



**Northern Ireland  
Assembly**

**Committee for Justice  
Room 242**

**Parliament Buildings**

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

**Date: 25 July 2013**

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

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### **FINANCIAL PROVISIONS BILL**

At its meeting on 4 July 2013 the Committee for Justice noted the request from the Committee for Finance and Personnel for a formal response on the provisions in the Financial Provisions Bill that fall within the remit of the Department of Justice.

The Committee considered information provided by the Department of Justice on the background to, and rationale for, the provisions that will place the Northern Ireland Police Fund and the Police Rehabilitation and Training Trust on a statutory footing and revise the method used for changing the interest paid to clients of the Court Funds Office (CFO) to allow the CFO to react more quickly to any future base interest rate adjustments.

The Committee agreed that it was content with the provisions in the Bill and to respond to the Committee for Finance and Personnel indicating this and providing a copy of the Department of Justice briefing paper, which is attached, for information.

**Christine Darrah  
Committee Clerk**

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE JUSTICE MINISTER



Department of  
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Our ref: SUB/768/2013

Christine Darrah  
Committee Clerk  
Committee for Justice  
Parliament Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
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04 June 2013

Dear Christine

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE INPUT TO DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND  
PERSONNEL'S FINANCIAL PROVISIONS BILL**

The Minister of Justice has previously written to the Committee, on 26 November 2012, detailing his intention to include two DOJ issues in the DFP Financial Provisions Bill.

The issues related to founding legislation for the Police Rehabilitation and Retraining Trust (PRRT) and the Northern Ireland Police Fund (NIPF); and an amendment to the method used to adjust the rate of interest paid to clients of the Courts Funds Office.

To enable our provisions to be included in the Bill we had provided DFP with the relevant drafting instructions for onward transmission to the Office of Legislative Council. The draft Bill has now been provided to the Department by DFP and is due to be considered at the DFP Committee meeting on 5 June 2013 with the

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intention of being circulated to Executive Colleagues prior to the Executive Committee meeting on 6 June 2013.

For information purposes, I have attached the provisions relating to our requirements, as they will appear in the draft Financial Provisions Bill, at Appendix A.

Following approval of the Bill, regulations will be made regarding the status and constitution of PRRT and NIPF by negative resolution. I will share the regulations with the Committee once they are drafted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara McAtamney'.

**BARBARA McATAMNEY**  
**DALO**

**Enc**

**Extracts from DFP's Financial Provisions Bill relevant to DOJ provisions**

**Item (1)**

**Provision as to payment of interest on funds in court**

3. In section 82 of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978 (rules as to funds in court) in subsection (1)—

- (a) for “may make rules” substitute “may make provision as to the payment of interest on funds in court and may make rules”;
- (b) in paragraph (a) omit the words from “and prescribing” to the end of that paragraph.

**Item (2)**

**Expenditure on bodies providing services for the police, etc**

6.—(1) The Department of Justice may provide financial assistance for bodies which have as their objectives—

- (a) the benefit of members and former members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, the Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve, the Police Service of Northern Ireland and the Police Service of Northern Ireland Reserve who have been killed or injured by terrorism (as defined in section 1 of the Terrorism Act 2000), and their families and dependents, by the provision of financial assistance, advice, support and care to such persons; or
- (b) the provision of assistance to members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, the Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve and the Police Service of Northern Ireland and their families with counselling and training prior to and after cessation of their service.

(2) Without prejudice to any other statutory provision enabling it in that behalf, the Department of Justice may, by regulations subject to negative resolution, provide for the constitution, functions, procedures and financing of the bodies referred to in subsection (1).

(3) In subsection (1) “financial assistance” means assistance by way of grants or loans on such conditions (including conditions as to repayment) as the Department of Justice may determine.

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