

**From:** [Partridge, Jeff](#)  
**To:** [Cooper, Trevor](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Document 8 - AME Forecast for Chancellors Budget 2016 28-1-16  
**Date:** 02 February 2016 14:16:50  
**Attachments:** [image001.gif](#)  
[AME Forecast for Chancellors Budget 2016 - Letter - 22-01-16\(4\).DOCX](#)  
[ANNEX C - AME Assurance Statement - Budget 2016\(4\).DOCX](#)  
[Energy - Budget 2016 AME Forecast - 2016-22.XLSX](#)  
[Basis of RHI Expenditure Forecast - Jan2016.XLSX](#)

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**From:** Wightman, Stuart  
**Sent:** 28 January 2016 16:02  
**To:** Finance Branch  
**Cc:** Brankin, Bernie  
**Subject:** FW: AME Forecast for Chancellors Budget 2016  
Please find attached updated RHI AME profile. I'm not sure if you've already received this earlier today.

Thanks

Stuart

**Stuart Wightman**

Head of Energy Efficiency Branch  
Energy Division  
Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment  
Room 24A Netherleigh  
Massey Avenue  
Belfast, BT4 2JP  
Tel: 028 9052 9425 (ext: 29425)  
Mob: Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry  
TextRelay: 18001 028 9052 9425  
Web: [www.detini.gov.uk](http://www.detini.gov.uk)

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**From:** Wightman, Stuart  
**Sent:** 27 January 2016 17:26  
**To:** Thompson, Sandra  
**Cc:** DETI Energy Mailbox; Dolaghan, Paul; Mills, John (DETI); Hughes, Seamus  
**Subject:** FW: AME Forecast for Chancellors Budget 2016  
Sandra

I attach our AME forecast. It assumes scheme closure on 31 March 2016, so I've included appropriate caveats. I've also attached my forecast spreadsheet as a record of the basis of this forecast.

Happy to discuss.

Thanks, Stuart

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**From:** Forsythe, Nicola **On Behalf Of** DETI Energy Mailbox  
**Sent:** 22 January 2016 11:43  
**To:** Wightman, Stuart  
**Cc:** Hughes, Seamus  
**Subject:** FW: AME Forecast for Chancellors Budget 2016

Please see below, due before 28<sup>th</sup> January.

Nicola

**Nicola Forsythe**

Co-ordination Branch  
Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment  
Netherleigh  
Massey Avenue  
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**From:** Donaldson, Linda (DETI)

**Sent:** 22 January 2016 11:25

**To:** Mills, John (DETI)

**Cc:** Dolaghan, Paul; Thompson, Sandra; DETI Energy Mailbox

**Subject:** AME Forecast for Chancellors Budget 2016

Dear All,

Please see attached.

Regards

Linda

**Linda Donaldson**

Finance Branch

Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment

Netherleigh

Massey Avenue

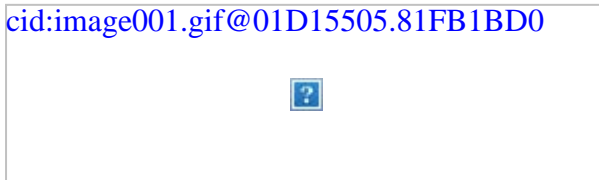
Belfast, BT4 2JP

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[cid:image001.gif@01D15505.81FB1BD0](#)



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**To:** Mel Chittock (Invest NI)  
Kathryn Thomson (Tourism NI)  
John French (CCNI)  
John Mills (Energy)  
David Conliffe (Finance Accounts)  
Shane Clarke (TIL)  
Laurence Lord (ITI)

**cc:** Katrina O'Dowd (Invest NI)  
Jill McKee (Tourism NI)  
Don Leeson (CCNI)  
Paul Dolaghan (Energy)  
Suzanne Craig (Finance Accounts)  
Alan Myles (TIL)  
Nicola Quinn (IT)

**From:** Bernie Brankin

**Date:** 22 January 2016

## AME FORECAST FOR CHANCELLORS BUDGET 2016

1. DETI is required to provide details of AME forecasts on behalf of the Northern Ireland Executive for the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR).

### Forecasting Requirement

2. Please see attached a copy of your business area's template for this exercise at **Annex A**. The template covers years 2016-17 to 2021-22, as required by OBR and should be completed using the latest information available.
3. The starting point on the template is the forecast provided for the Autumn Statement return in October 2015.
4. Release of provisions will continue to be treated as an in-year issue as the utilisation of provision will have an impact on the DEL budget.

### Explanation of changes since the last Budget Forecast

5. As OBR have responsibility for public expenditure forecasts, they undertake significant scrutiny of the inputs that they receive. It is critical that your assumptions, methodology and forecasts stand up to this scrutiny. OBR regard the reasons for adjustments to be as important as the adjustment itself and it is essential that they understand your assumptions, methodology and profile. We must, therefore, emphasise the importance of ensuring that all information provided is accurate and quality assured at a senior level as we may be asked to fully explain and defend the forecasts to OBR.
6. Business areas are therefore asked to provide robust explanations of **any** adjustments to their revised forecasts, the assumptions made and methodology used in the calculation of the adjustment. The more robust your explanations, the

less likely the OBR are to raise queries. **Annex B** shows the key areas your explanations should cover.

7. Completed templates along with explanations of changes and Assurance Statement (**Annex C**) or Nil Returns should be returned to [financebranch@detini.gov.uk](mailto:financebranch@detini.gov.uk) on or before **Thursday 28 January 2016**.
8. If there are any points you wish to discuss or require clarification on, please contact Jeff Partridge (29368).

*Bernie Brankin*

**BERNIE BRANKIN**

## Annex B – Methodology note content

The forecast methodology note for each AME forecast should cover the following key areas:

- **The methodology** behind the forecast including all key assumptions, data sources, modelling approach etc.
- **The changes** since the previous Budget 2015 forecast and the reasons why (e.g. in year data in 2015-16)
- **Main factors influencing the long-term and year on year changes in the forecast**, and any recent significant changes in those factors (e.g. policy announcement)
- **The main risks and key judgements in your forecast numbers**, if these have been incorporated into your forecast return and, if so, how.

**Annex C**

**ASSURANCE STATEMENT FOR AME FORECAST – BUDGET 2016**

In my capacity as HOD/Chief Executive for \_\_\_\_\_ (Division/NDPB), I have reviewed the budgets in relation to Annually Managed Expenditure (AME). I am satisfied that the forecast is the most accurate that can be provided at this stage and that any required changes to my AME allocation have been put forward in the AME Forecast for Budget 2016.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (HOD/Chief Executive)

Date \_\_\_\_\_