



HM Treasury

Report under section 2 of the
Loans to Ireland Act 2010:
1 October 2020 to 31 March 2021

April 2021

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Presented to the House of Commons pursuant
to section 2 of the Loans to Ireland Act 2010

April 2021



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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.70 In December 2010, the UK agreed to provide a bilateral loan of £3.2 billion as part of a €67.5 billion international assistance package for Ireland. The loan was disbursed in 8 tranches of £403.37 million (each tranche is referred to in the Loans to Ireland Act 2010 (the act) as a “loan”). The act, which was given Royal Assent on 21 December 2010, provides parliamentary authorisation for the making of loans to Ireland.

1.71 The government agreed to provide a bilateral loan to Ireland because it is in the UK’s national interest that Ireland has a successful economy and a stable banking system. The links between our financial systems, particularly in Northern Ireland, mean that there was a strong economic case to provide financial assistance to Ireland. By being part of the international financial package, the UK indirectly supported the very many businesses across the UK that trade with Ireland. The government has always expected the bilateral loan to be repaid in full.

1.72 The Treasury is required under section 2 (3) of the Loans to Ireland Act 2010 to report on:

- any payments made by the Treasury by way of an Irish loan in the period to which the report relates
- any sums received by the Treasury in that period by way of repayment of principal or the payment of interest in respect of an Irish loan
- the aggregate amount of principal and interest in respect of Irish loans which is outstanding at the end of that period
- the remaining term of each Irish loan which is outstanding at the end of that period
- the original term of each Irish loan in respect of which a payment was made by the Treasury by way of an Irish loan in that period

1.73 Section 2 (4) of the Loans to Ireland Act 2010 states that no report is required to be prepared or laid in relation to a period if:

- no payments within subsection 3(a) are made in the period
- no sums within subsection 3(b) are received in the period
- no amount of principal or interest in respect of an Irish loan is outstanding at the end of the period

1.74 The Credit Facility Agreement for Ireland provided by the Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury, which was in force from 22 December 2010, is available at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/220640/int_ireland_loan_agreement.pdf.

1.75 In 2011, the Chancellor of the Exchequer took the decision to lower the interest rate on the bilateral loan to Ireland. An amended and restated Credit Facility Agreement for Ireland provided by The Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury came into force on 4 October 2012 and was deposited in the Library of the House on 15 October 2012. This is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/220641/int_loan_to_ireland_amendment_041012.pdf.

1.76 The new interest rate, which applied retrospectively, represents the UK's cost of funding plus a service fee of 0.18 percentage points. The UK's cost of funding for this purpose is defined as the average yield on gilt issuance in the 6 months prior to the disbursement of a tranche.

1.77 In order to adjust for the higher interest rates previously paid by Ireland, the interest payment that was due on 15 December 2012 was reduced by £7,668,903.59. The total interest received to date, as shown in Table 2.B, fully reflects the new lower interest rate.

1.78 The final disbursement of the loan was made on 26 September 2013. In accordance with the Loans to Ireland Act 2010, the Treasury has continued to report every 6 months until the conditions in section 2 (4) are satisfied.

Previous reports

1.79 This is the nineteenth occasion on which the Treasury has made such a report.

1.80 The first report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 31 March 2012 was laid on 11 June 2012 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-october-2011-to-31-march-2012>.

1.81 The second report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 30 September 2012 was laid on 15 October 2012 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-april-2012-to-30-september-2012>.

1.82 The third report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 31 March 2013 was laid on 25 April 2013 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-october-2012-to-31-march-2013>.

1.83 The fourth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 30 September 2013 was laid on 8 October 2013 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-april-2013-to-30-september-2013>.

1.84 The fifth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 31 March 2014 was laid on 28 April 2014 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-october-2013-to-31-march-2014>.

