

**From:** [Hepper, Fiona](#)  
**To:** [McCoy, Laura](#)  
**Subject:** FW: ETI Committee's Queries on the Department's Response to Inquiry into Renewable Energy  
**Date:** 06 October 2011 08:37:24  
**Attachments:** [Response to ETI Committee request for update on Inquiry Recommendations.DOC](#)  
[ETI Committee Request for Update August 2011 Inquiry Recommendations Table.DOC](#)  
[ANNEX 3 SEF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.XLS](#)

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Could you print pl and put in a soft folder and drop through

Thanks

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**Fiona Hepper**

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**From:** McCoy, Laura **On Behalf Of** Hepper, Fiona  
**Sent:** 02 August 2011 14:34  
**To:** Private Office DETI  
**Cc:** Sterling, David; Hill, Olive (InvestNI); Baxter, Clare; Clydesdale, Alison; McCune, David; Martin, Olivia; Hutchinson, Peter; McBriar, Trevor; Aiken, Glynis; Ross, Alastair; Neth\_Energy

**Subject:** ETI Committee's Queries on the Department's Response to Inquiry into Renewable Energy

Private Office

Please see attached submission from Fiona Hepper for the attention of the Minister. Please note the annex on the excel spreadsheet is best viewed when printed on A3 paper.

Regards,

**Laura McCoy**

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From: Fiona Hepper

Date: 2 August 2011

To: 1. Andrew Crawford  
2. Arlene Foster MLA

### **ETI COMMITTEE'S QUERIES ON THE DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO INQUIRY INTO RENEWABLE ENERGY**

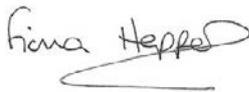
<b>Issue:</b>	The ETI Committee has requested an update following consideration of DETI's response to the recommendations included in the report on their Inquiry into 'Barriers to the Development of Renewable Energy Production and its Associated Contribution to the Northern Ireland Economy'.
<b>Timing:</b>	By 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2011 to ensure transmission to ETI Committee by deadline.
<b>Need for referral to the Executive:</b>	Not applicable at this stage.
<b>Presentational Issues:</b>	None at this stage.
<b>Freedom of Information:</b>	Some parts of this submission may be exempt under section 35 of the FOI Act relating to the formulation of government policy.
<b>Programme for Government/ PSA Implications:</b>	None.
<b>Financial Implications:</b>	None at present.
<b>Legislation Implications:</b>	None at present.
<b>Statutory Equality Obligations:</b>	None.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	That you agree the issue of a letter ( <b>Annex A</b> ) to the Committee Clerk and the proposed responses under each of the relevant recommendations ( <b>Annex B</b> ).

Background

2. In June 2010, the ETI Committee announced that renewable energy would be the subject of an inquiry to identify the main barriers inhibiting the development of renewable energy production. The Department formally received the resulting report on 24 February and responded before the deadline of 30 June.
3. The Committee has agreed to receive an oral briefing on the response from DETI officials after the summer recess and, in the meantime, has requested updated information on the responses provided. DETI (including InvestNI) has been asked for updates on recommendations 1-6, 8, 10- 15 and 18; in relation to the other recommendations, the Committee has made requests directly to the appropriate department.
4. In your initial response, 20 of the 25 recommendations were either accepted or partially accepted, one is under consideration – pending the conclusions of the Organisational Review – and four were rejected. The decisions to reject have not been challenged at this stage, but you will wish to note that the information provided regarding Recommendation 7 i.e. the potential for anaerobic digestion through co-digestion of wastewater treatment sludge and agricultural material, will be copied by the Committee to the Questor Centre in Queen's University for comment.
5. A response, including input from Invest NI, NIAUR, and DOE, has been prepared as detailed in the table at Annex B. DSD and OFMDFM will send their responses directly to the Committee.

**Recommendation**

6. I recommend that you consider the draft response to the Clerk of the ETI Committee (Annex A) and the responses to each of the Committee's requests as detailed in Annex B and, if content, we will ensure that this is issued as soon as possible.



**FIONA HEPPER**  
**Energy Division**  
**Ext 29215**

cc: David Sterling  
 Olive Hill, Invest NI  
 Clare Baxter  
 Alison Clydesdale  
 David McCune  
 Olivia Martin  
 Peter Hutchinson  
 Trevor McBriar o/r  
 Alastair Ross, MLA, APS

Jim McManus  
Committee Clerk,  
Enterprise Trade and Investment Committee  
Northern Ireland Assembly  
Room 424, Parliament Buildings  
BELFAST  
BT4 3XX

August 2011

Dear Jim

**INQUIRY INTO BARRIERS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY  
PRODUCTION AND ITS ASSOCIATED CONTRIBUTION TO THE NORTHERN  
IRELAND ECONOMY**

The Department responded to the Committee on the "Report on the Committee's Inquiry into Barriers to the Development of Renewable Energy Production and its Associated Contribution to the Northern Ireland Economy" on 27 June, and before the requested deadline of 30 June. I am now writing following your request an update.

The information requested is detailed in the Annex attached and identifies input from other departments or bodies with responsibility for a number of the recommendations. Departmental officials will be happy to provide further clarification on the recommendations for which the Department is responsible, if this is required.

Yours sincerely

**FIONA HEPPER  
DIRECTOR, ENERGY**

## Committee for Enterprise, Trade & Investment’s Consideration of the Department’s Response to its Inquiry into Renewable Energy

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
<p>1. The Barnett review stated that the Executive must provide clear focus and leadership to the range of energy policy issues as a separate and distinct Government priority. The Committee supports this recommendation and calls on the Executive to provide appropriate leadership in delivering the overall energy agenda by bringing all responsibility for energy policy and strategy under a single Government department.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI &amp; OFMDFM</p> <p><b>Partially Accept.</b></p> <p>The Executive agreed in February 2011 that the Sustainable Energy Inter-departmental Working Group (SEIDWG) should undertake work on energy vires and a leadership statement on sustainable energy. SEIDWG will accelerate this work to explore the scope for consolidating and streamlining sustainable energy activities, as and where appropriate, within the current departmental structure. If this work confirms the need for a single energy department, SEIDWG will make any necessary recommendation to the Executive. It will be for the Executive to decide on any structural change in Departments.</p> <p>OFMDFM believe that there is merit in examining the feasibility of marshalling the various responsibilities and the different research and operational activities currently being undertaken, within the broad Energy theme by Departments, in a singular way. It will assist DETI as necessary should this occur.</p> <p>OFMDFM also recognise that there are advantages in creating conditions where particular expertise resides in specific strategic area; for example, within a single Directorate.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes the acceptance by DETI and OFMDFM of aspects of this recommendation.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to forward SEIDWG report on energy vires and leadership on sustainable energy to the Committee when it is available.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to forward a copy of the Terms of Reference for SEIDWG work on energy vires, leadership and sustainable energy to the Committee.</p> <p>Following publication of SEIDWG findings, the Committee requests a written briefing from <b>OFMDFM</b> on its proposals for examining the feasibility of marshalling the various responsibilities and the different research and operational activities within the broad energy theme.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI &amp; OFMDFM</p> <p>OFMDFM has agreed to progress the energy vires work through the cross-Government Sustainable Development Champions Group and their conclusions will be provided on completion.</p> <p>A copy of the energy vires paper recently presented to SE IDWG members is attached for information (Annex 1).</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
<p>2. The Executive must develop a long-term vision for renewable energy which includes both an energy perspective and an economic perspective and establishes long-term partnerships to the benefit of Northern Ireland with other devolved administrations in the UK and with the Republic of Ireland, and should, where appropriate, include an all-island dimension for renewable energy.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>Building on the work of the SEIDWG sub-group for Economic Opportunities and Skills Development, which was included in the paper from the main group to the Executive in February 2011, SEIDWG will compile an Executive – wide Sustainable Energy Action Plan by the end of 2012, which will contain a long term vision for renewable energy.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes the compilation of a Sustainable Energy Action Plan.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to provide the Committee with the reasons for the long time period until the publication of a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (end of 2012). Also, is the delay related to Recommendation 3 that more resources are provided to those responsible for developing energy policy?</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to provide the Committee with details of the broad proposals for inclusion in the Action Plan prior to the development of the Plan.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p>The planned timeline for the Sustainable Energy Action Plan indicates that it will progress through the Executive process in December 2011 and, if adopted by the Executive, it will be published as soon as possible thereafter in spring 2012.</p> <p>A copy of the paper recently presented to the SE IDWG, setting out the proposed structure and timelines, is attached (Annex 2).</p>
<p>3. The Executive must provide more resources and technical expertise to those responsible for developing energy policy and proactively drive the renewable energy agenda and enable the development of policies and strategies to help Northern Ireland progress in those</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p><b>Under consideration.</b></p> <p>DETI is aware of the work load within Energy Division and is considering this in the context of a wider Departmental organisational review. This review is being undertaken to ensure existing resources are appropriately distributed across priority areas to meet Ministerial objectives. The outcome may be that some additional resource is allocated to energy policy. However, this needs to be balanced against pressures in other areas</p>	<p>The Committee will wait outcomes of <b>DETI</b> Organisational Review.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p>Implementation of the Organisational Review is ongoing. The Department aims to enhance Energy Division resources – although this remains challenging given other pressures in the Department.</p>

