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Date: 9 March 2026

Dear Peter

FISCAL COUNCIL BILL – COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS

On 4 March 2026, the Committee met with the Department's Fiscal Council Bill team to discuss the Bill as part of its ongoing deliberations. It was discussed during the meeting that some amendments could be made to the Explanatory and Financial Memorandum (EFM) on a number of matters the Committee raised, to more accurately reflect the policy intent of the Bill.

To support the Committee in its continued considerations, the Bill Team has updated the draft EFM, with tracked changes, to reflect those queries. The Committee should note that the EFM may be subject to further revision as the Bill progresses.

The Committee may also wish to note that the proposed updates to Part 2 of the EFM, which provide clarity on the criteria on disqualification from appointment, were made following a previous query raised by Paul Frew MLA during the Second Stage debate.

I trust this information is helpful. The Department's Bill team remain happy to provide any further details the Committee may require.

Yours sincerely

DEPARTMENTAL ASSEMBLY LIAISON OFFICER