- 1.85 The sixth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 30 September 2014 was laid on 13 October 2014 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-april-2014-to-30-september-2014>.
- 1.86 The seventh report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 31 March 2015 was laid on 15 June 2015 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-october-2014-to-31-march-2015>.
- 1.87 The eighth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 30 September 2015 was laid on 15 October 2015 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-april-2015-to-30-September-2015>.
- 1.88 The ninth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 31 March 2016 was laid on 26 April 2016 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-october-2015-to-31-march-2016>.
- 1.89 The tenth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 30 September 2016 was laid on 13 October 2016 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-april-2016-to-30-september-2016>.
- 1.90 The eleventh report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 31 March 2017 was laid on 18 April 2017 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-october-2016-to-31-march-2017>.
- 1.91 The twelfth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 30 September 2017 was laid on 7 November 2017 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-april-2017-to-30-september-2017>.
- 1.92 The thirteenth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 31 March 2018 was laid on 24 April 2018 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-october-2017-to-31-march-2018>
- 1.93 The fourteenth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 30 September 2018 was laid on 15 October 2018 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-april-2018-to-30-september-2018>
- 1.94 The fifteenth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 31 March 2019 was laid on 1 April 2019 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-october-2018-to-31-march-2019>
- 1.95 The sixteenth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 30 September 2019 was laid on 3 October 2019, with a correction on 7 February 2020 and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-april-2019-to-30-september-2019>

1.96 The seventeenth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 31 March 2020 was laid on 29 April 2020 and is available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-october-2019-to-31-march-2020>

1.97 The eighteenth report pertaining to the 6-month period ending 30 September 2020 was laid on 5 October 2020 and is available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-under-section-2-of-the-loans-to-ireland-act-2010-1-april-2020-to-30-september-2020>

Chapter 2

Report covering the period 1 October 2020 to 31 March 2021

2.0 This chapter constitutes the report required to be prepared under section 2 of the act, and provides information about Irish loans in the period beginning with 1 October 2020 and ending on 31 March 2021.

2.1 On 26 September 2013, the UK made the final disbursement of the bilateral loan to Ireland. This was reported in the fourth statutory report to Parliament, covering the period 1 April 2013 to 30 September 2013 and laid in both Houses on 8 October 2013. Therefore, no disbursements took place during the current reporting period.

2.2 Table 2.A discloses details of each of the loan disbursements made to Ireland by the Treasury. The first three repayments of principal were made during the 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019 reporting period. On 3 February 2020, Ireland made its only scheduled repayment during the 1 October 2019 to 31 March 2020 period. On 20 April and 7 September, Ireland made two further repayments during the period covered by previous report, 1 April 2020 to 30 September 2020. The final two repayments of principal have been made during the reporting period covered by this report, 1 October 2020 to 31 March 2021. Accumulated remaining interest on each tranche has been paid on the repayment date of the associated tranche. As of 31 March 2021, Ireland has repaid the full £3,226,960,000 of principal. The total outstanding principal therefore stands at nil.

Table 2.A: Loan disbursements and maturities

| Disbursement date | Loan amount | Loan maturity date | Remaining term as at 31 March 2021 |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Disbursements during previous reporting periods | | | |
| 14 October 2011 | £403,370,000 | 15 April 2019 | 0 years, 0 months and 0 days |
| 30 January 2012 | £403,370,000 | 30 July 2019 | 0 years, 0 months and 0 days |
| 28 March 2012 | £403,370,000 | 30 September 2019 | 0 years, 0 months and 0 days |
| 1 August 2012 | £403,370,000 | 3 February 2020 | 0 years, 0 months and 0 days |
| 19 October 2012 | £403,370,000 | 20 April 2020 | 0 years, 0 months and 0 days |
| 6 March 2013 | £403,370,000 | 7 September 2020 | 0 years, 0 months and 0 days |
| 6 June 2013 | £403,370,000 | 7 December 2020 | 0 years, 0 months and 0 days |
| 26 September 2013 | £403,370,000 | 26 March 2021 | 0 years, 0 months and 0 days |
| Total disbursed to date | £3,226,960,000 | | |

2.3 On 13 October 2014, the Chancellor of the Exchequer informed Parliament (Written Ministerial Statement, 13 October 2014: Column 1WS) that the UK had provided a waiver under clause 19.3 of the Credit Facility Agreement (Amended 4 October 2012) enabling Ireland to make early repayments to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) of up to approximately €18.3 billion. All other international creditors, besides the IMF, also provided equivalent waivers. This decision did not amend the amount or timing of interest and principal repayments owed to the UK as originally foreseen in the Credit Facility Agreement (Amended 4 October 2012).