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<p>renewable energy areas such as anaerobic digestion, energy from waste, geothermal energy and renewable heat which are underdeveloped in relation to other regions.</p>	<p>and the top management team has not yet completed all of the necessary work. The outcome of this will also have to be discussed with the Minister ahead of final decisions being taken.</p>		
<p>4. In relation to the Strategic Energy Framework, interim targets should be put in place in order to provide a clear indication of what is achievable and what has been achieved at interim stages and to assist in monitoring progress with the implementation of the Framework.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>DETI will consider an appropriate high level interim target for renewable electricity and renewable heat for inclusion in the SEF implementation plan. However, it must be borne in mind that the delivery of such targets relies on a significant number of external factors such as:- how investors respond to the market and overall investment and economic conditions; and delivery of grid infrastructure, including, and in particular, the North – South Interconnector.</p>	<p>The Committee is aware that any organisation, when setting targets, must bear in mind that the delivery those targets relies on a number of external factors which are outside its control.</p> <p>The Committee suggests that, in developing its interim targets, <b>DETI</b> include ‘critical assumptions’ to take account of external factors.</p> <p>As the SEF details the energy strategy for Northern Ireland from 2010 to 2020, <b>DETI</b> should explain to the Committee why there has been a delay in developing an implementation plan. Also, is the delay related to Recommendation 3 that more resources are provided to those responsible for developing energy policy?</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p>SEF Implementation Plan is attached (Annex 3). There has been no delay in developing an implementation plan. The plan, primarily for internal monitoring purposes, has been prepared and is updated quarterly.</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
		<p><b>DETI</b> to inform the Committee of the expected date the Committee can expect to see a draft SEF Implementation Plan.</p>	
<p>5. The 40% target for electricity consumption from renewable sources by 2020 should include specific stretching targets for electricity from sources other than wind and/or stretching targets for non-wind sources by 2025 and beyond.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p><b>Reject.</b></p> <p>DETI recognises the importance of contributions from all onshore technologies towards our 40% target and beyond.</p> <p>While the Department is in the process of setting offshore renewable energy targets as a statement of its ambition in this particular field, of up to 900 MW from wind and 300 MW from tidal resources by 2020 (subject to the approval of the Executive), in order to provide a clear statement about its offshore ambitions, DETI does not wish to be prescriptive about the exact mix of technologies to meet the 40% target. Instead, it wants the level of renewable energy penetration to be market led, technology neutral and non geographic specific. The mix to be deployed to meet the 40% target will depend on specific decisions made by developers operating within an effective regulatory framework and Government incentivisation policies.</p> <p>The Department, through the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of its Onshore Renewable Electricity Action Plan, has examined low, medium and high levels of onshore wind, biomass and other technologies. This, coupled</p>	<p><b>DETI</b> to provide the Committee with details of the potential technology mix scenarios that could make up the 40% target.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> incentivises renewable energy through the Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation (NIRO). This has been revised annually for the past number of years to ensure that renewable energy production is appropriately incentivised.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to explain to the Committee how, in the absence of targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. It plans to ensure a cost-effective, reliable and diverse mix of generation; and</li> </ul>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p>The Committee received these scenarios as part of a written briefing on the on shore renewable energy action plan in June 2011.</p> <p>The 40% target is a market led, technology and geographically neutral target. The market will bring forward the most cost effective technologies and this is already being seen with on shore wind.</p> <p>The cost of some of the other renewable technologies remains high but is likely to reduce over time as the technologies mature but in the meantime DETI continues to</p>

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	<p>with the environmental results of the offshore SEA, will give us an indication of potential technology mix scenarios, which include all forms of onshore technologies, that could make up the 40% target.</p> <p>DETI will continue to support a range of renewable technologies, through the NIRO, to ensure a cost-effective, reliable and diverse mix of generation.</p>		<p>ensure that the NIRO incentivises renewable technologies at a level expected to increase deployment. It is important that the market brings forward reliable generating capacity and this is generally found in proven technologies in the short term.</p> <p>In a time of financial constraint it is vital for us to focus on those technologies and projects which are capable of providing the most cost-effective and significant contribution to achievement of the 2020 target.</p> <p>The UK Renewables Roadmap identifies the eight technologies which have either the greatest potential (more than 90%) to help meet the 2020 target in a cost effective and sustainable way, or offer the greatest potential for the decades that follow.</p> <p>These eight technologies are on shore wind, off shore wind, marine, biomass electricity, biomass heat, ground and air source heat pumps and renewable transport.</p>

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		<p>ii. It measures success of the NIRO in terms of effectiveness and value for money.</p>	<p>The Utility Regulator is responsible for evaluating the cost effectiveness of infrastructure development required to integrate renewables onto the transmission and distribution network.</p> <p>The success of the NIRO is judged by the amount of renewable electricity generated. This has increased from 3% in 2005 to a current figure of 10% and is on course to meet the 12% target by 2012. The amount of renewable energy generated is monitored on a monthly basis by Northern Ireland Electricity and this year to date (April 2011-March 2012) one month has already achieved a level of 18% and one month 11% of electricity generated from renewable sources.</p> <p>In terms of value for money, the lower obligation level imposed on NI suppliers under the NIRO (currently 5.5% compared to 12.5% for GB) and the fact that the associated costs of the ROs are spread across all UK consumers means that NI gets a good deal from the NIRO</p>

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			<p>scheme.</p> <p>The 2009/10 Renewables Obligation Annual Report produced by Ofgem shows that there was a 29% increase in ROCs issued to NI generators compared to 2008/09 – the largest increase across the UK.</p>
<p>6. The Sustainable Energy Interdepartmental working group should be supplemented by a group which includes representatives from the renewable energy sector, business, academia and NILGA to advise on the development of Government policy on renewable energy.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p><b>Partially Accept.</b></p> <p>The Department has always been, and remains, open to sectoral and other business, academia and local government interests in the formulation of all sustainable energy policy. For example the Sustainable Development Commission (until its closure) was represented on the SEIDWG.</p> <p>Sectoral representatives have been included in the Renewable Heat group, the Offshore Renewable Energy Forum and will also be included in a sub-group of the SEIDWG which is being set up to consider grid related issues. The situation will be kept under review and as the opportunity arises to include sectoral representation in any other groups, full consideration will be given to this.</p>	<p>The Committee welcome the inclusion of sectoral representatives in a sub-group of SEIDWG.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to provide the Committee with a list of those groups represented on the Renewable Heat Group</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to provide the Committee with details of membership of future SEIDWG sub-groups as they are formed.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p>The Renewable Heat Group operated between January 2010 and June 2010 to oversee a study into the Northern Ireland renewable heat market. Sectoral representation was from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action Renewables</li> <li>• Carbon Trust</li> <li>• Queen’s University</li> <li>• University of Ulster</li> <li>• MATRIX Panel</li> <li>• Ulster Farmer’s Union</li> <li>• Biomass Energy NI</li> </ul> <p>SE IDWG sub-groups focussing on Renewable Heat, Planning and Grid Development issues will soon be established.</p>

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			Further details will be provided when membership is confirmed.
<p>7. DETI, DRD, DARD and DoE should work with NIAUR as the Regulator for both water and energy, to conduct research to determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) how much energy potential exists for anaerobic digestion through co-digestion of wastewater treatment sludge and agricultural material;</li> <li>(ii) the viability of moving quickly to establish anaerobic digestion facilities throughout Northern Ireland which can be used for wastewater treatment sludge and agricultural waste; and</li> <li>(iii) the most appropriate means</li> </ul>	<p>Response provided by: DRD, NI Water, NIAUR, DARD and DETI</p> <p><b>Reject.</b></p> <p>The Departments have met to research the feasibility of implementing the recommendation. The full findings are at Appendix A.</p> <p>DRD, NIAUR, DETI, DOE, DARD and NI Water have investigated this recommendation and advise that additional research of NI Water sludge disposal options would not represent best use of public money at this time.</p> <p>A long term PPP contract has been in place since 2007 for the disposal of all of NI Water's wastewater sludge through thermal treatment. This contract runs until 2032 and involves the use of assets built in NI at a cost of c£65m to enable the compliant disposal of all of NI Water's wastewater sludge.</p>	<p>The Committee notes the response to this recommendation.</p> <p>The Committee will copy DETI's response on this recommendation to the Questor Centre in Queen's University Belfast for comment, as it was they who suggested the use of wastewater treatment sludge for co-digestion.</p>	

