

Each Member of the Society.

20th February 2015.

The Management Committee of the Society met on Thursday the 19th February and were appraised by me of the contents of a phone call I received from a journalist of the Sunday Business Post on Wednesday 11th February 2015. The journalist requested a comment from me in relation to an investigation that he said was being conducted into St Pauls Medical Aid Society. Prior to this phone call neither I, nor my colleagues on the Committee, were aware of any such investigation and I stated this to the journalist.

The Management Committee decided to issue a circular to appraise you, the members, of this serious turn of events. We understand that the publication intends to run an article on the subject.

The Management Committee wants to assure you, beyond any doubt whatsoever, that no criminality or wrongdoing of any kind has taken place in respect of the running of the Society's affairs either currently or at any time since its establishment. Furthermore, the Management Committee wish to reassure you that in the fullness of time, this complaint will be found to be without any merit or foundation whatsoever.

The Society is now aware that a criminal investigation was commenced by the Garda Commissioner and this was confirmed by the Commissioner's Office in correspondence to the Public Accounts Committee dated 20th January 2015 which was published on the PAC website in the following terms:

"Your Ref PAC-1-2073 St Paul's Medical Aid Society

This matter is currently the subject of a criminal investigation which is being headed up by the Garda Bureau of Fraud Investigation

In addition the matter was notified to the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission to determine the admissibility of the matters outlined in Mr. Keane's correspondence; a determination is still awaited from the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission"

The Mr. Keane referred to in the correspondence is a fellow member of the Management Committee, Mr. Michael (Mick) Keane. The Management Committee has endeavoured, without success, to establish the substance of the complaints in question which included inviting Mr. Keane to outline the nature of his complaint at a Management Committee Meeting convened for this purpose. Mr Keane declined the invitation to outline any complaint or to comment on the matter.

The Committee is concerned to ensure that the membership of the Society is kept fully informed in respect of the running of the Society's affairs and in addition that, at all times, you, the membership have full confidence in the Committee and Staff of the Society. It is also of critical importance that confidence is maintained in respect of the various people and organisations with whom the Society interacts, in the course of the day to day business of the Society.

We were obviously concerned that an article might appear in the national newspapers and that you, our members, would not have prior notice of the subject matter.

Owen Connell

Secretary