

**From the Office of the  
Minister for Finance & Personnel**



Department of  
**Finance and  
Personnel**

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Your reference:

Our reference: SUB/1266/2015

Daithí McKay MLA  
Northern Ireland Assembly  
Parliament Buildings  
Stormont

15 December 2015

Dear Mr McKay

In March, Minister Hamilton replied to your letter and assembly question regarding starting a Wealth and Assets Survey in Northern Ireland. In his reply Minister Hamilton noted that he had asked officials to raise the issue with other Departments before setting out a formal policy position.

A proposed Wealth and Assets Survey in Northern Ireland was considered by senior officials from the inter-departmental Statistics Coordinating Group last month. DFP officials also consulted with officials from the Office for National Statistics, who conduct the survey in Great Britain and chair the funding consortium.

Funding of around £1 million would be required to collect and report on a proposed Northern Ireland Wealth and Assets Survey. The Department of Finance and Personnel or other Northern Ireland Departments are not able to provide such a level of financial support at this time.

I have asked officials to keep the position under review but it is unlikely that the funding required will be available in the near future.

A copy of this correspondence will be sent to the Assembly Library for Members information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arlene Foster".

**ARLENE FOSTER MLA**