

FROM THE MINISTER



Department of
**Culture, Arts
and Leisure**

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AN ROINN

**Cultúr, Ealaíon
agus Fóilkíochta**

MÁNNYSTRIE O

**Fowkgates, Airts
an Aisedom**

Our ref: SUB/636/2014

30 September 2014

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Michael, a chara,

I wish to offer a point of clarification to my answer to your topical question AQT 1421/11-15 relating to the 2014 Business Plans and Budgets for the North/South Language Bodies.

I should explain that guidance setting out minimum efficiency savings required from North/South bodies is considered and agreed by both Finance Ministers and issued to sponsor departments.

The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG) has required levels of efficiency savings above the minimum from both Waterways Ireland and the Language Body with those in Waterways Ireland being higher.

Reviewing the figures over a longer period (2012-2014) demonstrates that DCAL's North/South bodies are having excessive cuts imposed upon them in excess of the minimum efficiency savings required by the Finance Departments. This is a situation that I have repeatedly and categorically stated; I am not prepared to accept.

I will arrange for a copy of this letter of update and clarification to be provided to the



Speaker, Committee Chair, Members, Business Office and Assembly Library.

I trust you find this helpful.

Is mise le meas

CARÁL NÍ CHUILÍN.

CARÁL NÍ CHUILÍN MLA
Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure

cc: Speakers Office
Mr Nelson McCausland MLA, CAL Chairperson
MLAs
Assembly Library
Business Office