



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## Committee for Finance

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1 October 2021

Dear Andy,

### RHI Disciplinary Process

Please accept the Committee's thanks for the oral and written briefing provided by Departmental officials at the meeting of 29 September 2021 on the RHI disciplinary process.

Members expressed considerable disappointment in respect of the absence of detail both in terms of the individuals involved and most surprisingly, the processes underpinning the relevant decision-making. The Committee indicated its dissatisfaction in no uncertain terms regarding the outcome of the RHI disciplinary process which appears to have led to 1 written warning for 1 individual.

The Committee agreed to give further and in-depth consideration to this matter and therefore agreed to write to the Department seeking the following:

- sight of the findings list generated from the RHI inquiry report and used by the external panel to identify individuals that required further disciplinary consideration;
- an update to the findings list showing the career progress of the individuals in question including particularly the grades to which they had been promoted in the interim;
- a breakdown and explanation of the misconduct charges which were considered by the panels;
- information on retraining or other measures taken in respect of those involved in the RHI scheme who were not in receipt of disciplinary action;
- clarification as to whether those who were subject to disciplinary action or who evaded disciplinary action by leaving the NICS can be re-hired as consultants or as members of the NICS in the future;
- clarification as to why handover arrangements have only recently become mandatory; and
- confirmation that financial officers within the Department and across the Civil Service have now all received appropriate levels of training.



If you require further explanation or clarification including in respect of the treatment of sensitive information relating to individual employees, please do not hesitate to contact me.

A response by 15 October 2021 would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

*Peter McCallion*

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**Peter McCallion**  
Clerk to the Committee for Finance