To:	@centralbank.ie];	@centralbank.ie]
Cc:	Central Bank Media Relations[Media@centralbank.ie];	@centralbank.ie];
	centralbank.ie]	
From:		
Sent:	Mon 21/03/2022 11:46:55 am	
Importance	ce: Normal	
Subject:	Crypto release	Record 1
Received	: Mon 21/03/2022 11:46:56 am	Kecolu I
<u>Crypto re</u>	lease.docx	

Colleagues – with thanks to for getting this off the ground, draft crypto release for tomorrow is attached for your obs please. I'm on the mobile if you'd like to discuss.

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		@centi	ralbank	k.ie	

Press Release – 22 March 2022

#### Central Bank warning on investing in crypto-assets

- Europe-wide warning highlights risky and speculative nature of crypto-assets.
- People should be alert to misleading ads, especially on social media.
- Central Bank of Ireland explainer and warning for consumers on virtual currencies

The Central Bank has today (22 March 2022) highlighted a European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) warning on the risks of investing in crypto-assets [LINK TO ESMA/CBI SITE].

Many crypto-assets are highly risky and speculative, and may not be suitable for retail customers. There is a very real possibility of losing all the money you invest in these assets and the Bank is asking people to be alert to the risks of misleading advertisements, particularly on social media. Influencers are being paid to advertise crypto-assets, and people should be aware that what they are watching may be biased.

The warning also highlights that crypto-assets and related products and services usually fall outside existing strong consumer protections, meaning that it's unlikely you can complain if something goes wrong and you will not get your money back or any compensation, as you would if a recognised investment firm went out of business.

The Central Bank has published <u>a plain English explainer for consumers</u> on cryptocurrencies and <u>a warning on virtual currencies</u>.

Derville Rowland, Direct General Financial Conduct at the Central Bank of Ireland and Chair of ESMA's Investment Management Standing Committee, said: "We are seeing a lot of consumer interest and activity around crypto-assets. High returns are being advertised and people will of course make up their own minds and invest as they wish.

However, if you are thinking about buying crypto-assets or related products and services, please ask yourself if you can afford to lose all the money you invest, if you are you ready to take on high risks to earn the advertised returns, if you understand exactly what is being offered and crucially, are the firm you are dealing with reputable?

Our rules at the Central Bank of Ireland protect the money in your bank account and any investments you have. We cannot protect your investment in crypto-assets so please be aware and make a well-informed decision."

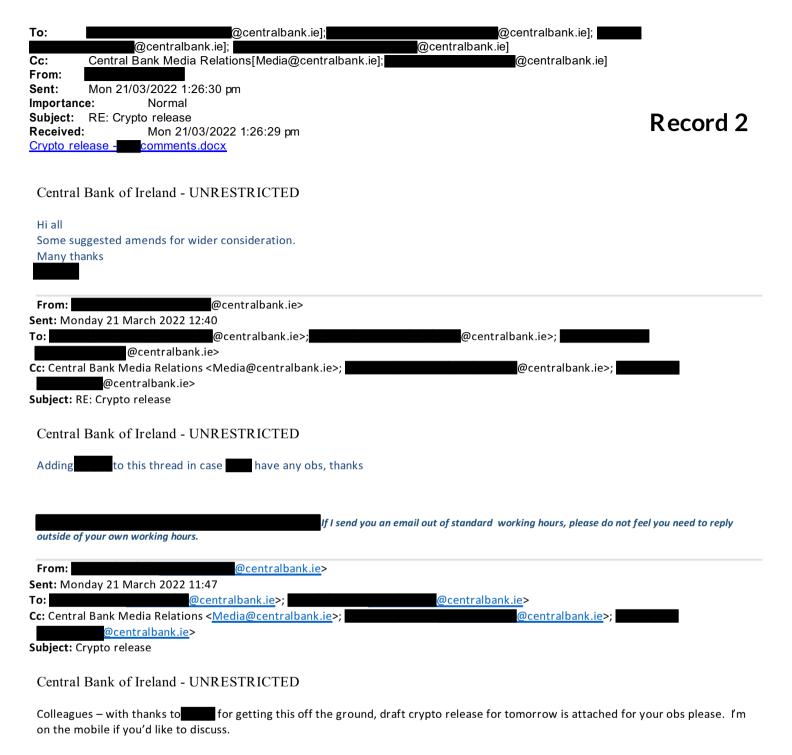
#### ENDS

Notes to Editor

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Derville Rowland has served as Chair of ESMA's Investment Management Standing Committee since 1 July 2021. Standing committees are expert groups drawn from ESMA staff and Member States' National Competent Authorities. The Investment Management Standing Committee works on issues relating to the investment funds sector and is responsible for the development of policy and supervisory convergence activities.

ESMA Statement on Investment Recommendations on Social Media (October 2021)





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highly risky and speculative, and may not be suitable for retail customers. In particular people need to be alert to the risks of misleading advertisements, particularly on social media, where influencers are being paid to advertise crypto-assets.

Derville Rowland, Direct General Financial Conduct and Chair of ESMA's Investment Management Standing Committee, said: "Supervisors across Europe are seeing increasing levels of advertising and aggressive promotion of crypto asset investments. While consumers may be attracted to these investments by the high returns advertised, the reality is that these products carry a significant risk of losing all your money.

Before you buy crypto-assets or related products and services, you need to think about whether you can afford to lose all the money you invest. Do the promised fast or high returns appear too good to be true? Are you prepared to take the level of risk and investment that might needed to earn the advertised returns?

There are no safety nets for crypto assets. Any investments you make are not protected and you will be liable for all your losses."

