

**From:** [Brennan, Mike](#)  
**To:** [Richard Bullick](#)  
**Cc:** [Crawford, Andrew](#)  
**Subject:** RE: DE pressures  
**Date:** 27 January 2016 10:55:30

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R

Unfortunately I am in meetings between 2.00 and 4.30. However on the Bill clause, HMT agree that the current version has considerable problems in meeting their objectives. I sent up a submission yesterday to Andrew which goes into the detail.

We are liaising with HMT on constructing a mechanism that would see some form of confirmation that the Executive would live within the DEL Control Total rather than the Cash Grant. This shouldn't cause us any problems in terms of flexibilities.

On the £20m for skills, That should be fine but I don't think we can go much further given the problems emerging in DETI. Apparently the ROCs cost pressure might exceed the circa £25-30m RHI pressure in 2016-17 if HMT do not give additional AME cover.

M

**From:** Richard Bullick [mailto:[Richard.Bullick@dfpni.gov.uk](#)]  
**Sent:** 27 January 2016 10:46  
**To:** Brennan, Mike  
**Cc:** Crawford, Andrew  
**Subject:** Re: DE pressures

Personal information redacted by the  
RHI Inquiry

M/A

**I'm due to attend a video conference with Nio at stormont house today at 230 if either / both of you wish to attend? It's about the clause for the bill. Apparently they have a series of fall back options!**

**Let me know and we can arrange.**

**Also in addition to the 20m for skills is there any more unallocated money for next year either from welfare or bes. If so better to indicate our plans now than leave till after election.**

R

Sent from my iPhone

On 26 Jan 2016, at 13:56, Brennan, Mike <[Mike.Brennan@dfpni.gov.uk](mailto:Mike.Brennan@dfpni.gov.uk)> wrote:

Richard / Andrew

We don't really recognise the numbers in this paper.

The total non-ringfenced RDEL budget for DE in 2016-17 amounts to £1,947.3m.

The two figures for ASB and EA block grant added together comes to £1,642.6m – some £300m less than their actual baseline. There will also be some spend on youth services but in the past this has been around £30m-£40m and of course the DE 16-17 budget also includes some £70m for VES. But even with these items taken into account there seems to be around £200m missing? There are probably other items that DE expects to fund next year but without the full picture it is difficult to take an informed view.

I am therefore not clear how they can pitch for more funding on this basis.

In terms of skills funding in general, I think there is a greater need to fund FE and HE. Evidence over recent years seems to indicate that there is a degree of slack within the DE budget that has allowed the DE Minister to make a number of in-year announcements and allocations without recourse to a monitoring round.

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