



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

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**From: Christine Darrah
Clerk to the Committee for Justice**

Date: 14 February 2011

**To: Shane McAteer
Clerk to the Committee for Finance and Personnel**

THE DAMAGES (ASBESTOS-RELATED CONDITIONS) BILL

At a recent meeting, the Committee for Justice considered correspondence from the Department of Justice regarding the Damages (Asbestos-Related Conditions) Bill. A copy of the response is attached.

The Committee noted the contents of the response and has no further comments to make.

**Christine Darrah
Committee Clerk**

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE



Department of

Justice

www.dojni.gov.uk

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Committee Clerk
Committee for Justice
Northern Ireland Assembly
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1 February 2011

Dear Christine,

DAMAGES (ASBESTOS-RELATED CONDITIONS) BILL

Thank you for your letter of 14 January covering one from the Committee for Finance and Personnel, and asking about any justice issues related to the above Bill.

Policy on the law of negligence is one which it is intended will transfer to the Department of Justice in the future, along with the transfer of responsibility for keeping the civil law under review.

At this stage, however, I am advised that, while the Bill would open up certain new actions in negligence, it is unlikely to make a substantial impact on overall levels of court business.



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE



Department of

Justice

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I expect that DFP officials will be liaising with officials here on any implications for Legal Aid. You will be aware that this area is currently subject to a fundamental review.

I should be grateful if you could forward a copy of this letter to the Clerk to the Committee for Finance and Personnel.

Jane Holmes.

**JANE HOLMES
DALO**