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То:	@centralbank.ie];		@centralbank.ie];	
@centralbank.ie];         Cc:       Central Bank Media Relations[         From:	Media@centralbank.ie];	@centralbank.ie] @	)centralbank.ie]	
Sent:Mon 21/03/2022 3:18:24 pmImportance:NormalSubject:RE: Crypto release				Record 3
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Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTR	ICTED			
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Central Bank of Ireland	
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Also, Lunder	rstand there are plans beyond just this press release in the	process of finalisation (and that the early release by ESMA below
		e additional plans also to head off her question about them (i.e.
given we dis	cussed with her that we would do more than a press relea	ase so we should clarify what we have planned and for when).
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Building on		ed at taking ownership of the warning (as a component part of
ESIVIA) rathe	er than saying we are highlighting the ESMA warning.	
Happy to dis	cuss if anybody feels this is problematic.	
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#### Adding to this thread in case have any obs, thanks

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To: @centralbank.ie>;	@centralbank.ie>
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@centralbank.ie>	
Subject: Crypto release	

#### Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED

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Cei	ntral Bank of	Ireland		
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Press Release – 22 March 2022

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Derville Rowland, Direct General Financial Conduct and Chair of ESMA's Investment Management Standing Committee, said: "In Ireland and across the EU, we continue to see increasing levels of advertising and aggressive promotion of crypto asset investments. While consumers may be attracted to these investments by the high returns advertised, the reality is that such products carry a significant risk of losing all your money.

"Consumers also need to be alert to the risk of being mislead, especially by promises of fast or high returns - if it appears too good to be true, it probably is."

The Central Bank has published <u>a plain English explainer for consumers</u> on cryptocurrencies and <u>a warning on virtual currencies</u>.

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@centralbank.ie];       @centralbank.ie]         Cc:       Central Bank Media Relations[Media@centralbank.ie];       @centralbank.ie]         From:       @centralbank.ie];       @centralbank.ie]         Sent:       Mon 21/03/2022 4:49:58 pm       @centralbank.ie];       @centralbank.ie]         Importance:       Normal       Record       Record         Subject:       RE: Crypto release       Received:       Mon 21/03/2022 4:50:00 pm         Crypto release v2.docx       Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED       Many thanks all – I've done another cut taking everyone's input on board and I'll send to many now.	
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Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
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ESMA) rather than saying we are highlighting the ESMA warning.	
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c: Central Bank Media Relations < <u>Media@centralbank.ie</u> >;	

Some suggested amends for wider consideration. Many thanks

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o: @centralbank.ie	<pre>&gt;; @centralbank.ie&gt;;</pre>
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To:@centralbank.ie]From:@centralbank.ie]Sent:Mon 21/03/2022 5:59:34 pmImportance:NormalSubject:FW: Crypto press releaseReceived:Mon 21/03/2022 5:59:35 pmCrypto release v2.docx	Record 6
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
Apologies I dropped you off this accidentally	
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Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
Colleagues – pending any obs from and/or and/or and/or with to clear with this evening and I amends tomorrow. I've highlighted the wider programme of work on public engagement around crypto below.	can incorporate any
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From:       Sent: Monday 21 March 2022 17:12         To:       @centralbank.ie>;         @centralbank.ie>;       @centralbank.ie>         Cc:       @centralbank.ie>;         Subject:       Crypto press release	
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
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Best

Central Bank of Ireland M E @centralbank.ie

to accompany the release.

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Two p	oints:		
	1. On the release itself:		
	I do have one final ob however, on the following text (which correspondence):	is included back in but was deleted in the most recent mark up in	our
	correspondence).		
	"There are no safety nets for crypto assets. Any inv	vestments you make are not protected and you will be liable for	r all
	your losses."		
	I think this is too broad and open to being incorrect in all case	es. Yes, the assets are not regulated investments under MiFID etc.	
		at all – they just don't have the recourse you get if dealing with a	
	financial service regulated by the Central Bank.	<u> i prime de la constante de la constante</u>	
	unregulated nature), I would replace the above text with lang	If keeping a quote on this aspect (the	
		suge closel to the text in the LowArelease, as follows.	
		and related products and services typically fall outside existing	
		So if things go wrong in such cases, consumers do not have the	
	protections they would have if they invested in a regu	ilated product."	
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		der plan post the press release is, rather than alluding to it as belo nyway). Can we at least recite for eg the options we are looking a	
	and broadly the timeline we would envisage?		•
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"While people may be attracted to these investments by the high returns advertised, the reality is that they carry significant risk.

"Before you buy crypto assets, you need to think about whether you can afford to lose all the money you invest. Do the promised fast or high returns seem too good to be true?

"There are no safety nets for crypto assets. Any investments you make are not protected and you will be liable for all your losses."

The Central Bank has published <u>a plain English explainer for consumers</u> on cryptocurrencies.

#### ENDS

#### Notes to Editor

The European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) is an independent EU Authority that contributes to safeguarding the stability of the EU's financial system by enhancing the protection of investors and promoting stable and orderly financial markets.

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Standing Committee works on issues relating to the investment funds sector and is responsible for the development of policy and supervisory convergence activities.

ESMA Statement on Investment Recommendations on Social Media (October 2021)

To::       @centralbank.ie];       @centralbank.ie]         Cc:       Central Bank Media Relations[Media@centralbank.ie];       @centralbank.ie];         @centralbank.ie];       @centralbank.ie];         From::       @centralbank.ie];         Sent:       Mon 21/03/2022 8:45:07 pm         Importance:       Normal         Subject:       RE: Crypto press release [SEC=Restricted]         Received:       Mon 21/03/2022 8:45:09 pm
Thanks for this <b>and a second se</b>
Best Record 8
From:       @centralbank.ie>         Date:       21 March 2022 at 19:48:01 GMT         To:       @centralbank.ie>,         @centralbank.ie>,       @centralbank.ie>         Cc:       Central Bank Media Relations          Central Bank Media Relations        Media@centralbank.ie>,         @centralbank.ie>,       @centralbank.ie>         Subject:       RE:         Crypto press release
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED
Apologies, I spotted <b>equal</b> is not on the email string below, so just resending now with her included.
From: Sent: 21 March 2022 19:47 To: @@centralbank.ie>; @@@centralbank.ie> Cc: Central Bank Media Relations <media@centralbank.ie>; @@@centralbank.ie&gt;; @@centralbank.ie&gt; Subject: RE: Crypto press release</media@centralbank.ie>
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED
Hi <b>ng and a</b>
Re review, I would be guided by revert and look to

share a final version with the morning. The morning you might however let her know this is on the way if she is not already expecting it.

