



**Northern Ireland  
Assembly**

**COMMITTEE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

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Our Ref: CSD/020/2008/PM

Ms Margaret Sisk  
Department for Social Development  
Lighthouse Building  
1 Cromac Place  
Gasworks Business Park  
Ormeau Road  
Belfast BT7 2JB

Dear Ms Sisk,

**Budget 2011-2015: Further Queries**

Following on from my letter of 18 January 2011 on Budget 2011-15, further information is sought:

- **DSD Posts**  
Can the Department indicate the expected changes to the number of posts within each of the business areas of the Department during the budget period – including the number of expected redundancies both compulsory (if any) and voluntary and the level of natural wastage?
- **NIHE Salaries**  
Can the Department confirm that NIHE salaries like those in the Department will be subject to pay progression?
- **NIHE Programmes**  
Can the Department set out the changes to the reactive and planned maintenance programmes for the Housing Executive? Can the Department also advise on the NIHE Emergency Response budget?
- **Social Protection Fund**  
Can the Department clarify on the revenue streams that it is to use to fund the Social Protection Fund after 2011-12?
- **Social Security Agency**  
Can the Department advise on whether the so-called lower priority SSA programmes such as “programme protection, benefit uptake, checking

regime and measures to ensure accuracy, reduce fraud and error and debt recovery” are to be scaled back? Can the Department provide details of how such programmes are to be scaled back?

- **Equality Impact Assessment**

Will the Department make available at the earliest opportunity the Equality Impact Screening documents and where appropriate the full Impact Assessments for individual budget proposals?

I would be grateful if you could provide this information at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P McCallion', written in a cursive style.

**Peter McCallion**  
**Committee Clerk**