



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

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Members of the Assembly Commission

21 November 2019

Dear Assembly Commission Member

### **Independent Financial Review Panel: Reform Consultation**

At its meeting on 5 September 2019, the Assembly Commission asked officials to develop a further consultation paper regarding possible reform of the Independent Financial Review Panel (IFRP), in order to seek to identify areas of agreement between the parties represented on the Assembly Commission, so that officials could focus on developing those proposals which would have broad political support.

It was also agreed that a wider consultation with MLAs would take place once the Assembly Commission was able to identify areas of agreement and narrow down the available options.

A consultation paper 'Independent Financial Review Panel (IFRP): Reform Consultation' dated November 2019 is therefore attached, and I would be grateful if you would outline your Party's views on the key issues set out in this. Parties are also welcome to add additional comments at the end if they wish.

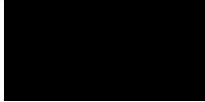
While agreement may not be reached on every element of possible IFRP reform at this initial stage, it would be helpful for the Assembly Commission to agree the broad direction of travel to better concentrate our future discussions. Responses will also enable officials to assess of how long any process of reform might take and guide the Assembly Commission on any interim arrangements that may be appropriate.

Please note that should legislative reform be required to implement the Assembly Commission's decisions, further wider consultation will be required in due course.

I would request written consultation responses as soon as possible, but no later than Friday 17 January 2020. Officials will be very happy to engage with you and your

colleagues in advance of completing this form if that is helpful. Consultation responses should be sent to Janet Hughes at [commission@niassembly.gov.uk](mailto:commission@niassembly.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely



**LESLEY HOGG**  
Clerk to the Assembly/Chief Executive

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