

**From the Minister of Finance**

*Steve Aiken  
Finance Committee Chair  
Parliament Buildings*

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Your reference:  
Our reference: *SUB-0218-2021*

Date: *4 May 2021*

Dear Steve

**FINANCIAL REPORTING (DEPARTMENTS AND PUBLIC BODIES) BILL  
(NORTHERN IRELAND)**

As you are aware for many years it was recognised that the documents published and used in the financial processes brought before the Assembly were not consistent and did not facilitate easy scrutiny. The Executive in December 2016 agreed the Review of Financial Process with the aim of aligning more closely the financial information presented in Budgets, Estimates and Accounts.

The Committee has received briefing on the progress of the review and you will be aware that the implementation of the Review is planned for 2022-23. A small piece of technical legislation is required for that to happen and work has been ongoing with the Office of the Legislative Counsel to produce the draft Financial Reporting (Departments and Public Bodies) Bill (Northern Ireland) and Explanatory and Financial Memorandum.

The Bill and EFM are supplied on an “in confidence” basis and are subject to Executive agreement.

Should you require a pre-introduction meeting officials will be happy to attend to brief the Committee.

Is mise le meas



**CONOR MURPHY MLA  
MINISTER OF FINANCE**