2.4 On 7 November 2017, the Chancellor of the Exchequer informed Parliament (Written Ministerial Statement, 7 November 2017; Column 45WS) that the UK had provided a waiver under clause 19.3 of the Credit Facility Agreement (Amended 4 October 2012) enabling Ireland to make early repayments to the IMF, Sweden and Denmark of up to approximately €5.5 billion. All remaining international creditors also issued similar waivers. This decision did not amend the amount or timing of interest and principle repayments owed to the UK as originally foreseen in the Credit Facility Agreement (Amended 4 October 2012).

2.5 Table 2.B discloses regular interest payments received by the Treasury in relation to Irish loans. Accumulated interest on the remaining disbursed tranches of the loan was payable by Ireland each year on 15 December and 15 June until the associated tranche was repaid. The Treasury received a final regular interest payment of £5,541,309.19 on 15 December 2020. Accrued outstanding interest at 31 March 2021 is nil.

Table 2.B: Regular interest payments received by HM Treasury

| Interest payment date ^a | Interest amount received |
|--|--------------------------|
| 15 December 2011 | £3,210,220.92 |
| 15 June 2012 | £19,688,408.80 |
| 15 December 2012 (paid 17 December 2012) | £14,779,487.85 |
| 15 June 2013 (paid 17 June 2013) | £29,732,004.86 |
| 15 December 2013 (paid 16 December 2013) | £38,879,795.48 |
| 15 June 2014 (paid 16 June 2014) | £41,769,173.48 |
| 15 December 2014 | £41,998,674.42 |
| 15 June 2015 | £41,769,173.48 |
| 15 December 2015 | £41,998,674.42 |
| 15 June 2016 | £41,998,674.43 |
| 15 December 2016 | £41,998,674.42 |
| 15 June 2017 | £41,769,173.48 |
| 15 December 2017 | £41,998,674.42 |
| 15 June 2018 | £41,769,173.47 |
| 15 December 2018 (paid 17 December 2018) | £41,998,674.42 |
| 15 June 2019 (paid 17 June 2019) | £34,984,976.33 |

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| 15 December 2019 (paid 16 December 2019) | £24,852,973.95 |
| 15 June 2020 | £14,931,199.18 |
| 15 December 2020 | £5,541,309.19 |
| Total interest received to date | £605,669,117.00 |

^a Dates in brackets show actual day of repayment when the scheduled interest payment date falls on a weekend

2.6 Table 2.C discloses the principal repayments received by HM Treasury during the reporting period and the received accrued interest payments on those tranches. Total repayment amounts represent the full tranche amount disclosed in Table 2.A plus the associated interest payment.

Table 2.C: Tranche repayments received by HM Treasury and associated interest

| Repayment date | Interest amount received | Tranche amount received | Total amount received |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 15 April 2019 | £4,473,097.02 | £403,370,000.00 | £407,843,097.02 |
| 30 July 2019 | £1,272,604.72 | £403,370,000.00 | £404,642,604.72 |
| 30 September 2019 | £2,954,326.08 | £403,370,000.00 | £406,324,326.08 |
| 3 February 2020 | £1,344,183.56 | £403,370,000.00 | £404,714,183.56 |
| 20 April 2020 | £3,302,904.07 | £403,370,000.00 | £406,672,904.07 |
| 7 September 2020 | £2,120,687.38 | £403,370,000.00 | £405,490,687.38 |
| 7 December 2020 | £4,482,313.75 | £403,370,000.00 | £407,852,313.75 |
| 26 March 2021 | £3,058,318.19 | £403,370,000.00 | £406,428,318.19 |