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
<p>of delivering such anaerobic digestion facilities whether through Northern Ireland Water, private sector contracts or other means.</p>			
<p>8. DETI should, as a priority, review the structures and mechanisms which have been established to provide advice and support on energy with a view to establishing a single organisation providing consistent, efficient, easily accessible advice and support to business and the public on all energy issues. This organisation should have a section dedicated to developing policy on the dissemination of support, advice and information to the public and business on renewable energy and its importance to the future of Northern</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p><b>Reject.</b></p> <p>DETI already identified this issue in 2007 and commissioned a review of the Sustainable Energy Market. It identified significant overlap in the many organisations in existence which are not controlled or funded by Government.</p> <p>The recommendation of this review was that better co-ordination across Government was needed and hence the Sustainable Energy Interdepartmental Working Group (SE IDWG) was established. Since then, the Executive has endorsed a unified approach to sustainable energy communications, proposed by the SEIDWG Sustainable Communications sub-group, to all Government funded sustainable energy activities.</p> <p>The Committee will be aware that a number of Departments have a role to play in energy matters. DETI only has vires regarding the provision of advice in relation to energy efficiency to the community sector. Invest NI provides</p>	<p>Despite SEIDWG providing better co-ordination across Government, the provision of advice to different sectors by three departments and one NDPB suggests considerable duplication.</p> <p>The Committee requests the views of <b>DETI</b> on whether the SEIDWG work on energy vires and a leadership statement on sustainable energy (Recommendation 1, DETI response) will include a review of how advice is provided to different sectors.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p>DETI, and other departments, will input to the energy vires work which should be lead by the cross-Government Sustainable Development Champions Group (secretariat provided by OFMdfM). If this work results in a reduction in the number of departments with responsibility for energy, the provision of advice will be one of a number of key issues to be considered.</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
Ireland.	<p>advice to the business sector, DSD provides advice to the domestic sector, and DFP provides advice to the public sector.</p> <p>The Renewable Energy Directive includes recommendations on disseminating information to the public, and DETI, through the SEIDWG, will be working with the other NI Departments to ensure that any work on disseminating advice and support to business and the public aligns with this Directive.</p>		
<p>9. To provide certainty for developers and to encourage and incentivise them to invest now, assurances should be provided that no investor will be worse off by investing now than they would be had they waited. This will require assurances that the incentives provided to future developers will be mirrored for existing developers.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p><b>Reject.</b></p> <p>‘Grandfathering’ arrangements were put in place when banding was introduced across all three Renewables Obligations in 2009, including the Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation (NIRO), to protect investment decisions against fluctuations in ROC banding levels.</p> <p>The policy intention is to maintain a given level of support for the full lifetime of eligibility for ROCs from the point of accreditation. For grandfathered generators, the policy intent is not to change the original level of support received at future banding reviews. The purpose of this policy is to allow generators to finance the fixed costs of their development over the lifetime of the project’s eligibility for support under the RO.</p> <p>Future banding reviews could determine that the capital and operating costs for some technologies</p>	<p>The Committee notes the response to this recommendation.</p>	

