

Frazer, Helen

From: McCormick, Andrew (DFE)
Sent: 17 January 2017 20:55
To: Brennan, Mike
Cc: Morelli, Emer; Sterling, David; McCann, Brendan; McMurray, Stephen
Subject: RHI PAC

I'm expecting a main line of questioning tomorrow will be why the spike of applications happened in Autumn 2015. One factor was the false perception that as an AME budget the risk of opportunity cost to DEL services was low. One confusing factor was that in July/August 2015, HMT met a bid for a substantial increase on the AME budget for the scheme. This was obviously helpful, but it reinforced the view of those saying within DETI at the time that this was "normal" AME (despite the extensive and clear email trail to the contrary).

What do you think is the best way to explain HMT's decision (which was repeated later in 2015-16) to provide this budgetary cover?

Grateful for any help you can give and happy to discuss.

Many thanks.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.