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Our Ref: SCORR-0102-2021

5 October 2021

Dear Shane,

COMPLAINTS BY CIVIL SERVANTS AGAINST MLAs

Thank you for your letter of 30 September concerning NICS procedures or protocols concerning complaints made by civil servants about alleged breaches of the Assembly Code of Conduct arising from the carrying out of their duties as civil servants.

I can confirm that prior permission for, or notification to the relevant Permanent Secretary of, such complaints are not required from members of the NICS.

I hope that this information is helpful

Yours sincerely



Jayne Brady
Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service

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Committee on Standards and Privileges

Ms Jayne Brady
Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS)
SD03 Stormont Castle
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3TT

30 September 2021

Dear Ms Brady,

Complaints by civil servants against MLAs

At its meeting on Tuesday, 28 September 2021, the Committee on Standards and Privileges discussed issues relating to the above matter and agreed to write to you to seek clarification on any applicable NICS protocols/procedures.

In particular, the Committee wishes to know whether NICS departments require civil servants to seek the approval of, or to provide notification to, their Permanent Secretary in relation to any complaint which they wish to make against an MLA, regarding an alleged breach of the Assembly Code of Conduct, arising from the course of carrying out their duties as civil servants.

I should be grateful for your response on this matter by 12 October 2021.

Yours sincerely

Shane McAteer
Clerk to the Committee on Standards and Privileges