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
	<p>have decreased due to a range of factors, therefore new generators require less support. However these reduced costs would not apply to those who have already invested when costs were higher. Developers therefore need certainty that the ROC level they invest at will remain consistent.</p> <p>Adoption of the Committee's recommendation would result in uncertainty and may discourage investment, as developers would hesitate to invest due to the possibility that ROC levels could be banded down at a later date.</p>		
<p>10. It is important that DETI educate the financial sector and provide some level of assurances on the long term security of Renewable Energy Certificates so as reassure lenders and stimulate lending to renewable energy investors.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>DETI will organise a seminar for the financial sector on Renewable Obligation Certificates when the Department is clear on the future of the NIRO, following DECC's Electricity Market Reform (EMR) consultation and the completion of specific NI studies which are underway. This is likely to be in 2012.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes DETI's approach to implementing this recommendation.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to inform the Committee when this action has been completed.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p>DETI will inform the Committee accordingly as part of updates on implementation of the Committee's recommendation.</p>
<p>11. DETI should undertake an analysis to determine the costs and benefits to the Northern Ireland economy, business and renewable energy developers of</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>This recommendation has been fulfilled by work commissioned by the Department from Cambridge Economic Policy Associates (CEPA) and a copy of the report was submitted to the</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes DETI's implementation of this recommendation.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to keep the Committee informed when further work is completed.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p>The work on analysing the impact of the EMR proposals is underway and should be available to the Committee in</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
<p>introducing a FIT for small-scale generation along the lines of what has been introduced in GB.</p>	<p>Committee on 8 November 2010.</p> <p>Further work is, however, underway, in the context of analysing the impact of the EMR on the NIRO and the best way forward for Northern Ireland.</p>		<p>the autumn.</p>
<p>12. In the short-term, Government policy on biomass should concentrate on renewable heat to assist in meeting the Strategic Energy Framework target of 10% of heat from renewable sources by 2020. DETI should also give favourable consideration to the Treasury offer of £25 million for a Renewable Heat Incentive for Northern Ireland.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>The Bioenergy Action Plan which underwent consultation, was revised and endorsed by the Executive, and makes it clear (page 11) that the majority of consultees supported the proposal to focus attention on the development of bioenergy in NI for renewable heat and renewable electricity.</p> <p>DETI plans to introduce a support mechanism for Renewable Heat, subject to the completion by early June of an economic appraisal. A public consultation on this will issue in the early Summer.</p> <p>DETI will consider the need for a cross departmental renewable group to support the development of a renewable heat strategy/roadmap. There are a range of issues outside of DETI's remit that would need to be addressed in a wider renewable heat strategy, including biomass sustainability.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes DETI's plans to implement this recommendation.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to provide the Committee with a written briefing on the draft proposals and summary of consultation responses to give the Committee adequate time to comment before they are finalised.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI</p> <p>The consultation on the Development of the Northern Ireland Renewable Heat Incentive was launched on 20 July 2011 and will be open until 3 October 2011. Once responses have been collated and analysed, DETI will provide the Committee with a summary of consultation responses in adequate time to ensure consideration and comment before proposals are finalised. Copies of the consultation document were sent to the Committee Clerk on 25 July.</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
<p>13. DETI must explore the opportunities for enhancing the research funding system in Northern Ireland by benchmarking against leading European regions so as to ensure that Northern Ireland is in a position to take full advantage of opportunities for funding for research and development under EU Framework Programme 8.</p>	<p>Response provided by: Invest NI</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>Invest NI will continue to explore available R&amp;D opportunities, not only under Framework but also under other EU, national and cross-border research programmes and promote them to NI stakeholders. It will work to identify the potential opportunities for Northern Ireland’s businesses as they become available under FP7’s successor, including those in the renewable sector.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes Invest NI’s acceptance of this recommendation.</p> <p><b>Invest NI</b> to provide the Committee with a list of other EU, national and cross-border research programmes and details of uptake in Northern Ireland.</p>	<p>Response provided by: Invest NI attached at Annex 4.</p>
<p>14. The nature of Invest NI support should be reviewed to realise the net benefits that indigenous SMEs can bring to the overall Northern Ireland economy.</p>	<p>Response provided by: Invest NI</p> <p><b>Partially Accept.</b></p> <p>Invest NI continually reviews the support it provides through both formal evaluations and best practice reviews. As with any other sector, and in line with its economic development remit, Invest NI’s aim is already very much geared to growing the indigenous renewable energy sector – as well as attracting Foreign Direct Investment.</p> <p>Through its mainstream support, Invest NI will continue to assist local renewables companies to explore and take up the significant development opportunities that exist.</p> <p>Applications for financial support from SME’s in</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes Invest NI’s support for renewable energy.</p> <p><b>Invest NI</b> to provide the Committee with details of support provided to renewable energy businesses during each year of the last Programme for Government.</p>	<p>Response provided by: Invest NI attached at Annex 5.</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
	<p>any sector are rigorously appraised to ensure value for money is achieved for the public purse and that the benefits to the local economy are maximised.</p>		
<p>15. Invest NI should review the technical knowledge and skills available within the organisation so as to ensure that it has the appropriate resources available to support the indigenous renewable energy sector.</p>	<p>Response provided by: Invest NI</p> <p><b>Partially Accept.</b></p> <p>The rationale for this recommendation is not clear and Invest NI was not asked to provide details of its renewable team during the enquiry. However, Invest NI regularly reviews its staffing requirements and believes that it has the appropriate resources to support and develop the indigenous renewable energy sector. The Invest NI team which leads on renewables is primarily made up of professional technical staff and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mechanical and electrical engineers;</li> <li>• chemical engineers;</li> <li>• industrial chemists;</li> <li>• process engineers.</li> </ul> <p>Several team members have PhDs in subjects related to renewables while others have completed various postgraduate qualifications, including the University of Ulster's MSc in Energy.</p> <p>Owing to their wide range of industrial expertise the team is regularly consulted by renewables project developers and works to maximise the economic benefits of NI's renewables sector in</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes the news that Invest NI's professional technical staff have a wide range of appropriate experience.</p> <p><b>Invest NI</b> to comment specifically on its future support for renewable energy when briefing the Committee on the outcomes of its TRANSFORM project.</p>	<p>Response provided by: Invest NI</p> <p>Invest NI's Chief Executive has agreed to update the Committee on the agency's support for the Renewable Energy Sector at his next scheduled update session in October 2011.</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
	<p>tandem with other Invest NI teams, including Trade, Research and Development, Business Improvement and International Sales.</p>		
<p>16. The Department of Finance &amp; Personnel should review the costs and benefits of making certain renewable energy technologies mandatory for new builds with a view to bringing forward proposals if feasible.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DFP</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>DFP has already announced a programme of changes to Part F of the Building Regulations to enhance thermal standards, working towards low or zero carbon from 2016, in line with amendments planned elsewhere in the UK.</p> <p>The Department's policy in this regard is to set as a baseline increasingly challenging standards of building fabric efficiency (with appropriate testing to ensure these targets are achieved) and to then allow designers and builders to select whatever additional measures suit the particular circumstances of the project to meet the overall target. This non-prescriptive approach to the technologies available gives flexibility to builders and developers to choose whatever mix of solutions best meets their particular needs.</p> <p>It is likely that from 2013 onwards, some form of renewable energy will be necessary to meet the proposed requirements. The cost-effectiveness of a range of technologies is considered as each amendment to Part F is progressed.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes DFP's acceptance of this recommendation.</p>	
<p>17. The Executive should, as a priority, consider</p>	<p>Response provided by: DSD</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes DSD's acceptance of this</p>	<p>DSD will respond separately on this issue to the ETI Committee.</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
<p>the proposals for a Green New Deal Housing Fund with a view to agreeing how this can be taken forward including the nature and level on Government support required.</p>	<p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>DSD has taken the lead in examining the Green New Deal proposals. The Permanent Secretary chairs an interdepartmental group with responsibility for working with Green New Deal steering group members to progress the business case. This work is ongoing.</p>	<p>recommendation</p> <p><b>DSD</b> to provide the Committee with a written briefing on progress with implementing the Green New Deal proposals.</p>	
<p>18. A plan for infrastructure development must be prepared and implemented, with all key stakeholders having input into the plan. The timescales for infrastructure development must be included and must plan for the appropriate infrastructure to be in place in time to meet the 40% target for renewable electricity.</p>	<p>Response provided by: NIAUR and DETI</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>As part of the regulatory process, the Utility Regulator has received and approved a number of requests from NIE and SONI for capital expenditure associated with short and medium term projects to facilitate renewable development. It is currently reviewing further grid development proposals submitted by NIE. These proposals will be subject to full cost benefit analysis as the need to develop grid quickly must be balanced against the cost to consumers.</p> <p>In the first instance, the Utility Regulator intends to publish the proposals on their website and also plans full stakeholder engagement.</p> <p>DETI plans to set up a SEIDWG sub-group on Grid &amp; Renewable Energy, to include NIE and DOE Planning, to discuss related issues and encourage better stakeholder engagement to facilitate the development of a grid development plan by NIE.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes NIAUR's and DETI's plans to implement this recommendation.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to provide the Committee with a written briefing, when appropriate, on proposals for the grid development plan.</p>	<p>Response provided by: NIAUR and DETI</p> <p><u>DETI</u> The Utility Regulator is tasked with deciding on the timescale and funding for the necessary grid development. DETI has no role in this process and can therefore only advise the Committee of the Utility Regulator's decision in due course.</p> <p><u>NIAUR</u> As part of the RP5 Process, NIE submitted their business plan for the period 2012 to 2017. The Utility Regulator recently published a NIE Paper detailing their view of the capital requirements in the RP5 period. Following on from this the Utility Regulator hosted a stakeholder</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
			<p>event (jointly with CCNI) on 'Network Development and Asset Placement', where NIE and SONI both presented on the future network.</p> <p>The Utility Regulator is currently carrying out a rigorous assessment of the capex and opex requirements for RP5. Once this process is completed, the Utility Regulator intends to fully consult on the assessment and our recommendations for the RP5 period. We expect to be consulting on our findings in late 2011/early 2012. The Utility Regulator believes it is appropriate to provide a written briefing to the Committee once we have completed our analysis and are in apposition to consult publicly.</p> <p>It should be noted that due to the uncertainty around the necessary investment for the support of renewables, the Utility Regulator is likely to approve this investment on an incremental basis (spread over RP4, RP5 and RP6, provided NIE demonstrate need and value for money (CBA).</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
<p>19. The Department of the Environment and the Planning Appeals Commission should prioritise the Public Inquiry process so as to ensure that high priority, key infrastructure projects such as the North-South Interconnector are dealt with as a top priority.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DoE and DETI</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>In referring cases to the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) for public inquiries DOE indicates the level of priority that it considers appropriate to each case. The PAC has to date organised the programme of public inquiries in accordance with the priority order indicated by the Department. It should be noted that the extent to which a case may be prioritised will depend on the availability of Commission resources.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes DoE's and DETI's acceptance of this recommendation.</p> <p><b>DoE</b> to provide the Committee with details of how it prioritises cases as it is not clear whether DoE is best placed to decide priorities.</p> <p>DoE to provide the Committee with a list of cases referred to the PAC and the priorities allocated to each.</p>	<p>OFMDFM will respond to the Committee separately.</p>
<p>20. The Utility Regulator should review the process for grid connection to ensure that it is fully transparent and costs are fully explained. Connections for installations should be made in a timely fashion, with both parties aware of how long the process is going to take.</p>	<p>Response provided by: NIAUR</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>The Utility Regulator is happy to continue to pursue this recommendation.</p> <p>A consultation paper on electricity connection policy to the Northern Ireland distribution system was published by the Utility Regulator on 15 November 2010. Having considered all the responses to the consultation the Utility Regulator published a next steps paper on 10 May 2011.</p> <p>In relation to costs, NIAUR would advise that connections for generators to the system are currently charged at a cost reflective rate. In</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes NIAUR's acceptance of this recommendation.</p> <p>NIAUR to provide the Committee with information on any proposals the Regulator will bring forward following engagement with stakeholders.</p> <p><b>NIAUR</b> to inform the Committee of the expected date the Committee can expect to see a policy on grid connection.</p>	<p>Response provided by: NIAUR</p> <p>As indicated in the 'NI Electricity Distribution System Connection Policy – Next Steps Paper', the Utility Regulator intends to assess the cost and timing associated with Connections and will consider as part of the RP5 process. Therefore the Utility Regulator will also consult on this in late 2011/early 2012.</p> <p>The Utility Regulator believes it is appropriate to provide a written briefing to the</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
	<p>other words the generator who requests the connection must pay the cost associated with it. However, the consultation responses showed strong support for an examination of the definition of those costs which are counted as connection costs. The Utility Regulator will engage fully with stakeholders on this subject and held workshops for large scale generators on 23 May 2011 and small scale generators on 6 June.</p> <p>In relation to timing, the Regulator advises that they will continue to work with NIE to ensure that connections are made in a timely fashion. However delays are often due to causes which are beyond NIE's control; for example planning, access to land, and the need for downstream reinforcement which requires planning permission.</p>		<p>Committee once we have completed our analysis and are in a position to consult publicly.</p>
<p>21. The Department of the Environment and the Planning Service should ensure that planning policy for renewable energy (PPS 18) is implemented and applied in a consistent manner.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DoE</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>The majority of planning applications relating to renewable energy development are dealt with by two specialist teams within the Department's Strategic Planning Division. This permits applications for wind farms and energy from waste proposals to be processed in a consistent manner.</p> <p>PPS18 "Renewable Energy" sets out clear policy on renewable energy and is accompanied by best practice guidance. This assists in the</p>	<p>The Committee Welcomes DoE's acceptance of this recommendation.</p>	

