

28 May 2012

Enda Kenny and Yes campaign continue to resort to scare tactics

Taoiseach Enda Kenny's today warned a No vote in Thursday's referendum would result in tougher budgets in future and that agencies had already indicated "if the people want to turn down the fiscal stability treaty that a downgrade of the country will follow".

Speaking earlier today, following the People's Movement's press conference in Buswells Hotel, Frank Keoghan responded to Enda Kenny's comments saying "there is no reason to resort to terrorising people with doomsday scenarios that are based on spin and plain deceit. Those who claim that Ireland would be denied access to EFSF funding—or any other funding sources—should provide hard evidence to this effect. It is evidence they have so far failed to provide."

Adding further Mr. Keoghan said: "regardless of the vote on the treaty, Ireland is guaranteed funding under the current programme as long as it meets its targets. Minister for Finance Michael Noonan said on his return from the March Summit and before the referendum was announced:

"There is a commitment that if countries continue to fulfil the conditions of their programme the European authorities will continue to supply them with money even when the programme is concluded . . . The commitment is now written in that if we are not back in the markets the European authorities will give us money until we get back in the markets."

In conclusion, Mr Keoghan said: "either Enda Kenny is lying now or Michael Noonan was lying then, now which is it? I would also like to ask Enda Kenny to please specify which agencies have indicated our country will be downgraded if we vote no. I believe it is not true but rather a continuation of their scare tactics employed since the beginning of the campaign."

[Ends]

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