1. On the release itself:

I do have one final ob however, on the following text (which is included back in but was deleted in the most recent mark up in our correspondence):

"There are no safety nets for crypto assets. Any investments you make are not protected and you will be liable for all your losses."

If keeping

I think this is too broad and open to being incorrect in all cases. Yes, the assets are not regulated investments under MiFID etc. but neither is it true to say that an investor has no recourse at all – they just don't have the recourse you get if dealing with a financial service regulated by the Central Bank.

a quote on this aspect (the unregulated nature), I would replace the above text with language closer to the text in the ESMA release, as follows:

"Consumers should also be aware that crypto-assets and related products and services typically fall outside existing protection under current EU financial services rules. So if things go wrong in such cases, consumers do not have the protections they would have if they invested in a regulated product."

2. On the wider plan:

I would like us to be giving an outline of what the wider plan post the press release is, rather than alluding to it as below (and perhaps you planned to do so for the email to anyway). Can we at least recite for eg the options we are looking at and broadly the timeline we would envisage?

Thanks again,

From:	@centralbank.ie>	
Sent: 21	March 2022 17:59	
To:	@centralbank.ie>;	@centralbank.ie>
Cc: Cent	ral Bank Media Relations < <u>Media@centralbank.ie</u> >;	@centralbank.ie>;
	@centralbank.ie>	
Subject:	FW: Crypto press release	

Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED

Colleagues – pending any obs from and/or and/or with to clear with this evening and I can incorporate any amends tomorrow. I've highlighted the wider programme of work on public engagement around crypto below.

Best
------

 From:
 Sent: Monday 21 March 2022 17:12

 To:
 @centralbank.ie>;

 @centralbank.ie>;
 @centralbank.ie>;

 Cc:
 @centralbank.ie>;

 Subject:
 Crypto press release

Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED

Colleagues – I'd appreciate your eyes on the attached release, which we plan to issue tomorrow, please. We will have social media posts to accompany the release.

This is in support of ESMA's work, and their warning last week, and forms one piece of a fuller programme of consumer engagement for the Bank around crypto, which is something we are working on at the moment.

Central Bank of Ireland	
M	
E @centralbank.ie	

Record 9

Central Bank of Ireland - PUBLIC

#### Press Release – 22 March 2022

#### Central Bank warning on investing in crypto-assets

- ∀ Europe-wide warning highlights risky and speculative nature of crypto-assets.
- $\forall$  People should be alert to misleading ads, especially on social media.
- ∀ Central Bank of Ireland explainer and warning for consumers on virtual currencies.

The Central Bank has today (22 March 2022) issued a fresh warning on the risks of investing in crypto assets, as part of <u>a</u> <u>European-wide campaign by the European Supervisory Authorities</u>.

The Central Bank again emphasised that crypto assets are highly risky and speculative, and may not be suitable for retail customers. In particular people need to be alert to the risks of misleading advertisements, particularly on social media, where influencers are being paid to advertise crypto assets.

Derville Rowland, Director General Financial Conduct said: "In Ireland and across the EU we are seeing increasing levels of advertising and aggressive promotion of crypto asset investments.

"While people may be attracted to these investments by the high returns advertised, the reality is that they carry significant risk.

"Before you buy crypto assets, you need to think about whether you can afford to lose all the money you invest. Do the promised fast or high returns seem too good to be true?

"People should also be aware that if things gowrong, you do not have the protections you would have if you invested in a regulated product."

The Central Bank has published a plain English explainer for consumers on cryptocurrencies.

#### ENDS

#### Notes to Editor

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ESMA Statement on Investment Recommendations on Social Media (October 2021)

То:	@centralbank.ie];	@centralbank.ie]
From:		
Sent: Tue 22/03/20	22 7:10:54 pm	
Importance: No	rmal	Record 10
Subject: RE: Crypto pr	ess release	Record IV
Received: Tu	e 22/03/2022 7:11:07 pm	
Central Bank of Irela	nd - RESTRICTED	

From: @centralbank.ie>
ent: 22 March 2022 09:38
Fo:@centralbank.ie>;@centralbank.ie>;@centralbank.ie> Subject: RE: Crypto press release
Central Bank of Ireland - RESTRICTED
Thanks , and apologies you had to do so much on this.
In short, yes, the date was brought forward (to last Thursday) but recognising that it was short notice for COMM, and that it would mea publishing on St Patrick's Day, I confirmed with that we could push out to today.
publishing on St Patrick's Day, I commed with that we could push out to today.
. If I send you an email out of standard working hours, please do not feel you need to reply
outside of your own working hours.
From: @centralbank.ie>
Sent: Monday 21 March 2022 19:52
o:     @centralbank.ie>;       @centralbank.ie>;
Subject: FW: Crypto press release
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED

## 

Copying

From: Sent: 21 March 2022 19:48 To: @centralbank.ie>; @centralbank.ie> @centralbank.ie>; **Cc:** Central Bank Media Relations <<u>Media@centralbank.ie</u>>; @centralbank.ie>; @centralbank.ie> Subject: RE: Crypto press release Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED Apologies, I spotted is not on the email string below, so just resending now with her included. From: Sent: 21 March 2022 19:47 @centralbank.ie>; @centralbank.ie> To: **Cc:** Central Bank Media Relations < Media@centralbank.ie>; @centralbank.ie>; @centralbank.ie> Subject: RE: Crypto press release Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED Hi Re review, I would be guided by a on this but, at this stage, I suggest we let a work and look to share a final version with the morning. You might however let her know this is on the way if she is not already expecting it. Two points: 1. On the release itself: I do have one final ob however, on the following text (which is included back in but was deleted in the most recent mark up in our correspondence): "There are no safety nets for crypto assets. Any investments you make are not protected and you will be liable for all your losses." I think this is too broad and open to being incorrect in all cases. Yes, the assets are not regulated investments under MiFID etc. but neither is it true to say that an investor has no recourse at all – they just don't have the recourse you get if dealing with a financial service regulated by the Central Bank. If keeping a quote on this aspect (the unregulated nature), I would replace the above text with language closer to the text in the ESMA release, as follows: "Consumers should also be aware that crypto-assets and related products and services typically fall outside existing protection under current EU financial services rules. So if things go wrong in such cases, consumers do not have the protections they would have if they invested in a regulated product."

