

COMMITTEE FOR FINANCE AND PERSONNEL

Liam Strong Chief Executive Cerberus European Capital Advisors 84 Grosvenor Street LONDON W1K 3JZ

19 May 2015

Dear Mr Strong,

Thank you for your letter dated 7 May 2015, which the Committee considered at its meeting on 13 May 2015.

In welcoming your willingness to provide an oral briefing on the work and role of Cerberus within the local economy here, the Committee also noted your request that this is held in camera due to confidentiality limitations. In this regard, I should point out that it is common practice that proceedings in the Assembly, including those of committees, are conducted in open session. That said, the Committee understands the basis for your request in terms of safeguarding against the disclosure of any commercially sensitive material and to protect the commercial interests of Cerberus and its portfolio of customers.

Mindful of these considerations, in terms of both the expectation that Assembly business is normally conducted in an open and transparent manner and the need to respect commercial confidentiality, the Committee agreed that it would request that you provide the oral briefing in two parts: the first part being in open/public session, during which you would provide a high level overview of the work and role of Cerberus within the local economy; the second part being in closed/private session, during which Committee members would have the opportunity to discuss any specific cases which they may wish to raise and which are of a commercially sensitive nature.

In anticipation that you can agree to this proposed format, I should be grateful if you would confirm a convenient date for a representative from Cerberus to brief the Committee (in this respect, I understand that the morning of Wednesday 3 June 2015 would be a possibility).

Room 144, Parliament Buildings, Ballymiscaw, Stormont, BELFAST, BT4 3XX Tel No: 028 90521843 Fax No: 028 90520360

E-mail: committee.finance&personnel@niassembly.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Daithi McKay MLA Chairperson