

From: Cooper, Trevor
To: [Cousins, Heather](#)
Subject: FW: RHI and Finance
Date: 27 September 2016 17:50:00
Attachments: [RHI Timeline.docx](#)

Heather
Timeline attached.
Trevor

From: Cousins, Heather
Sent: 27 September 2016 17:21
To: Cooper, Trevor
Subject: RHI and Finance

Trevor,

Can you please provide a timeline on finance's involvement with RHI

Heather
Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

RHI TIMELINE WITH DFP

April 2011 – July 2013	The RHI scheme was initially profiled over the 4-year period 2011-12 to 2014-15, and there was significant release of budget over this period.
30 August 2013	The first profile beyond 2014-15 occurred in the return from Energy Branch, where the profile steadily increased up to 2019-20 to £31M. This profile was confirmed by DFP in a budget control annex in October 2013. 13-14 £2.5m; 14-15 £5.5m; 15-16 £9.5m; 16-17 13.5m; 17-18 24.5m; 19-20 £31m
1 September 2014	The next significant change to the RHI profile occurred on 1-9-14 when Energy Branch reduced the profile to around £17M for each year from 2016-17 to 2020-21. This was subsequently revised upwards again to a budget of £29.4M by 2020-21 as set out in the end of year DFP control annex dated 9-3-15. 16-17 £17.1m; 17-18 £21.5m; 18-19 £25.2m; 19-20 £28.4m; 20-21 £29.4
26 March 2015	Email S Thompson to J Partridge - Energy Branch wrote to Finance Branch as they were unable to get advice from DECC on budgets for future years with an increasing profile of expenditure.
19 May 2015	Finance Branch responded on 19 May advising Energy Branch to take steps to curtail spending in 2015-16 to keep within a likely ceiling of £12.8M until clarification is sought from DFP, and Bernie Brankin wrote to Stuart Wightman on 20 May 2015 advising Energy Branch to stop entering into commitments immediately to ensure that monthly cumulative expenditure does not increase.
26 May 2015	Finance Branch submitted AME profiles to CED copied to DFP Supply which included significant forecast budget increases in forward years from 2016-17 onwards. 16-17 £32.4m; 17-18 £38.3m; 18-19 £44.8m; 19-20-£49.1m; 20-21 £47.3m
29 May 2015	Internal Finance meeting on accrual methodology for RHI for late adjustment to 14-15 accounts increasing spend by £2.35m
3 June 2015	Stocktake meeting with DFP – Raised issue of budgetary position and lack of approvals.
3 June 2015	Meeting A McCormick, E Rooney, J Mills, S Wightman – background to issues.
4 June 2015	June Monitoring – raised issue in writing in return – welcome discussion on progression with Treasury and DECC. (15-16 opening budget of £11.6M increased to forecast requirements of £23.2M in June Monitoring).
5 June 2015	TC oral briefing to D Beck and Claire Hughes on emerging position.
8 June 2015	TC briefed C Kane ref late accrual and irregular expenditure in 2015-16.
12 June 2015	Trevor Cooper, Stuart Wightman, Iain McFarlane met ref business case approvals
15 June 2015	Meeting with DFP at which RHI discussed – DFP view that in first instance DETI to make case to DECC for share of UK Budget.
16 June 2015	RHI meeting with Andrew McCormick, Eugene Rooney, Trevor Cooper, John Mills, Shane Murphy and Stuart Wightman ref approach to Business Case.
17 June 2015	Email T Cooper to M Scott stating that DETI will engage with DECC but need also for DFP to engage with Treasury.
1 July 2015	Note issued to DFP around approvals etc.
7 July 2015	Energy note to DECC.
8 July 2015	Submission to Minister by Energy Division on cost controls etc.

9 July 2015 to 10 July 2015	Correspondence Finance and Energy re approvals required
27 July 2015	Meeting T Cooper, J Mills, Stuart Wightman, I McFarlane ref draft business case.
5 August 2015	DECC response to J Mills correspondence
12 August 2015	Met with DFP to confirm DECC response TCooper, M Scott, B Brankin, A Millar – budget and VFM update.
14 August 2015	Update note to E Rooney - "Second point on this is budget position – we have got a response from DECC which answers some, but not all of issues – Bernie has follow-on questions which we would hope DECC can address – best to get contact we could speak to and Bernie has email for John Mills to send on this. Supply agreed that we separately as required in terms of timing send a draft note to them in relation to budget position and they would discuss with us position/how we may take forward. Bernie and Iain can liaise on this."
20 August 2015	Query from A McCormick in response to email from C Stewart whether uplift in AME budget in-year addresses the budget issue.
20 August 2015	B Brankin confirms budget issue not addressed as DECC confirm penalties applied if go outside budget – but no detail.
24 August 2015	I McFarlane meet DFP on RHI.
24 August 2015	E mail to Energy seeking DECC direct phone contact by Finance.
4 September 2015	Follow up seeking email to be sent for direct phone contact.
10 September 2015	Met S. Wightman ref draft business case
30 September 2015	Met DFP to discuss approvals and budget position.
8 October 2015	Finance Branch submitted AME profiles to CED copied to DFP Supply which included significant forecast budget increases in forward years from 2016-17 onwards. 16-17 £34.3m; 17-18 £40.0m; 18-19 £47.5m; 19-20 £52.8m; 20-21 £51m; 21-22 £51m
9 October 2015	DFP confirm that AME forecast beyond 2015-16 should not include provision for any new installations beyond 31 March 2016.
9 October 2015	Revised AME profile submitted.
13 October 2015	Finance provide DFP with latest draft business case ahead of casework
19 October 2015	Energy share casework papers
21 October 2015	Casework Committee
26 October 2015	Finance provides DFP with an updated Business Case to reflect amendments made following Casework meeting
27 October 2015	Finance provides further information to DFP and requests urgent consideration
28 October 2015	Energy and Finance answer DFP queries
29 October 2015	DFP Approval granted for new installations until 31 March 2016 due to the uncertainty around future funding of the scheme. "DFP approval is therefore granted for the payments arising from new installations between 29 October 2015 and 31 March 2016. This will be revisited following the SR announcement."
26 November 2015	DFP send extract of SR outcome confirming not intending to close national scheme, but improved cost control.
3 December 2015	DFP request updated forecast information to inform engagement with Treasury – request information on forecast expenditure plus in event any cap applying to NI were lower than commitments how quickly scheme

	could be closed.
7 December 2015	TC confirms to ER updated forecast information for meeting with Treasury provided. As regards budget for RHI they anticipate that NI will receive notification of a capped AME amount of £18.3M in 2016-17, £22.3M in 2017-18, £25.7M in 2018-19 and £28.9M in 2019-20. Any difference between actual spend in any of these years and the capped AME amount would in terms of the position presented fall as a call on NI Block Resource DEL. DETI provide LTTs
21 December 2015	Confirmation from DFP that retrospective approval not given.
January 2016	The 2015-16 RHI AME budget is increased to £30.4M in January Monitoring.
27 January 2016	DFP confirms cap on future AME RHI budget
28 January 2106	The latest profile from Energy Branch looking forward was received on 28-1-16 and shows forecast expenditure of £45.2M p.a. up to 2021-12 against previous forecasts of £30m pa for future years).