2. On the wider plan:

I would like us to be giving an outline of what the wider plan post the press release is, rather than alluding to it as below (and perhaps you planned to do so for the email to anyway). Can we at least recite for eg the options we are looking at and broadly the timeline we would envisage?

From: @centralbank.ie>	
Sent: 21 March 2022 17:59	
To: @centralbank.ie>;	@centralbank.ie>
<b>Cc:</b> Central Bank Media Relations < <u>Media@centralbank.ie</u> >; @centralbank.ie>	@centralbank.ie>;
Subject: FW: Crypto press release	
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
Colleagues – pending any obs from and/or and/or and/or amends tomorrow. I've highlighted the wider programme of	may wish to clear with this evening and I can incorporate any work on public engagement around crypto below.
Best	
From: Sent: Monday 21 March 2022 17:12 To: @centralbank.ie>; Cc: @centralbank.ie>; Central Bank M Subject: Crypto press release	@centralbank.ie> edia Relations < <u>Media@centralbank.ie</u> >

Colleagues – I'd appreciate your eyes on the attached release, which we plan to issue tomorrow, please. We will have social media posts to accompany the release.

This is in support of ESMA's work, and their warning last week, and forms one piece of a fuller programme of consumer engagement for the Bank around crypto, which is something we are working on at the moment.

Best

Ce	ntral Bank of Ireland
Μ	
E	@centralbank.ie

From:Central Bank Media RelationsSent:Wed 16/03/2022 2:08:48 pmImportance:NormalSubject:Calendar of Events: Week commencing Monday 21 March 2022Received:Wed 16/03/2022 2:08:52 pm

For your information, the following items are planned for the week commencing Monday 21 March 2022:

#### Monday 21 March

**Tuesday 22 March** 

11:00 Publication: Central Bank publishes ESMA warning on risks of investing in cryptocurrencies

#### Wednesday 23 March

Friday 25 March

Further information: Media Relations: +353 (0)1 224 6299 / media@centralbank.ie

 From:
 Central Bank Media Relations

 Sent:
 Wed 16/03/2022 2:09:14 pm

 Importance:
 Normal

 Subject:
 For information: Calendar of events and items for weekend media, 17 - 20 March 2022

 Received:
 Wed 16/03/2022 2:09:16 pm

 220316 Communications update.pdf

Record 12

Central Bank of Ireland - RESTRICTED

Dear colleagues,

Please find attached the calendar of events and items for weekend media.

If you have any queries over the weekend, please contact me directly.

Best wishes,

Central Bank of Ireland			
Т	M		
Ε	@centralbank.ie		

### Communications update: Weekend 17-20 March 2022

# Calendar of upcoming items Monday 21 March Tuesday 22 M arch 1:00 Publication: Central Bank publishes ESM A warning on risks of investing in cryptocurrencies W ednesday 23 M arch Friday 25 M arch

N otable external events

Beannachtaí na féile Pádraig oraibh go léir





Draft Release.docx

Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED

Hi both,

Please find attached a draft release for the crypto warning due to publish on 22 March next. It's fairly basic so if you would like to add anything further, please do. I've drawn on the text of the ESMA warning itself, based on the most recent version of same I have (also attached, for information). I haven't yet added a quote for **same attached** and **same** will be better placed to inform on how strong she would prefer this to be.

I am copying **and and and be** here as well, so that we can discuss what suits best in terms of the actual publication of the warning. I would be minded to add a link to the ESMA notice on our website (perhaps among the information on <u>this page</u>) but will be guided by what all think is best.

Have a good long weekend all!

Thanks and best wishes,

Central Bank of Ireland			
Т	M		
E @cent	ralbank.ie		

#### Press Release – 22 March 2022

# Central Bank publishes ESMA warning on risks of investing in crypto-assets

- ESMA warning highlights the risky and speculative nature of crypto-assets.
- Consumers are encouraged to be alert to the risks of misleading advertisements, including from social media.
- Central Bank of Ireland previously published explainer and warning for consumers on virtual currencies.

The Central Bank has today (22 March 2022) published a European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) warning on the risks of investing in crypto-assets [LINK TO ESMA/CBI SITE].

The warning seeks to inform consumers that many crypto-assets are highly risky and speculative, and may not be suitable for most retail consumers as a means of payment or an investment. Consumers risk losing money by investing in such assets and are encouraged to be alert to the risks of misleading advertisements, including from social media.

The warning also highlights that crypto-assets and related products and services typically fall outside existing consumer protections, meaning there may not be much recourse if something goes wrong.

The Central Bank, together with fellow National Competent Authorities, contributed to the development and drafting of the warning, which was first published by ESMA on Thursday 17 March last.

The Central Bank has previously published <u>a plain English explainer for consumers</u> on cryptocurrencies and <u>a warning on virtual currencies</u>.

Derville Rowland, Direct General Financial Conduct at the Central Bank of Ireland and Chair of ESMA's Investment Management Standing Committee, said, "[...]"

#### ENDS

#### Notes to Editor

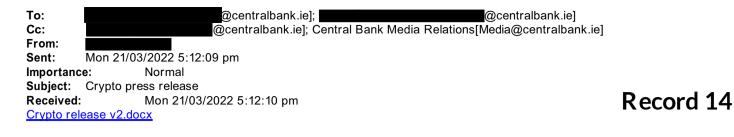
The European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) is an independent EU Authority that contributes to safeguarding the stability of the EU's financial system by enhancing the protection of investors and promoting stable and orderly financial markets.

Derville Rowland has served as Chair of ESMA's Investment Management Standing Committee since 1 July 2021. Standing committees are expert groups drawn from ESMA

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ESMA Statement on Investment Recommendations on Social Media (October 2021)

More Information Media Relations <u>media@centralbank.ie</u> / 01 224 6299



Colleagues – I'd appreciate your eyes on the attached release, which we plan to issue tomorrow, please. We will have social media posts to accompany the release.

This is in support of ESMA's work, and their warning last week, and forms one piece of a fuller programme of consumer engagement for the Bank around crypto, which is something we are working on at the moment.

