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Department for  
**Regional  
Development**

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AN ROINN

**Forbartha Réigiúnaí**

MÄNNYSTRIE FÜR

**Kintra Pairts Fordèrin**

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Your Ref:

Our Ref: DRD/COR/150/2010

Date: 9 March 2011

*Dear Tom,*

**AQW 4038/11 and AQW 4130/11**

You wrote to me on 15 February 2011 seeking clarification in relation to the First Minister's and deputy First Minister's (FM/dFM) response to AQW 4038/11, and the response that I gave to AQW 3978/11. Both questions related to Philip Holder having been considered for the position of Interim Chair of NI Water last year.

Unfortunately, in this instance, my Department was not consulted regarding the drafting of the response to AQW 4038/11 and I acknowledge that the two answers appear to contradict one another. As a result, my officials have written to OFMDFM to see if the response to AQW 4038/11 can be expanded upon to provide greater clarity. To avoid any further confusion, and for consistency, I have also amended my reply to AQW 4130/11. A copy of the revised response is attached.

I trust this provides the required clarification.

This letter will also be copied to the Speaker, other members, the Assembly Library and the Office of the Official Report (Hansard).

*Is mise le meas,*

*Conor*

**CONOR MURPHY MP, MLA**

**Minister for Regional Development**

Clarence Court, 10-18 Adelaide Street, Belfast BT2 8GB  
Cúirt Clarence, 10-18 Sráid Adelaide, Béal Feirste BT2 8GB

CLARCOREPODRD 11-00036  
MAR/GH



**AQW 4130/11**

**DATE FOR WRITTEN ANSWER: THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2011**

**Mr T Elliott (Fermanagh and South Tyrone):** To ask the Minister for Regional Development to detail (i) when exactly he became aware of Philip Holder having applied for the position of the Chair of NI Water; and (ii) whether he informed the First Minister or deputy First Minister of a potential risk of conflict of interest.

**CONOR MURPHY**

(i) I became aware that Philip Holder had been considered for the position of the Chair of NI Water on 21 May 2010. (ii) Yes, I wrote to the First Minister and deputy First Minister on 12 January 2011 to advise them accordingly.

**Signed:**

*Conor Murphy*

**Date:**

*9/3/11*