

From: [McCormick, Andrew \(DFE\)](#)
To: [John Robinson](#)
Cc: [DFE SpAd](#); [Simon Hamilton](#); [Gaughran, Aine](#)
Subject: Fw: RHI
Date: 13 December 2016 15:37:55

It would be truthful to say that the issue of Ministerial resignations and reappointments did not cause material delay in implementing the changes announced in early September 2015. At most 1-2 weeks might have been squeezed but for the NIRO point we discussed. Happy if we do a line on that basis?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Gaughran, Aine <Aine.Gaughran@economy-ni.gov.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 December 2016 15:30
To: Marten, Lucy; Wightman, Stuart; Stewart, Chris (DFE); McCormick, Andrew (DFE); McCann, Brendan; Coyne, Terence
Cc: All DFE Branches Press Office
Subject: FW: RHI

To see enquiry below for a response please.

Thanks.

Áine

From: John Manley [mailto:j.manley@irishnews.com]
Sent: 13 December 2016 15:26
To: All DFE Branches Press Office
Subject: RHI

Hello,

We plan to run a story that will highlight the link between the spike in RHI applications between September-November 2015 (at least 975 of total 2128) and the fact that the DUP minister in charge at the time was engaged in a policy of resigning and reappointment - and that therefore appropriate measures designed to curb the scheme's largess were delayed.

I require a response no later than 5.30 pm today

Thanks in advance,

John Manley
Political Correspondent
The Irish News
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BT1 2GE