Best

Central Bank of Ireland	
M	
E @centralbank.ie	

Press Release – 22 March 2022

## Central Bank warning on investing in crypto-assets

- Europe-wide warning highlights risky and speculative nature of crypto-assets.
- People should be alert to misleading ads, especially on social media.
- Central Bank of Ireland explainer and warning for consumers on virtual currencies.

The Central Bank has today (22 March 2022) issued a fresh warning on the risks of investing in crypto assets, as part of a European-wide campaign by the European Supervisory Authorities [LINK TO ESMA/CBI SITE].

The Central Bank again emphasised that crypto assets are highly risky and speculative, and may not be suitable for retail customers. In particular people need to be alert to the risks of misleading advertisements, particularly on social media, where influencers are being paid to advertise crypto assets.

Derville Rowland, Director General Financial Conduct said: "In Ireland and across the EU we are seeing increasing levels of advertising and aggressive promotion of crypto asset investments.

"While people may be attracted to these investments by the high returns advertised, the reality is that they carry significant risk.

"Before you buy crypto assets, you need to think about whether you can afford to lose all the money you invest. Do the promised fast or high returns seem too good to be true?

"There are no safety nets for crypto assets. Any investments you make are not protected and you will be liable for all your losses."

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More Information Media Relations media@centralbank.ie / 01 224 6299

To:	@centralbank.ie];	@centralbank.ie]
Cc:	Central Bank Media Relations[Media@centralbank.ie]; @@centralbank.ie]	@centralbank.ie];
From:		
Sent:	Mon 21/03/2022 5:59:00 pm	
Importan		Record 15
	FW: Crypto press release	
Received	d: Mon 21/03/2022 5:59:02 pm elease v2.docx	
Colleagu amends	l Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED ues – pending any obs from and/or and/or you may wish to s tomorrow. I've highlighted the wider programme of work on publ	
Best		
From:		
Sent: Mo	onday 21 March 2022 17:12 @centralbank.ie>;	@centralbank.ie>
Cc:	@centralbank.ie>; Central Bank Media Relation	
	Crypto press release	
,		

Colleagues – I'd appreciate your eyes on the attached release, which we plan to issue tomorrow, please. We will have social media posts to accompany the release.

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Central Bank of Ireland M E @centralbank.ie

Press Release – 22 March 2022

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Derville Rowland, Director General Financial Conduct said: "In Ireland and across the EU we are seeing increasing levels of advertising and aggressive promotion of crypto asset investments.

"While people may be attracted to these investments by the high returns advertised, the reality is that they carry significant risk.

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More Information Media Relations media@centralbank.ie / 01 224 6299

To:       @centralbank.ie];       @centralbank.ie];         Cc:       @centralbank.ie];       Central Bank Media Relations[Media@         From:	tralbank.ie] centralbank.ie]
Subject:       RE: Crypto press release [SEC=Restricted]         Received:       Tue 22/03/2022 8:28:50 am         Crypto release v2 (002).docx	Record 16
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
Hi	
This looks good. I've just included an additional statement in relation to the real possibility o	f losing all monies invested.
Regards	
From:       @centralbank.ie>         Sent:       Monday21 March 2022 20:13         To:       @centralbank.ie>;         @centralbank.ie>;       @centralbank.ie>;         Cc:       @centralbank.ie>;         @centralbank.ie>;       Central Bank Media Relations          Subject:       Re:         Crypto press release [SEC=Restricted]	
Hi	
I really like this.	
Short, clear, impactful.	
Full support from me.	
From: <u>@centralbank.ie</u> >	
Date: 21 March 2022 at 18:12:10GMT+1 To: @centralbank.ie>, @central	<u>llbank.ie&gt;</u>
Cc: @centralbank.ie>, Central Bank Media Relations < <u>Media@</u>	

Subject: Crypto press release

#### Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED

Colleagues – I'd appreciate your eyes on the attached release, which we plan to issue tomorrow, please. We will have social media posts to accompany the release.

This is in support of ESMA's work, and their warning last week, and forms one piece of a fuller programme of consumer engagement for the Bank around crypto, which is something we are working on at the moment.

Best

Central Bank of Ireland M E <u>@centralbank.ie</u>

Press Release – 22 March 2022

# Central Bank warning on investing in crypto-assets

- Europe-wide warning highlights risky and speculative nature of crypto-assets.
- People should be alert to misleading ads, especially on social media.
- They face the very real possibility of losing all their invested money if they buy these assets
- Central Bank of Ireland explainer and warning for consumers on virtual currencies.

The Central Bank has today (22 March 2022) issued a fresh warning on the risks of investing in crypto assets, as part of a European-wide campaign by the European Supervisory Authorities [LINK TO ESMA/CBI SITE].

The Central Bank again emphasised that crypto assets are highly risky and speculative, and may not be suitable for retail customers. In particular people need to be alert to the risks of misleading advertisements, particularly on social media, where influencers are being paid to advertise crypto assets.

Derville Rowland, Director General Financial Conduct said: "In Ireland and across the EU we are seeing increasing levels of advertising and aggressive promotion of crypto asset investments.

"While people may be attracted to these investments by the high returns advertised, the reality is that they carry significant risk.

"Before you buy crypto assets, you need to think about whether you can afford to lose all the money you invest. Do the promised fast or high returns seem too good to be true?

"There are no safety nets for crypto assets. Any investments you make are not protected and you will be liable for all your losses."

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ESMA Statement on Investment Recommendations on Social Media (October 2021)

More Information Media Relations media@centralbank.ie / 01 224 6299 To:@centralbank.ie]From:Central Bank Media RelationsSent:Tue 22/03/2022 8:54:13 amImportance:NormalSubject:FW: Release for approvalReceived:Tue 22/03/2022 8:54:14 amCrypto release v3.docx

From: Sent: Tuesday 22 March 2022 08:54:12 (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London To: Communication Communications (Communication); Central Bank Media Relations Subject: Release for approval

Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED

Morning **and** – attached for approval please. As I mentioned to **a set of** and **a set of** yesterday, this is one piece of work that we are doing in support of ESMA, and it's only a part of a fuller consumer engagement for the Bank around crypto.

