

**From: Temporary Permanent Secretary**  
Mr Andrew Hamilton

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Michaela Boyle  
Chairperson  
Public Accounts Committee,  
Room 371, Parliament Buildings,  
Stormont,  
BELFAST,  
BT4 3XX.

17 June 2015

*Dear Michaela*

**RE: PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE EVIDENCE SESSION – REQUEST FOR  
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – ADVANCED LAND PURCHASES**

In my letter of 2 April, I referred to Helm Housing's current litigation case against the valuer who provided the valuation for the Great Georges Street site. At that time, I indicated that the court case was scheduled for early May 2015.

I thought it useful to provide you with an update on this issue. Helm Housing has advised the Department that its court action commenced on 5 May as planned. The judge has heard all expert witness testimony and is proposing to provide some initial views prior to determining whether factual witnesses should be called. It is not expected that this initial view will be available until September at the earliest. At this stage, therefore, it is unclear when the case will be brought to a conclusion.

Should we become aware of further developments, we will keep the Committee informed.

*Yours sincerely*



**ANDREW HAMILTON**