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Deputy First Minister**

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Malcolm McKibbin
Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service
Stormont Castle
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28 September 2015

Malcolm,

Following the resignation of Emma Pengelly as my Special Advisor I wish to appoint a replacement.

It is essential that the First Minister has the utmost confidence and trust in the individual who fills this vacancy. Accordingly I have consulted with a number of stakeholders and assessed a range of potential candidates considering both the job description and person specification. At the end of this process I have identified the most qualified candidate available.

In my capacity as the Minister exercising the functions of First Minister I wish to appoint Stephen Brimstone as Special Adviser to the First Minister.

As you will be aware Stephen has previously worked as a Special Adviser to the DSD Minister, the DCAL Minister and the Junior Minister in OFMDFM. In each of these roles Stephen has proven himself to be highly capable using his detailed knowledge and understanding of the departments to shape and develop critical policies. I have no doubt Stephen has the requisite experience to advise the First Minister.



In terms of remuneration I would propose that Stephen is appointed at a salary of

Personal information redacted by [REDACTED]

I attach Stephen's updated Curriculum Vitae at Annex A for your information.

ARLENE FOSTER MLA
Exercising the Functions of the First Minister