Best

Μ

Central Bank of Ireland

E @centralbank.ie

Press Release – 22 March 2022

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ESMA Statement on Investment Recommendations on Social Media (October 2021)

More Information Media Relations media@centralbank.ie / 01 224 6299

Record 18 iMessage Tue, 22 Mar, 09:09

, just checking on the Hi ESMA warning on crypto to be published today. Presumably if it's ESMA all euro central banks will be publishing it simultaneously? Many thanks,

To:	@centralbank.ie];	@centralbank.ie]	
Cc:	@centralbank.ie]		
From:	Central Bank Media Relations		
Sent:	Tue 22/03/2022 11:08:49 am		
Importance	e: Normal		Record 19
Subject:	RE: Release for approval		
Received:	Tue 22/03/2022 11:08:48 am		

Good morning all,

Just to quickly flag on the below, I've taken two calls from media (Bloomberg and Irish Independent) about the warning this morning. I expect more will follow shortly given the warning was to issue at 11am. I've forwarded the link to the warning itself (on ESMA's site) but both journalists were keen to get

If we could get the release finalised as soon as possible, that'd be great!

Many thanks and best wishes,

Construct Do	where the stand	
entral Ba	ank of Ireland	
ſ		
	@centralbank.ie	

From: @@centralbank.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 22 March 2022 08:54
To: @@centralbank.ie>
Cc: @@centralbank.ie>; Central Bank Media Relations <Media@centralbank.ie>
Cc: @@centralbank.ie>; Central Bank Media Relations <Media@centralbank.ie>

Subject: Release for approval

Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED

Morning — attached for approval please. As I mentioned to **a set of** and **a set of** yesterday, this is one piece of work that we are doing in support of ESMA, and it's only a part of a fuller consumer engagement for the Bank around crypto.

Best



To: Cc:	Central Bank Media Relations[Media@centralbank.ie];	@centralbank.ie]
From: Sent: Importan Subject: Received	Tue 22/03/2022 11:09:54 am ce: Normal RE: Release for approval	Record 20
Central	Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
,		
It can is	sue, thanks.	
outside o	If I send you an email out of standar	d working hours, please do not feel you need to reply
	entral Bank Media Relations <media@centralbank.ie> esday 22 March 2022 11:09 @centralbank.ie&gt;; @centralbank.ie&gt;</media@centralbank.ie>	ralbank.ie>
	RE: Release for approval	
Central	Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
Good m	orning all,	
expect r	quickly flag on the below, I've taken two calls from media (Bloomberg and Irish more will follow shortly given the warning was to issue at 11am. I've forwarder urnalists were keen to get quote on it.	
If we co	uld get the release finalised as soon as possible, that'd be great!	
Many th	nanks and best wishes,	
Central T E	Bank of Ireland    M @centralbank.ie	
То:	@centralbank.ie> esday 22 March 2022 08:54 @centralbank.ie>	
Cc: Subject: F	<u>@centralbank.ie</u> >; Central Bank Media Relations < <u>Media@</u> Release for approval	centralbank.ie>
Central	Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	

Best

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ent: Tue 22 nportance: ubject: Media	Il Bank Media Relations 2/03/2022 12:54:07 pm Normal Alert - Central Bank issues		risks of investing in crypto	assets
eceived:	Tue 22/03/2022 12:54:	02 pm		Decend 01
Cantural Davila	Lulu I UNDESTDIC	TED		Record 21
Central Bank C	of Ireland - UNRESTRIC	IED		
The Irish Times –	Influencers being paid to pu	sh "highly risky" crypt	o assets	
RTÉ – <u>Central Ba</u>	nk warns on investing in cryp	otocurrency		
Social:				
esma ESMA - EU @ESMACo	J Securities Markets Regulator 🔲 mms	•		
	see that @centralbank aign on #CryptoAssets FbhJt.			
may not be s	s are highly risky and sp uitable for retail custom	ers.		
	ware of misleading adve n #SocialMedia.	rusements,		
The Central Bank crypto assets, as	of Ireland 🔮 @centralbank_ie - 1h has today issued a fresh warning 📘 part of a European-wide campaign b prities: centralbank.ie/news/article/o	y the European		
Publicatio	วท			
Central B crypto-as	ank warning on inv ssets	estingin		
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The @centralbank\_ie has issued a warning on the risks of investing in crypto assets, as part of a Europeanwide awareness campaign. @rtenews



#### rte.ie

Central Bank warns on investing in cryptocurrency

The Central Bank has issued a warning on the risks of investing in crypto assets, as part of a European-wide awareness campaign.

12:03 PM · Mar 22, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone



 To:
 @centralbank.ie]

 From:
 @centralbank.ie]

 Sent:
 Tue 22/03/2022 12:45:04 pm

 Importance:
 Normal

 Subject:
 RE: Press Release: Central Bank warning on investing in crypto-assets

 Received:
 Tue 22/03/2022 12:45:03 pm

Central Bank of Ireland - PUBLIC

Thanks though	
Central Bank of Ireland	
T M E <u>@centralbank.ie</u>	
From: @centralbank.ie>	
Sent: Tuesday 22 March 2022 12:12	
Co: @centralbank.ie>	
Subject: FW: Press Release: Central Bank warning on investing in crypto-assets	
Central Bank of Ireland - PUBLIC	
Nice release . Good working out of how to word the ESA initiative.	
From: Central Bank Media Relations < <u>Media@centralbank.ie</u> >	
Sent: Tuesday 22 March 2022 11:14	
Subject: Press Release: Central Bank warning on investing in crypto-assets	

Record 22

Central Bank of Ireland - PUBLIC

Press Release – 22 March 2022

## Central Bank warning on investing in crypto-assets

- $\forall$  Europe-wide warning highlights risky and speculative nature of crypto-assets.
- $\forall$  People should be alert to misleading ads, especially on social media.
- $\forall$  Central Bank of Ireland explainer and warning for consumers on virtual currencies.

The Central Bank has today (22 March 2022) issued a fresh warning on the risks of investing in crypto assets, as part of <u>a</u> <u>European-wide campaign by the European Supervisory Authorities</u>.

