organisations, RTÉ is releasing information relating to the business expenses of its Executive Board members. The FOI requests, taken together, cover the years 2009, 2008 and 2007.

The total of expenses of RTÉ Executive Board members for 2009 is EUR23,386; 2008 is EUR66,265 and 2007 is EUR65,526.

As a user of FOI provisions in its own journalism, RTÉ is supportive of the aims of the FOI process in increasing public understanding in and improving the transparency of the work of public bodies. RTÉ, as a recipient of public monies, duly comes under FOI legislation and each year receives and responds to large numbers of applications as appropriate. RTÉ received 100 FOI requests in 2009. In the case of FOI requests concerning business expenses of employees, RTÉ believes that information disclosing the identities of business contacts or journalistic contacts involved in meetings at which expenses were incurred is not required to be disclosed under FOI (see sections 21,27 and 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 1997 and the Statutory instrument that made RTÉ subject to FOI, S.I. 115/2000). RTÉ is satisfied that its proper interests are safeguarded in this respect, while the public interest is also served. Only approved expenses are reimbursed by, or chargeable to, RTÉ. Approved expenses are those which are wholly and necessarily incurred for the business of RTÉ. They are subject to review and audit in accordance with all appropriate accounting and governance standards.

The records being released concern the business expenses of the members of RTÉ's Executive Board: the Director General, Chief Financial Officer, Managing Director of Television, Managing Director of Radio, Managing Director of News and Current Affairs, Managing Director of Corporate Development (from March 2009), and the Director of Communications (to March 2009).

[Click link for breakdown of RTÉ Executive Board Expenses 2009-2007.](#)