

From: [Stewart, Chris \(DETI\)](#)
To: [McCormick, Andrew \(DETI\)](#)
Cc: [Hill, Janice](#); [Mills, John \(DETI\)](#); [Wightman, Stuart](#); [McIlwrath, Linda](#)
Subject: RE: RHI
Date: 02 February 2016 12:03:00

Andrew

Further to this morning's conversation, you were concerned about taking false comfort from the HMT email of April 2011. Following further discussion with John and Stuart, I remain of the view that it is legitimate for us to say that we did not have an RDEL crisis until the decision by HMT in November 2015 to depart from established practice. When the AME forecast for 2015/16 was exceeded, the additional funding was provided - HMT did not require the overspend to be met from RDEL. That approach changed with the Chief Secretary's letter. My point is not (and never was) that we thought that we only needed to be concerned about 5% of the problem; it is that a change in HMT stance changed an AME problem into a RDEL problem. That is a call that HMT is entitled to make, and may feel is justified by the magnitude of the overspend and our failure to adopt control measures. The point of referring to this at all in the draft was to respond to the suggestion that we had a RDEL problem in July which we failed to respond to. The problem in July was AME, not RDEL; its full magnitude had yet to appear; and our ability to control it was constrained our lack of control mechanisms, and Ministerial steers.

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-----Original Message-----

From: McCormick, Andrew (DETI)
 Sent: 02 February 2016 11:24
 To: Stewart, Chris (DETI)
 Cc: Hill, Janice; Mills, John (DETI); Wightman, Stuart
 Subject: RE: RHI

I have a little time now between now and 12 and will be working on the draft - if there are any part inputs (as discussed yesterday) that anyone has, now would be a good time as I will next get to it will be late today.

Many thanks.

-----Original Message-----

From: Andrew McCormick [<mailto:> Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry]
 Sent: 31 January 2016 22:53
 To: Stewart, Chris (DETI)
 Cc: McCormick, Andrew (DETI); Hill, Janice; Mills, John (DETI)
 Subject: RE: RHI

Please see my changes and DNs. We need some time to discuss in the morning - are you and John available? I need especially to see the early submissions after the issue came to attention in June/July.

Many thanks.

-----Original Message-----

From: McCormick, Andrew (DETI) [<mailto:Andrew.McCormick@detini.gov.uk>]
 Sent: 31 January, 2016 9:03 PM
 To: Andrew McCormick [Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry]
 Subject: Fw: RHI

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.