The Central Bank again emphasised that crypto assets are highly risky and speculative, and may not be suitable for retail customers. In particular people need to be alert to the risks of misleading advertisements, particularly on social media, where influencers are being paid to advertise crypto assets.

Derville Rowland, Director General Financial Conduct said: "In Ireland and across the EU we are seeing increasing levels of advertising and aggressive promotion of crypto asset investments.

"While people may be attracted to these investments by the high returns advertised, the reality is that they carry significant risk.

"Before you buy crypto assets, you need to think about whether you can afford to lose all the money you invest. Do the promised fast or high returns seem too good to be true?

"People should also be aware that if things go wrong, you do not have the protections you would have if you invested in a regulated product."

The Central Bank has published a plain English explainer for consumers on cryptocurrencies.

#### ENDS

#### Notes to Editor

The European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) is an independent EU Authority that contributes to safeguarding the stability of the EU's financial system by enhancing the protection of investors and promoting stable and orderly financial markets.

Derville Rowland has served as Chair of ESMA's Investment Management Standing Committee since 1 July 2021. Standing committees are expert groups drawn from ESMA staff and Member States' National Competent Authorities. The Investment Management Standing Committee works on issues relating to the investment funds sector and is responsible for the development of policy and supervisory convergence activities.

ESMA Statement on Investment Recommendations on Social Media (October 2021)

More Information Media Relations media@centralbank.ie / 01 224 6299

#### Press Release – 22 March 2022

# Central Bank publishes ESMA warning on risks of investing in crypto-assets

- ESMA warning highlights the risky and speculative nature of crypto-assets.
- Consumers are encouraged to be alert to the risks of misleading advertisements, including from social media.
- Central Bank of Ireland previously published explainer and warning for consumers on virtual currencies.

The Central Bank has today (22 March 2022) published a European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) warning on the risks of investing in crypto-assets [LINK TO ESMA/CBI SITE].

The warning seeks to inform consumers that many crypto-assets are highly risky and speculative, and may not be suitable for most retail consumers as a means of payment or an investment. Consumers risk losing money by investing in such assets and are encouraged to be alert to the risks of misleading advertisements, including from social media.

The warning also highlights that crypto-assets and related products and services typically fall outside existing consumer protections, meaning there may not be much recourse if something goes wrong.

The Central Bank has previously published <u>a plain English explainer for consumers</u> on cryptocurrencies and <u>a warning on virtual currencies</u>.

Derville Rowland, Direct General Financial Conduct at the Central Bank of Ireland and Chair of ESMA's Investment Management Standing Committee, said, "[...]"

#### ENDS

#### Notes to Editor

The European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) is an independent EU Authority that contributes to safeguarding the stability of the EU's financial system by enhancing the protection of investors and promoting stable and orderly financial markets.

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staff and Member States' National Competent Authorities. The Investment Management Standing Committee works on issues relating to the investment funds sector and is responsible for the development of policy and supervisory convergence activities.

ESMA Statement on Investment Recommendations on Social Media (October 2021)

More Information Media Relations media@centralbank.ie / 01 224 6299 To:@centralbank.ie]Cc:@centralbank.ie]From:Central Bank Media RelationsSent:Wed 23/03/2022 12:32:39 pmImportance:NormalSubject:FW: [External]Radio Kerry CryptoReceived:Wed 23/03/2022 12:32:37 pm

Record 24

Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED

#### Hi

Just looking at the below, I'd actually like to accommodate this opportunity if we can – it ought to be a short, straightforward one-on-one piece and gives us a chance to underline some of the key points in the warning yesterday.

	Before I forward on to	and	I wanted to get your sense on it?		
Central Bank of Ireland	Best wishes,				
Central Bank of Ireland					
Central Bank of Ireland					
Central Bank of Ireland	Central Bank of Ireland				
	Т				
E @centralbank.ie	E @centralban	<u>k.ie</u>			
From: Contemporation of the second seco					

Sent: Wednesday 23 March 2022 11:42 To: Central Bank Media Relations <Media@centralbank.ie> Subject: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto

CAUTION: This email originates outside the Bank. Verify sender details and ensure content is safe prior to clicking on links or opening attachments. Use the <u>Phish Alert Button</u> to report any suspicious email.

Hi

I was hoping to speak to a **speak to a second secon** 

It would be for the Kerry Today show tomorrow morning in a one on one interview outlining the Central Banks concerns.

Presenter Kerry Today
Radio Kerry
Maine St.
Tralee
Co Kerry

Phone:	
Mobile:	

Radio Kerry

Maine Street Tralee Co. Kerry V92 AP2W

#### T: +353 (0)66 712 3666

#### http://www.radiokerry.ie

https://www.facebook.com/radiokerry https://twitter.com/radiokerry

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To:       @centralbank.ie];         Cc:       @centralbank.ie]         From:       Central Bank Media Relations         Sent:       Wed 23/03/2022 2:01:58 pm	@centralbank.ie]
Importance:       Normal         Subject:       FW: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto         Received:       Wed 23/03/2022 2:01:57 pm	Record 25
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
Hi <b>na a</b> ,	
I hope you're keeping well. Please see below mail re. a Radio Kerry interview o so I'd be grateful if you'd like to consider. Let me know if you have any question directly	
Best wishes,	
Central Bank of Ireland T M E @@centralbank.ie	
From:       < Control @centralbank.ie>         Sent:       Wednesday 23 March 2022 13:46         To:       Central Bank Media Relations <media@centralbank.ie>;         Cc:       Scanlon,         Subject:       RE:         [External]RE:       [External]Radio Kerry Crypto</media@centralbank.ie>	@centralbank.ie>
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
, thanks for this.	
won't be available, unfortunately – diary simply won't accommodate.	
Will leave it to advise re potential availability.	
Best,	
If I send you an email out of outside of your own working hours.	standard working hours, please do not feel you need to reply
From: Central Bank Media Relations < <u>Media@centralbank.ie</u> > Sent: Wednesday 23 March 2022 13:03 To: @centralbank.ie>;	@centralbank.ie>
Cc: @centralbank.ie> Subject: FW: [External]RE: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto	

Hello both,

I hope you're keeping well. We received a request for an interview on foot of yesterday's crypto-asset warning. Radio Kerry would like to interview a spokesperson about the warning for Kerry Today, which airs from 9-11am. They are ideally looking for someone between 10 and 10:15am or else a pre-record to be recorded before 3:30pm today. It would be a one-on-one piece for about 8 minutes with

# I recommend that we facilitate the opportunity if at all possible. It is a useful opportunity to reach a regional audience and to reiterate the key points in yesterday's warning (crypto is unregulated, the usual investor protections don't apply, consumers should exercise caution etc.), plus it would allow us to point to our existing materials/explainers for consumers on the website. In addition to reaching a targeted local audience, this opportunity also aligns with the open and engaged theme of our new Strategy and shows we are consciously aiming to reach consumers where they are. The warning got widespread media coverage yesterday, as you will have seen from today's media report, and this allows us to continue amplifying the messages into another day.

