

On 12 Dec 2016, at 07:00, Richard Bullick
<richardbullick@Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry wrote:

Re whistleblower

Does that Line not undermine the response that I fulfilled my responsibilities by passing it on.

Suggesting you should not trust officials would lead you to allowing them to do nothing without it being checked and undermine the policy setting role of minister v administrative role of civil servants.

If there was no reason not to trust officials then is it really a mistake to trust them?

The system only works on the basis of accepting the competence of officials - it is then a matter for ministers to make policy decisions otherwise you would need to interrogate every fact ever presented.

While I can see the presentational attraction of

contrition I am concerned than it suggests an element of blame.

The convention of Ministerial accountability makes them answerable to the Assembly for everything any civil servant in the department does - it does not make them responsible for it.

On the DK point did any of our people blame DK for the A5 issue - we would need to be careful if they did...

Sent from my iPad

On 11 Dec 2016, at 22:32, John Robinson <johnrobinson@dup.org.uk> wrote:

Good lines. Can we predict each attack ie.

- **Asleep at the wheel** - plan to correct. followed expert advice from internal and external energy so-called experts
- **should resign** - opposition playing politics with this. i don't run from problems i deal with this them. Mike likes walking away but I've a job to do.
- **failed whistleblower** - I'm sorry. if id to do again would do things

differently. I placed too much faith in officials.

- **manipulated for vested interests** - political opponents casting these aspersions yet they are the only people who voted to keep the scheme open. PAC should be allowed to complete its work.
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- **should adviser resign** - cheap politics. I am not privy to the applicants who applied or were successful to the RHI. It is cheap politics to attempt to blame advisors for the repeated failings within the department.
- **Publish names** - I want to. needs to be within law. writing to people.
- **publish whistleblower letter** - ??
- **Appear at PAC** - Accountable to the Assembly. Assist in a way that does not cut across on-going investigations. I will look at how best that can be done.

What other direct Qs?

Also Mike should be reminded of this too

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/massive-330m-project-for-a5-reaches-end-of-the-road-29198411.html>

Or of Danny K spending millions on a boat that wasn't functional.

John Robinson | M:

Personal information
redacted by the RHI
Inquiry

From: Richard Bullick [richardbullick@

Personal information redacted by
the RHI Inquiry

Sent: 11 December 2016 21:24

To: Timothy Johnston

Cc: Clive McFarland; David; Arlene Foster; Simon Hamilton; John Robinson

Subject: Re: RHI Lines