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
	<p>delivery of a consistent approach in the processing of renewable energy proposals.</p>		
<p>22. In order to inform planning decisions relating to emerging technologies, DETI, DoE and DARD should work with the Planning Service to fully inform Planners and to provide clear guidance and advice on the impact of these technologies.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI, DoE and DARD</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>Guidance on all forms of renewable energy development, how they work, their impact and other consenting regimes required was published as complementary best practice guidance to PPS18. The guidance was heavily influenced through bilateral meetings with both DETI and DARD and was endorsed by the Northern Ireland Executive.</p> <p>The SEIDWG sub-group on Planning &amp; Renewable Energy will work together to see how planners can be further informed on renewable energy technologies.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes the acceptance of this recommendation by DETI, DoE and DARD.</p> <p><b>DoE</b> to provide the Committee with a written briefing on the key points of the published guidance.</p>	<p>Response provided by DoE</p> <p>The Best Practice Guidance accompanying PPS18 'Renewable Energy' provides background information on the various technologies that may come forward in Northern Ireland. It provides a description of each technology; the planning issues that relate to each technology; the information that is required for each technology in submitting a planning application, where a planning application is required; and lists other authorisations or consents that may be required.</p> <p>In addition, the best practice guidance provides advice on how best to use the principles of passive solar design in design, siting and layout of new development, taking advantage of the natural energy in materials and air created by exposure to the sun.</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
<p>23. The Department of the Environment should publish the results of its consultation on permitted development for domestic installations at the earliest opportunity and bring forward proposals as soon as possible.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DoE</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p> <p>Domestic micro-generation permitted development rights for solar panels, solid biomass fuel storage, and ground and water source heat pumps were introduced with effect from 6 April 2011.</p> <p>A number of responses to the consultation exercise, that ended in January 2010, (and included both domestic and non-domestic technologies) raised concerns about the introduction of permitted development rights for Wind Turbines and Air Source Heat Pumps, in relation to noise and other issues (including in the case of wind turbines, air navigation safety). Consequently, these technologies are not a feature of the new domestic permitted development regime. However, the Department continues to liaise with other planning jurisdictions in an effort to address these issues.</p> <p>Copies of the consultation responses have now been published on the Department's website and the Department will shortly be publishing its analysis of the responses to the domestic element of the consultation on its website.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes DoE's acceptance of this recommendation and its implementation of many aspects of the recommendation.</p> <p><b>DoE</b> to keep the Committee informed on developments on its analysis of responses to the domestic element of the consultation.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DOE</p> <p>The Department is content to keep the Committee informed on developments on its analysis of responses to the domestic element of the consultation on domestic micro-generation permitted development.</p>
<p>24. The Department of the Environment should commence a</p>	<p>Response provided by: DoE</p> <p><b>Accept.</b></p>	<p>The Committee welcomes DoE's plans to implement this recommendation.</p>	<p>Response provided by: DOE</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
<p>consultation exercise on permitted development for business and agricultural installations with a view to bringing forward proposals for permitted development in these sectors.</p>	<p>The consultation exercise on microgeneration permitted development that ended in January 2010, covered both domestic and non-domestic permitted development and included, for example, proposals for non-domestic solar panels, wind turbines, biomass, combined heat and power plants, heat pumps and anaerobic digestion plant installation on agricultural land.</p> <p>The Department aims to complete further policy development work for non-domestic microgeneration permitted development rights this year following engagement with other planning jurisdictions, Government Departments, the Chief Building Control Officers Group together with Environmental Health and Senior Planners from the Department of the Environment to address issues such as glare, noise, vibration, health, aircraft safety and interference with communications systems.</p> <p>It is the Department's aim to bring forward legislative proposals for non-domestic permitted development rights to the Assembly later this year.</p>	<p><b>DoE</b> to keep the Committee informed on progress with the implementation of this recommendation</p>	<p>The Department is content to keep the Committee informed on progress with the implementation of non-domestic permitted development rights.</p>
<p>25. The Executive must bring forward a programme to develop the renewable energy potential of public</p>	<p>Response provided by: DETI &amp; OFMDFM</p> <p><b>Partially Accept.</b></p> <p>Regulation 11 of the UK-wide Promotion of the</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes DETI's and OFMDFM's acceptance of aspects of this recommendation.</p>	<p>OFMDFM will respond to the Committee separately, on both points.</p>

Recommendation	DETI Response	Committee Consideration	DETI Response
<p>buildings. This should include targets and time-scales for substantially increasing the deployment of renewable energy right across the public sector.</p>	<p>Use of Energy from Renewable Source Regulations (SI 2011/243)<sup>1</sup> puts a duty on responsible authorities in Northern Ireland to take such steps as it considers appropriate to ensure that a public building constructed after 31 December 2011, or undergoing major renovation after that date, fulfils an exemplary role in the context of the Renewable Energy Directive.</p> <p>OFMDFM draw attention to the new Sustainable Development Implementation Plan and, in particular, the actions associated with Objective 5.1 <i>'Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions'</i>. In this context, the cross-Government Sustainable Development Champions Group will consider Greenhouse Gas emissions reductions on the wider public sector estate and bring forward recommendations on emissions management. Clearly there are energy implications associated with this, and there is an opportunity to frame this work along the lines of the recommendation provided by the Committee. The DETI Sustainable Champion will highlight the linkages to the Champions Group in due course.</p>	<p><b>OFMDFM</b> to provide the Committee with details of recommendations on emissions management in the public sector when available.</p> <p><b>DETI</b> to provide the Committee with details of the role of the Sustainable Champion and the Sustainable Development Champions' Group.</p>	

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2011/243/contents/made/data.pdf>

## PAPER FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY INTER-DEPARTMENTAL WORKING GROUP

### VIRES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Background

1. In February this year, the Executive agreed the recommendation of this group that:  
**“ it [SEIDWG] should undertake an audit of vires across Government departments and makes recommendations to the Executive as to whether Departmental vires need to be amended. This workstream will also look at whether responsibilities can be consolidated in one department to reduce the fragmentation of responsibility for sustainable energy issues.”**
2. Also in February, the ETI Committee published its report of its inquiry into Barriers to the Development of Renewable Energy production and its Associated Contribution to the NI Economy. Recommendation 1:  
**“The Committee...calls on the Executive to provide appropriate leadership in delivering the overall energy agenda by bringing all responsibility for energy policy and strategy under a single Government department”.**
3. This paper brings the consideration of these two related issues together and makes suggestions on the way forward for discussion at the meeting on 5 July.

#### Current responsibilities

4. **Annex A** gives a summary of the 12 departments' sustainable energy and related responsibilities. **Annex B** summarises the legislative vires under which Northern Ireland departments operate sustainable energy policy and delivery.

#### Analysis

5. The audit has, not unexpectedly, shown that vires and responsibilities are spread widely across the departments. In addition, those departments which do not have responsibility for some aspect of sustainable energy policy are often responsible for large estates, where Government is exhorted by stakeholders to take a lead in demonstrating or providing market pull for sustainable energy. This spread of responsibilities has the following main effects:
  - a) there is a level of confusion amongst some external stakeholders about which department is responsible for which aspect of sustainable energy and they can find it hard to direct queries appropriately. This can, for instance, result in correspondence/calls having to be redirected, which is frustrating for the stakeholder and inefficient for officials;
  - b) there is no central driver for some aspects of energy policy (e.g. energy efficiency) as no single department can pull sufficient levers to make coherent policy without the significant involvement of other departments;

- c) no single department can be held accountable for the specific lack of joined up government and lack of progress on sustainable energy related issues;
  - d) the spread of responsibilities means that at times one department is not aware of the ongoing work of another in this field, despite the existence of the SE IDWG. This can lead to duplication of effort or incorrect information being provided to democratic bodies;
  - e) the spread of responsibilities means that research, policy and delivery may be duplicated with concomitant waste of effort and resources;
  - f) the current requirement for cross-departmental working to ensure effective joined-up government means that many relatively straight-forward issues have to be agreed at Executive level because they are cross-cutting issues under the Ministerial code. While, on the positive side, this can be helpful in ensuring that all Ministers are signed up to policies, the mandatory requirements for taking a paper to the Executive means that delays are inherent in cross-departmental working; and
  - g) even where attempts are made to join up policy making, share information and good practice, such as in the setting up of the SEIDWG, and without any reflection on the members of SEIDWG, it is generally understood to be the case that commitment to cross-departmental working cannot duplicate the effect of co-locating staff within a single management structure, because attendance and related work are not the core part of most officials' duties and will naturally be peripheral to the essence of their jobs.
6. In addition, the specific effect of this separation of responsibilities can be seen in the following ways:
- a) energy efficiency policy and delivery is spread out across several departments and this is reflected in the legislative vires. While DETI has taken on a co-ordinating role by virtue of its overall energy remit, it has no power to mandate actions from other departments;
  - b) DARD has a renewable energy and climate change branch the existence of which, while it does essential work for the agricultural and rural community, causes additional confusion in roles and responsibilities;
  - c) despite the setting up of the sustainable transport division in DRD, there remains confusion amongst stakeholders as to which department they should interface with in relation to, for example, the use of biomethane for transport purposes. This gap is particularly evident when the contribution of transport to energy imports and GHG emissions is considered.
7. No doubt there are many other examples that could be cited. This paper acknowledges that it is neither practical nor desirable to remove all separation of policy on sustainable energy; for instance, it will always be appropriate for planning approval to be largely separated from energy policy making (even within the context of ensuring that planning fully enables appropriate sustainable energy development).

Benchmarking

8. This paper acknowledges also that there is a limit to how helpful the precedent of arrangements in other jurisdictions can be. However, energy stakeholders (and indeed the ETI Committee in its recent report 'Barriers to the Development of Renewable Energy') have held up the amalgamation of energy (formerly part of BERR) and climate change issues (formerly part of DEFRA) into the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) as a model for Northern Ireland.

*UK*

9. DECC is responsible for energy efficiency; climate change; heat; electricity; renewables; energy consents. It is not responsible for transport, including biofuels (DfT), planning policy (DCLG), energy using products (DEFRA) etc, but has good links with those relevant departments, to the extent that DECC's Office of Renewable Energy Deployment has its own unit (the Planning for Renewables Team) set up to "develop understanding and solutions that will enable more effective management of the environmental issues related to the deployment of renewable energy ... This will help the UK meet its commitments under the EU Renewable Energy Directive, and to do so in an environmentally sustainable way".

*Scotland*

10. In Scotland, the civil service is divided into a number of departments. Relevant here are the Directorates under the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth:
- Enterprise, Energy & Tourism
  - Transport
  - Climate Change and Water Industry

This shows that most of the relevant sustainability energy directorates are under the control of the same cabinet minister.

*ROI*

11. In the Republic of Ireland, the Department for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources (DCENR) is responsible for energy efficiency, heat, electricity, renewable energy including biofuels. Delivery is largely managed through the Sustainable Energy Authority for Ireland. However, sustainable transport policy appears to be the responsibility of the Department of Transport and climate change is the responsibility of the Department of the Environment.