If is not available for the piece, I would suggest as a potential alternative, subject to availability.

Let me know what you think!

Thanks both and best wishes,



 To:
 @centralbank.ie]

 From:
 Central Bank Media Relations

 Sent:
 Wed 23/03/2022 2:49:05 pm

 Importance:
 Normal

 Subject:
 FW: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto

 Received:
 Wed 23/03/2022 2:49:02 pm

Record 26

Central Bank of Ireland - UN	VRESTRICTED
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From:

Sent: Wednesday 23 March 2022 14:25 To: Central Bank Media Relations <Media@centralbank.ie> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto

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Hi

Could he not do it on Friday or Monday?

A couple of months is a pretty long term suggestion – I assumed the idea of the Central bank with this statement was to draw attention to it and get a conversation going so people would be made aware of the dangers.

We're talking 7 to ten minutes here – yet no time can be found until the coming months?

From: Central Bank Media Relations (<u>Media@centralbank.ie</u>) <<u>Media@centralbank.ie</u>> Sent: Wednesday 23 March 2022 14:20

To:

Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto

Hi

Thanks again for your message - I just tried to reach you on the mobile there, so you may have a missed call from me.

I've checked with **access** office and with **access**, our **access**, but unfortunately diaries are very tight and neither have availability this afternoon or in the morning for an interview. We are hoping to do some further communicating on this topic in the coming months so we would be very happy to link back in with you at that juncture. However, we must unfortunately decline the request for tomorrow.

Thanks again and best wishes,

From:

Sent: Wednesday 23 March 2022 12:34

To: Central Bank Media Relations <<u>Media@centralbank.ie</u>>

Subject: [External]RE: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto

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From: Central Bank Media Relations (<u>Media@centralbank.ie</u>) <<u>Media@centralbank.ie</u>> Sent: Wednesday 23 March 2022 12:33 To:

Subject: RE: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto

Hi

Thanks for your message and for reaching out to us. If you leave this with me, I'll follow up internally and come back to you as soon as I can.

Best wishes,

Central Bank of Ireland	
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E @centralban	<u>k.ie</u>
E (a) centralban	<u>K.Ie</u>

From:

Sent: Wednesday 23 March 2022 11:42 To: Central Bank Media Relations <<u>Media@centralbank.ie</u>> Subject: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto

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Hi

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It would be for the Kerry Today show tomorrow morning in a one on one interview outlining the Central Banks concerns.

Presenter Kerry Today Radio Kerry Maine St. Tralee Co Kerry

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Radio Kerry

Maine Street Tralee Co. Kerry V92 AP2W

#### T: 53 (0)66 712 3666

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https://www.facebook.com/radiokerry https://twitter.com/radiokerry

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Radio Kerry

Maine Street Tralee Co. Kerry V92 AP2W

T: +353 (0)66 712 3666

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Radio Kerry

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http://www.radiokerry.ie

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To:       Central Bank Media Relations[Media@centralbank.ie];       @centralbank.ie]         Cc:       @centralbank.ie]         From:       @centralbank.ie]         Sent:       Wed 23/03/2022 5:14:1 pm         Importance:       Normal         Subject:       RE: [External]RE: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto [SEC=Restricted]         Received:       Wed 23/03/2022 5:14:12pm	nk.ie] Record 27
Hi We're coming up against similar issues in terms of diary. Friday is completely out and there is morning. Just not a great time for availability.	prep on Monday
From: Central Bank Media Relations <media@centralbank.ie> Date: 23 March 2022 at 15:47:58 GMT To: @centralbank.ie&gt;, @@centralbank.ie&gt; Cc: @@centralbank.ie&gt; Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto</media@centralbank.ie>	ank.ie>
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
Hi all,	
Just further to my previous message, Radio Kerry have come back and asked if there might be availability f 25 <sup>th</sup> or Monday28 <sup>th</sup> instead. They are quite keen to discuss the topic with us in the immediate term while t	or on Friday on Friday the warning is fresh.
If diaries are very tight this may not be doable, but I thought I would check just in case there is more availa	bility on those days?
Thanks again and best wishes,	
Central Bank of Ireland T Managementation E @centralbank.ie	
From:       < Comparison (Comparison (	
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED	
Hi <b>Example</b> I've spoken to <b>and</b> he is in the same position unfortunately, his diary is too tight.	

We could say to Radio Kerry that we can't do it right now but we're happy to link in with them again in the future on this as part of broader discussion on other issues too. Maybe a proxy might be available to them on this – a few of the talking heads like **set of the set of** 

To: Central Bank Media Relations < <u>Media@centralban</u> Cc: @centralbank.ie>	<u>nk.ie</u> >;	@centralbank.ie>	
Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]Radio Kerry Crypto	0		
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED			
, thanks for this.			
won't be available, unfortunately – diary sin	nply won't accommodate	<u>.</u>	
Will leave it to advise re potential a	vailability.		
Be <u>st,</u>			
outside of your own working hours.	If I send you an email out	of standard working hours, please do not feel you need to reply	
From: Central Bank Media Relations < <u>Media@centra</u> Sent: Wednesday 23 March 2022 13:03	albank.ie>		
To: @centralbank.ie	>;	@centralbank.ie>	
Cc: @centralbank.ie> Subject: FW: [External]RE: [External]Radio Kerry Cryp	to		
Central Bank of Ireland - UNRESTRICTED			

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