Submission on the Consultation on the resale of tickets for Entertainment and Sporting Events
28th March 2017

To whom it may concern
I agree with the principle of incorporating legislation into Irish Law to prevent the resale of tickets of major entertainment events, for amounts in excess of their face value.

The issues relates to the resale of tickets in Ireland. This was recently highlighted in the public domain when potential customers were unable to purchase tickets for high profile concerts due to the a high percentage of tickets pre-purchased by corporate sponsors, fan clubs, venues and media organisations. Legislation needs to be urgently implemented to prevent the secondary sales of tickets at inflated prices online and outside venues by ticket touts.

Any new legislation should include clauses whereby the resale of ticket above face value is restricted. The following points should be taken into consideration,

- Limits on ticket numbers per buyer for entertainment events, e.g. 4 tickets per online booking
- Primary Ticket sellers should provide a facility whereby such tickets could be returned to the primary seller and the price refunded and the ticket is offered for resale at the face value within 7 days of the event.
- The main secondary marketplaces operating in Ireland include Seatwave, StubHub and Viagogo. I believe that statutory provision should to be introduced to prohibit the use of ticketing purchasing software to purchase tickets for entertainment and sporting events in excess of the face value of tickets.
- By-laws need to be reviews outside of venues to prevent ticket touting.

Warmest regards

Andrew

Andrew Doyle, T.D.,
Minister of State.