Options

12. There are a number of options to deal with this situation:

*(a) Status Quo*

The analysis above indicates that many stakeholders, both internally and externally, do not believe that the current arrangements are delivering the best outcomes for the people of Northern Ireland on this issue.

*(b) Increased cross-departmental working*

Increased cross-departmental working is currently the way in which departments are attempting to tackle a number of sustainable energy issues e.g. SE IDWG, GHG CDWG, the Sustainable Development Champions group, and the Sustainable Energy Skills group.

*(c) Amalgamate limited functions in several departments*

There might be ways in which limited functions could be rolled up separately within existing departments: for example, energy efficiency vires could be concentrated in one existing department, or climate change and energy functions brought together.

*(d) Single Energy Department*

The number of departments is bound up in the wider political settlement in Northern Ireland. However, as noted above, the ETI Committee's recent report recommended a single department. The response to this recommendation was provided by both DETI and OFMDFM which "Partially Accepted" the recommendation with the following words:

"The Executive agreed in February 2011 that the Sustainable Energy Inter-departmental Working Group (SEIDWG) should undertake work on energy vires and a leadership statement on sustainable energy. SEIDWG will accelerate this work to explore the scope for consolidating and streamlining sustainable energy activities, as and where appropriate, within the current departmental structure. If this work confirms the need for a single energy department, SEIDWG will make any necessary recommendation to the Executive. It will be for the Executive to decide on any structural change in Departments.

OFMDFM believe that there is merit in examining the feasibility of marshalling the various responsibilities and the different research and operational activities currently being undertaken, within the broad Energy theme by Departments, in a singular way. It will assist DETI as necessary should this occur. OFMDFM also recognise that there are advantages in creating conditions where particular expertise resides in specific strategic area; for example, within a single Directorate."

*(e) Single Directorate for Energy within an existing department*

If the creation of a new department (e.g. for energy and climate change following the DECC model) is not favoured, then the only way of having a single department responsible for energy would be via transfer of a significant number of functions (with associated resources) to an existing department.

Recommendation

13. This paper recommends that the SE IDWG group discusses the options above and shapes an agreed recommendation on the way forward.

Implementation

14. DETI recognises that it is unlikely to be seen by other departments as fully objective on this issue: we therefore propose that a department with an overseeing role, i.e. OFMDFM would be best placed to take forward the agreed recommendation of this group to the Executive.

**SUSTAINABLE ENERGY BRANCH  
DEPARTMENT OF ENTERPRISE, TRADE AND INVESTMENT  
JUNE 2011**

### Summary of departmental responsibilities in relation to sustainable energy

#### DARD

- helping the agricultural and rural communities benefit from renewable energy,
- helping the farming community act to restrict GHG emissions.
- DARD estate.
- Education of agricultural community in respect of sustainable energy through CAFRE and AFBI.

#### Forestry Service

- Biomass resource
- Carbon sequestration

#### DCAL

Museums estate.

#### DE

Education estate.

Education policy and curriculum in relation to sustainable energy.

#### DEL

Promoting learning and skills in sustainable energy and assisting people into sustainable energy employment.

#### DETI

- Primary responsibility for electricity (including most forms of renewable electricity and support schemes) and gas policy, legislation and delivery.
- energy efficiency in the voluntary sector and monitoring data relating to local and national energy efficiency targets.
- renewable heat and renewable heat incentive.
- Smart metering and billing
- SEIDWG

#### Invest NI:

- provision of integrated programme of advice, information, finance etc to assist business to increase resource efficiency;
- programme of mainstream support for local business to energy renewable energy supply chain and attract FDI associated with renewable energy.
- Carbon Trust programme.

## DFP

- Energy performance regulations
- Building regulations
- Reduction of carbon emissions from DFP office estate.

## DHSSPS

Health estate.

## DOE

- Climate change policy, legislation and delivery, including the climate change working group and the Carbon Reduction Commitment.
- Waste Management Strategy and Energy from Waste.
- Planning policy.
- Environmental consents.
- Air quality, pollution prevention and control.

## DoJ

Prison and ?police? estates.

## DRD

- Responsible for regional planning,
- policy and legislation for water service –
- Responsible for transport policy including sustainable transport.
- DRD estate.

## NIW:

- delivery of carbon reduction, energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in the NIW estate..

## Translink:

- delivery of sustainable energy in Translink estate and other assets.

## DSD

Responsible for energy efficiency in residential accommodation, including the Warm Homes Scheme.

## NIAUR

To secure a diverse, viable and environmentally sustainable long-term energy supply including:

- Enforcement of licence conditions on the provision of energy efficiency advice
- Administration of the NI Sustainable Energy programme

- Administration of NIRO, LECs
- Promotion of grid development etc.

OFMDFM

Responsible for sustainable development strategy, action plan and overseeing delivery, as well as the Sustainable Development Champions Group.

**Energy-related vires in NI legislation: a summary.**

This is the list of legislation (in chronological order) which departments gave us as containing their powers in relation to sustainable energy issues.

Building Regulations (NI) Order 1979

Article 3 of the Building Regulations Order allows DFP to make regulations to be known (and in this Order referred to) as “building regulations” (a)for all or any of the matters set out in Schedule 1 (especially relevant is para 6 on “measures affecting transmission of heat” and 17 on “Standards of heating, artificial lighting, mechanical ventilation and air conditioning and provision of power outlets”); and (b)for such other matters relating to buildings as appear to the Department after consultation with the Advisory Committee to be relevant to the purposes of this Order.

Electricity Act 1989

Primary powers for Renewables Obligation.

The Energy Efficiency (Northern Ireland) Order 1999

- Powers for Invest NI for the purpose of promoting the efficient use of energy in industry.
- Powers for DETI for the purpose of promoting the efficient use of energy by voluntary organisations.
- Powers for DSD for the purpose of promoting the efficient use of energy in residential accommodation.
- Powers for [DOE/DFP?] for the purpose of promoting the efficient use of energy by public bodies.

These departments may for these purposes:

- (a)provide financial or other assistance to any body or person engaged in industry;
- (b)provide, or secure the provision of, advice;
- (c)disseminate, or secure the dissemination of, information;
- (d)carry out, or secure the carrying out of, research.

Finance Act 2000

Not clear how this contributes to sustainable energy (through fuel tax tariffs? Or through the Climate Change Levy Section 30 and schedule 6). However, taxation is an excepted matter.

Environment Order (NI) 2002

Air quality powers.

Industrial Development Act (NI) 2002

Requires Invest Northern Ireland to carry out functions under the Energy Efficiency Order 1999.

### Energy (NI) Order 2003

Gas and electricity powers and duties for DETI and NIAUR.

### Sustainable Energy Act 2003 (as amended by Energy Act 2004)

Only sections 1 (Annual reports on progress towards sustainable energy aims) and 8 (Financial provision) of this Act apply to NI.

### Energy Act 2004

- Nuclear powers across the whole UK (excepted matter).
- Renewable Energy Zones (outside NI territorial waters) – excepted matter
- Decommissioning offshore installations – a gap for NI
- NIRO primary powers – amendment to existing primary powers under the Electricity Act 1989
- Allowance for GEMA to act for NIAUR in relation to ROCs
- Primary powers for UK-wide Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation

### NI (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006

Applies to all Northern Ireland departments. A public authority must, in exercising its functions, act in the way it considers best calculated to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in Northern Ireland, except to the extent that it considers that any such action is not reasonably practicable in all the circumstances of the case.

### Water and sewerage services order (NI) 2006

Article 6 requires DRD and NIAUR to carry out their water and sewerage functions mentioned in paragraph (1) in the manner that it considers is best calculated— (e)to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

Article 7 allows the department (DRD) to issue guidance about the making by the Authority in the exercise of its water and sewerage functions of a contribution towards the attainment of any social or environmental policies set out or referred to in the guidance.

### Electricity (Single Wholesale Market)(NI) Order 2007

Article 9(4) requires the Department, the Authority and the SEM Committee to carry out the functions mentioned in paragraph (1) in the manner which it considers is best calculated—

- (a)to promote efficiency and economy on the part of authorised persons;
- (b)to secure a diverse, viable and environmentally sustainable long-term energy supply in Northern Ireland and Ireland (subject to para 2 of the same section).

### The Energy Performance of Buildings (Certificates and Inspections) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008

The requirement that a certificate is to be made available to the owner or to the prospective buyer or tenant when a building is constructed, sold or rented out and that air-conditioning systems are to be regularly inspected is introduced by these Regulations.

The Department of Finance and Personnel has taken the lead in preparing these Regulations in co-operation with the Department of Social Development (DSD).

### Climate Change Act 2008

An Act to set a target for the year 2050 for the reduction of targeted greenhouse gas emissions; to provide for a system of carbon budgeting; to establish a Committee on Climate Change; to confer powers to establish trading schemes for the purpose of limiting greenhouse gas emissions or encouraging activities that reduce such emissions or remove greenhouse gas from the atmosphere; to make provision about adaptation to climate change; to confer powers to make schemes for providing financial incentives to produce less domestic waste and to recycle more of what is produced; to make provision about the collection of household waste; to confer powers to make provision about charging for single use carrier bags; to amend the provisions of the Energy Act 2004 about renewable transport fuel obligations; to make provision about carbon emissions reduction targets; to make other provision about climate change; and for connected purposes.  
Most of it extends to NI.

