

RECEIVED IN

12 OCT 2020

SPEAKER'S OFFICE

SP328/20



The  
**Executive Office**

[www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk](http://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk)

Stormont Castle  
BELFAST  
BT4 3TT  
Tel: 028 9037 8228  
Email: [ps.ministers@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk](mailto:ps.ministers@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk)

**Mr Alex Maskey MLA**  
Speaker  
Northern Ireland Assembly  
Parliament Buildings  
Ballymiscaw  
Stormont  
BELFAST  
BT4 3XX

12 October 2020

Dear Mr Speaker,

**NOTE OF CLARIFICATION: ANSWER TO AQO 741/17-22**

We are writing to inform you of a clarification to a response to an oral question made to the Assembly on Monday 28 September 2020.

Oral Question No.3 (AQO 741/17-22) from Mr Gerry Kelly MLA was *"To ask the First Minister and deputy First Minister whether they intend to bring forward legislation that recognises sectarianism as a hate crime."*

In response to the question, it was stated that *"In May, the Department of Justice appointed Judge Desmond Marrinan to carry out an independent review of hate crime legislation here."* To clarify, the appointment took place in May 2019.

We would appreciate it if this note could be circulated to Members for their information.

**THE RT. HON. ARLENE FOSTER MLA**  
FIRST MINISTER

**MICHELLE O'NEILL MLA**  
DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER