

Irish Government Bond Auction

The National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) raised €1.5 billion through its latest bond auction which was held today. With the success of this auction Ireland has now completed 90% of its long term borrowing programme of €20 billion for 2010. Allowing for cash balances, including the €5 billion of long term funding carried over from last year, the Exchequer is fully funded into the second quarter of 2011.

The NTMA offered two bonds in today's auction, the 4.6% Treasury Bond 2016 and the 5.0% Treasury Bond 2020. The overall total amount of the two bonds offered in the auction was in the range of €1 billion to €1.5 billion.

It was decided to issue a total of €1.5 billion, as the total bids received amounted to €4.959 billion, or 3.3 times the maximum amount on offer in the auction. An amount of €750 million of the 4.6% Treasury Bond 2016 was issued where the total bids received were 3.6 times the amount allocated, while €750 million of the 5.0% Treasury Bond 2020 was also issued where the total bids received were 3 times the amount allocated.

The 2016 bond was sold at an average yield of 4.496% while the 2020 bond was sold at an average yield of 5.537%.

Today's auction brings the total funds raised from the bond market in 2010 to €16.5 billion. When account is taken of the €1.6 billion raised in the domestic retail savings market the total long term funding raised so far this year amounts to €18.1 billion.

The NTMA will continue for the time being its regular series of monthly bond auctions with the next auction scheduled for 17 August 2010.

National Treasury Management Agency Tuesday, 20 July 2010.

www.ntma.ie