### Farm Modernisation Programme Regulations (NI) 2008

Allows DARD to make grants in relation to farm modernisation, including (presumably) sustainable energy.

### Renewables Obligation Order (NI) 2009 as amended

Powers for DETI and NIAUR for the NIRO.

### Forestry Act (NI) 2010

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (“the Department”) has the general duty of promoting afforestation and sustainable forestry. forestry” includes—  
(a) the production and supply of forest products and the maintenance of adequate reserves of growing trees; (b)  
the management and development of forests so as to contribute to the protection of the environment, biodiversity and the mitigation of, or adaptation to, climate change.

### The promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources 2011

Transposes most of the Renewable Energy Directive into UK law. In particular, regulation 11 Duty to take steps to ensure certain public buildings fulfil an exemplary role – applies to all NI departments: The responsible authority must take such steps as it considers appropriate to ensure that a public building constructed after 31st December 2011; or undergoing major renovation after that date fulfils an exemplary role in the context of the [Renewable Energy] Directive.

### Transport Act (NI) 2011

Section 32 allows DRD to pay grants for approved capital expenditure to incurred or to be incurred in (a) providing vehicles; (b) providing, improving or developing facilities for passenger transport.

Assume the relevance to sustainable energy is that this could include vehicles or facilities that are sustainably powered. Repeals existing powers for grant making under the Transport (NI) Order 1977.

## Pending legislation - 2011

Current Westminster Energy Bill will, if enacted, give DETI powers to promote renewables heat and to bring forward regulations to enable a support scheme such as a Renewable Heat Incentive.

PAPER TO THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY INTER-DEPARTMENTAL WORKING GROUP

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ACTION PLAN (SEAP)

Background

1. In February this year the Executive agreed the SE IDWG recommendation that:  
**“the Executive mandate the SE IDWG to compile an Executive-wide Sustainable Energy Action Plan with a prioritised list of key actions, programmes and funding proposals. These would be prioritised according to economic benefit to Northern Ireland, carbon savings and feasibility.”**
2. Also in February, the ETI Committee published the report of its inquiry into Barriers to the Development of Renewable Energy Production and its Associated Contribution to the Northern Ireland Economy. The report includes 25 recommendations; Recommendation 2 is as follows:  
**“The Executive must develop a long-term vision for renewable energy which includes both an energy perspective and an economic perspective and establishes long-term partnerships to the benefit of Northern Ireland with other devolved administrations in the UK and with the Republic of Ireland, and should, where appropriate, include an all-island dimension for renewable energy.”**

Aim of this paper

3. This paper brings the consideration of these two related issues together and makes suggestions on the way forward for discussion at the meeting on 5 July. It also suggests that progress on other SE IDWG recommendations agreed by the Executive, regarding a statement of leadership; and, consideration of the potential for an appropriate fund and innovative funding solutions, could also be progressed through the SEAP.

Structure

4. A structure for the Sustainable Energy Action Plan is suggested at Annex A for discussion.

Executive Policy Statement

5. The Executive sent a clear signal of its commitment to increasing the sustainability of energy supply in Northern Ireland through its agreement of the Strategic Energy Framework. Currently, there is no clear Executive commitment to positioning Northern Ireland as a Green economy and the Executive’s agreement to the SE IDWG recommendation i.e. **that the SE IDWG should draw up a statement of leadership for the Executive on sustainable energy**, will send a positive signal about its importance. It is intended that the policy statement will act as a foreword to the SEAP.

6. Members were asked to consider the specific needs of your respective Departments for inclusion in the statement. Feedback was wide ranging and included issues such as public sector requirements under the Renewable Energy Directive, reference to related strategies, education, consistent communications, fuel poverty and the promotion of energy efficiency to drive the development of the green economy. These issues, and others, will be considered in the development of the policy statement.

### Overview/Introduction

7. This section will set out where Northern Ireland is now with regards to the use of fossil fuels and the impact on the atmosphere leading to global warming if unabated. It should set out the need to:
  - (a) maximise energy savings and energy efficiency to make the production of low carbon sources more feasible and less costly;
  - (b) support the development of a range of renewable technologies to provide greater security of supply; and,
  - (c) ensure that this transition to low carbon maximises the economic renewal opportunities for jobs and skills, research and development and supply chain potential.
8. Members may also wish to consider the challenges that lie ahead or are already being experienced, for example: planning permission; infrastructure development; environmental consenting; and, public attitudes, communication and community benefit.
9. The ETI Committee's report on its inquiry into renewable energy recommends that the Executive must develop a long-term vision for renewable energy which includes both an energy perspective and an economic perspective. We may commission a consultancy to assist with the development of this recommendation and have set aside [£x – to be confirmed] EU funding. We are keen to involve SE IDWG members in taking this forward.

### Context

10. This section will allow stakeholders to see where an Executive-wide SEAP sits in relation to other documents i.e. below the Sustainable Development Strategy and Strategic Energy Framework (SEF), but above other key Executive documents such as the Bioenergy Action Plan, Renewable Energy Action Plan (DARD), Onshore Renewable Electricity Action Plan, the Offshore Renewable Energy Strategic Action Plan and the Energy Efficiency Action Plan.
11. Members are asked to discuss if the Sustainable Energy Action Plan will consolidate the key actions and targets already agreed and included in current documents, or should the inclusion of new actions and targets be considered, particularly if gaps are identified. With this in mind, a key question to be addressed is whether sustainable transport should be included in the remit of the SEAP.

### Energy Targets and Main Milestones for Delivery

12. This will comprise the targets and milestones contained in existing documents plus any additional agreed by the group.

### Main Actions

13. This section will set out the actions required to deliver agreed targets and milestones.

The main areas will include:

- energy efficiency;
- renewable heat; and,
- renewable electricity.

Members will wish to discuss options on the presentation of information. For example, renewable energy could be set out by technology, a split between onshore and offshore, or micro-generation and large scale generation.

14. The inclusion of more detailed information on tackling the barriers to sustainable energy, referred to in the Overview/Introduction section, may also be appropriate.
15. The Executive approved the group's recommendation **that the potential for an appropriate fund and innovative funding solutions (including methods to lever in private capital and better access to EU funds) to stimulate sustainable energy economic opportunities and infrastructure be explored by the group under the leadership of Invest NI.** Invest NI has undertaken some research on the issues and also requested input from members. This work will need to be developed over the coming months and agreed outputs would be considered for inclusion in the SEAP along with other developing or current incentives such as RHI.
16. It will be important that the document captures the benefits of the move towards low carbon energy in terms of economic opportunities for green jobs, skills, R&D and supply chain potential etc.

### Monitoring progress

17. The SEAP will be developed through written and oral correspondence between Sustainable Energy Branch (DETI) and members, based on the actions agreed by the group. The main areas where we envisage contributions will be required from each department are detailed in Annex B.

We propose that a six monthly update on progress should be presented to SE IDWG.

**Timelines**

18. The aim is that an Executive-wide SEAP should be agreed by the Executive by 31 March 2012. To meet this deadline, a finalised plan must be adopted at the next SE IDWG meeting, planned for October 2011. A detailed timeline is included at Annex C.

**Recommendation**

19. The SE IDWG is invited to consider and agree:
- the structure of the SEAP;
  - whether the Sustainable Energy Action Plan will consolidate the key actions and targets already agreed and included in current documents, or should the inclusion of new actions and targets be considered;
  - whether sustainable transport should be included in the remit of the SEAP;
  - the contribution required from each department (Annex B); and,
  - the timeline as set out in Annex C.

**SUSTAINABLE ENERGY BRANCH  
DEPARTMENT OF ENTERPRISE, TRADE AND INVESTMENT  
JUNE 2011**

### **SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ACTION PLAN – PROPOSED STRUCTURE**

1. Executive Policy Statement (Recommendation 1)
2. Overview/Introduction: Challenges & Opportunities
3. Context – in terms of where the SEAP sits in the hierarchy of government policy
4. Energy targets and main milestones for delivery
5. Main Actions
  - Energy Efficiency / demand side management
  - Renewable Energy (overview of sectors)  
[by technology; onshore/offshore; small scale/large scale; electric/heat]
  - Tackling Barriers to Sustainable Energy:
    - planning
    - environmental consenting
    - infrastructure
    - public attitudes/communication
  - Funding / Incentivisation (Recommendation 3)
  - Economic Opportunities, Skills and Supply Chain
  - Research & Development and new technologies
6. Monitoring, progress reporting

## Annex B

Illustrative areas of contribution from other departments

DARD	-	Bioenergy Actions
	-	Renewable Energy Action Plan
DE	-	Curriculum
	-	Estate
	-	R&D in FT&H Education
DEL	-	Estate
	-	Skills
DETI	-	Energy Efficiency
	-	Renewable Electricity
	-	Renewable Heat
DFP	-	Building Regulations
	-	Zero Carbon Homes
	-	Estate
DHSSPS	-	Sustainable Energy & Health
	-	Estate
DOE	-	Energy from Waste
	-	Planning
	-	Environmental Consenting
	-	Air Quality
DOJ	-	Estate
DRD	-	Regional Planning
	-	Sustainable Transport
	-	Water
DSD	-	Energy Efficiency & Renewable in the Residential Sector
Invest NI	-	Energy Efficiency in the Business Sector
	-	Economic Opportunities
	-	Funding Proposals
OFMDFM	-	Sustainable Development
	-	Sustainable Energy
	-	Estate
	-	Barroso Task Force Working Group
	-	EU Funding

## Annex C

**Process and Timeline**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Activity</b>
July – August	Departmental contributions to DETI by 31 August.
September	DETI to consider departments' contributions and circulate 1 <sup>st</sup> draft of SEAP in accordance with the agreed structure.
September - October	Bi-laterals between DETI and departments to consider and address gaps.
October	Finalised plan to be circulated and adopted at next SE IDWG meeting (end October).
November - December	DETI to progress paper through the Executive process.
December	SEAP adopted by the Executive.
January	Publication

## Invest NI Response

**Recommendation 13 – Follow-up Action:** Invest NI to provide the Committee with a list of other EU, national and cross-border research programmes and details of uptake in Northern Ireland.

