

Committee for the Economy

Mrs Diane Dodds MLA
Minister
Department for the Economy
Netherleigh
Massey Avenue
Belfast
BT4 2JP

3rd February 2020
Our Ref.:EC24/20

Dear Minister,

Re: Budget Baselines and Process

As you are aware, the Committee for the Economy has now received briefing from the heads of the five Groups within your Department. Members are looking forward to hearing from you at its meeting on 5th February 2020.

During the two meetings that the Committee has already had, Members have discussed a range of budgetary issues with your officials. At its meeting on 29th January 2020, the Committee also considered the Minister for Finance's statement on the recent Monitoring Round and the supporting documents.

The Committee agreed that it would be useful to receive further detail on your Department's current baseline budget position, bearing in mind that the wider Executive budget process is now beginning to swing into action.

To that end the Committee would be grateful if you could respond, outlining your Department's current budget baselines, as well as the pressures that exist going forward, and your understanding of the timescales for the budget process that is now beginning.

I look forward to your response by **Tuesday 18th February 2020**.

I would also remind the Minister that, unless her officials request otherwise, this letter, and her response, will be published as per the Committee's decision at its meeting on 22nd January 2020.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Caoimhe Archibald MLA
Chairperson
Committee for the Economy

Committee for the Economy
Northern Ireland Assembly
Room 344, Parliament Buildings, Ballymiscaw, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3XX.
Email: Committee.Economy@niassembly.gov.uk
Tel. No. 028 9052 1620