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Daniel McCrossan
Chairperson
Public Accounts Committee
(Committee.publicaccounts@niassembly.gov.uk)

Our Ref: SCORR 0132-2025

Date: 22 July 2025

Dear Daniel

MEMORANDUM OF REPLY: MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS FOLLOW UP REPORT

Thank you for your letter dated 8 July 2025 which relates to the delay in publishing the Memorandum of Reply (MoR) for the Major Capital Projects Follow Up Report.

In my letter dated 1 July 2025, I advised the MoR for the Major Capital Projects Follow Up Report will be presented to the Executive immediately after the Investment Strategy has been approved.

Your letter dated 8 July 2025 requests an update on the expected timescale for the approval of the Investment Strategy NI (ISNI).

I can confirm the Finance Minister wrote to the First Minister (FM) and deputy First Minister (dFM) on 3 July 2025 asking for the Investment Strategy to be forwarded for Executive approval as soon as possible and advising the Ministers that the MoR for the Major Capital Projects Follow Up Report could not be forwarded until the Investment Strategy had been approved.

No response has been received to date and therefore I cannot confirm the timescale for the approval of the Investment Strategy.

I will update you if a response is received from the FM/dFM confirming the timescales.

In the interim, the ISNI Committee, chaired by a non-Executive member of the NICS Board, continues to progress the 12 Enabling Actions developed to address the root causes for project delays.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Gibson', followed by a period.

NEIL GIBSON