### (i) EU Research Programmes

Currently EU funding support for collaborative research and innovation is divided into three main programmes:

- 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development – FP7
- Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

Additional FP7-related instruments include:

**Joint Technology Initiatives** which are R&D programmes co-financed by the European Commission and EU member states and, in some cases, with contribution from large industry partners in a public-private partnership (PPP). There are currently five active JTIs in Europe: Fuel Cells and Hydrogen, Aeronautics and Air Transport, Innovative Medicines Initiatives, Nanoelectronics Technology 2020 and Embedded Computing Systems.

**The Risk Sharing Finance Facility** is a new instrument funded jointly by the Commission and the European Investment Bank (EIB) to facilitate the financing of research and innovation projects through loans and guarantees from the EIB. The first projects were in renewable energy.

**Article 169** (A169s) initiatives are aimed at the coordination of national programmes that the Commission actively participates in and funds. There are currently three A169s: Ambient Assisted Living (AAL), EMRP (Metrology); EUREKA Eurostars. The EUREKA programme offers a European platform for collaboration between member states to fund jointly research projects. The EUREKA Eurostars programme is targeted at research-performing SMEs and is recognised as a useful introduction to transnational research cooperation for SMEs. The Technology Strategy Board promotes the Eurostars programme within the UK.

A new European funding programme will commence in 2014 “Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation”. Horizon 2020 is not merely a new name for a rolling Framework Programme. Rather it will represent an integrated funding system that will cover all research and innovation funding currently provided through FP7, CIP and EIT. It is intended to bring these different types of funding together in a coherent and flexible manner.

### (ii) National Research Programmes

The Technology Strategy Board (TSB) is the UK’s national innovation agency and runs a number of industry-lead research programmes:

- Collaborative R&D – this programme assists the industrial and research communities to work together on R&D projects in strategically important areas of science, engineering and technology.

- SBRI – uses government procurement to drive innovation. It provides business opportunities for innovative companies whilst solving the needs of government departments.
- Grant for R&D – offers funding to SMEs to engage in R&D projects without requiring collaboration.
- Technology Innovation Centres (TICs): The recently launched TICs will focus on specific technologies where there is a potentially large global market and a significant UK capability. These centres will be an important part of the UK's innovation system, making a major long-term contribution to UK economic growth.

In some cases, programmes run by the Research Councils are also relevant to industry participants but in general are more suited to academic research.

### **(iii) North/South Cross-Border Research Programmes**

Intertradelreland fund the “Innova” All-island collaborative R&D programme, geared towards product, process and service development. Joint R&D proposals are accepted from companies acting in collaboration with companies in the opposite jurisdiction, either Northern Ireland or Republic of Ireland.

### **(iv) Uptake in Northern Ireland**

Invest NI, through its Collaborative R&D Support Service, promotes and facilitates participation by NI companies in the full range of these programmes as relevant to the strategic business direction of the company. Participants do not submit proposals through Invest NI, nor is there any obligation upon them to inform Invest NI or any national authority of a submission. All applications and subsequent grant agreements (if successful) are negotiated directly with the funding body without intermediaries. Detailed information on uptake in Northern Ireland across all of the listed programmes is, therefore, not available to Invest NI.

Highly confidential data on successful FP7 participation by NI organisations is provided twice yearly from the European Commission directly to the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) in the UK. The most recent figures released on 1 April 2011 indicate that Northern Ireland has now drawn down €29.6m from FP7.

A small high technology company, CapnaDSP has been placed first in a recent Joint Technology Initiative (JTI) competition on Nanotechnology. They are currently in the negotiation phase to finalise the level of funding. Invest NI are also working closely with the Competence Centre for Sustainable Energy (a QUB / UU / AFBI collaboration) to prepare a joint application for a Regions of Knowledge (RoK) in Resource Efficiency under the FP7 Capacities theme. The closing date for this application is January 2012.

The Technology Strategy Board is currently running an interim IT system and is not in a position to be able to list successful applications by region. Invest NI is aware of a number of local successes including; 10 successful SBRI applications, 2 successful Eurostars applications and a number of companies successful in the Collaborative R&D programme including: Wrightbus, Bombardier, Radox and Almac.

To date InterTradelreland has released over £5m in funding through the Innova programme and supported 24 North / South partnerships.

## ANNEX 5

**Recommendation 14 – Follow-up Action: Invest NI to provide the Committee with details of support provided to renewable energy businesses during each year of the last Programme for Government.**

### Invest NI's Support for Renewable Energy Businesses

The Renewable Energy sector is a wide and diverse sector. The supply chain is made up of many components ranging from legal and environmental services through to software and, as might be expected, the many forms of engineering. The sector is further complicated by the fact that many companies that provide goods and services for the renewable energy supply chain also provide goods and services to other sectors.

Therefore, for the purposes of this inquiry, Invest NI has defined Renewable Energy businesses as those client businesses engaged in the Renewable Energy Products sector, or Waste Products and Environmental Services sub sectors. Information on the assistance provided to these businesses during the last Programme for Government period is provided below:

Financial Year	Offers Made	Total Assistance (£m)	Planned Investment (£m)
2008-09	108	11.70	68.33
2009-10	139	1.91	7.54
2010-11	122	0.75	2.54
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>14.35</b>	<b>78.41</b>

### Carbon Trust

In addition, Invest NI also funds the activities of the Carbon Trust in Northern Ireland and contributes to the funding of Carbon Trust's UK-wide programmes. The Carbon Trust seeks to help companies on a strategic basis to reduce carbon emissions and increase the competitiveness of their business through lower energy bills. During the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011, Invest NI provided £12.1 million of funding to the organisation, which whilst not specifically allocated to renewable energy businesses, has benefited the local sustainable energy sector.

More specifically, of this total funding, some £410,408 was provided directly by Carbon Trust in the form of R&D support to renewable energy businesses to develop new energy technologies in Northern Ireland (a breakdown of this R&D support is provided below for information).

Financial Year	Assistance Offered (£)
2008-09	104,802
2009-10	61,569
2010-11	244,037
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>410,408</b>

Invest NI continues to support renewable energy R&D activity in Northern Ireland through Carbon Trust's Innovation programmes and has offered £746k to Carbon Trust for this activity in 2011/12.

Attachment ANNEX 3 SEF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN is saved as a separate excel document.

**From:** [Hepper, Fiona](#)  
**To:** [McCoy, Laura](#)  
**Subject:** FW: NI Renewable Heat Incentive  
**Date:** 05 July 2011 17:49:03  
**Attachments:** [Annex B - Branded RHI Consultation.DOC](#)  
[Annex C - Draft Equality Screening Form.DOC](#)  
[Annex D - Draft RIA - Renewable Heat Regulations.DOC](#)  
[Annex E - NI draft RHI Regulations.DOC](#)  
[DETI RHI Economic Appraisal Final report.PDF](#)  
[RHI Consultation Document and Draft Press Release.DOC](#)  
[RHI Consultation Document and Draft Press Release.tr5](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Laura  
could you print and put in a buff folder  
thanks  
F

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**Please consider the environment - do you really need to print this e-mail?**

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**From:** Hepper, Fiona  
**Sent:** 05 July 2011 17:48  
**To:** Private Office DETI  
**Cc:** Thomson, David; McCune, David; McCutcheon, Joanne; Hutchinson, Peter; Stewart, Susan; Baxter, Clare; Aiken, Glynis; Connolly, Samuel; Ross, Alastair  
**Subject:** FW: NI Renewable Heat Incentive  
**Importance:** High

[Private Office](#)

see attached - marked as Desk Immediate. This is the RHI consultation material which should be issued as soon as possible to keep all the work on track. Some of the documents are quite large and the covering submission is the last word document on the attachment list. Once cleared and ready for issue the consultation document will be sent to the ETI Committee.

Fiona

## Fiona Hepper

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