

From: Richard Bullick [Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry]  
Subject: [Redacted]  
Date: 14 December 2016 at 09:43  
To: David [David Gordon email redacted by the RHI Inquiry]



Nolan show a fact free zone this am

Sent from my iPhone

From: Richard Bullick [Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry]  
 Subject: Fwd: Answers to questions  
 Date: 14 December 2016 at 09:33  
 To: Aidan mcateer [Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry]



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Clive McFarland <[clivemcfarland@dup.org.uk](mailto:clivemcfarland@dup.org.uk)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Answers to questions  
**Date:** 14 December 2016 at 09:32:54 GMT  
**To:** Richard Bullick [Personal information redacted by the RHI Inquiry]

Sent from my iphone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** <[clivemcfarland@dup.org.uk](mailto:clivemcfarland@dup.org.uk)>  
**Date:** 14 December 2016 at 08:34:13 GMT  
**To:** <[David.Thompson02@bbc.co.uk](mailto:David.Thompson02@bbc.co.uk)>, <[vinny.hurrell@bbc.co.uk](mailto:vinny.hurrell@bbc.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** Answers to questions

**Did any DUP special advisers or any individuals from the then Office of First and Deputy First Minister act to try to delay or prevent the closure of the original version of the non-domestic RHI scheme in the months leading up to November 17th 2015?**

A decision to 'close the original scheme' or, more accurately, to amend the original scheme was taken by the responsible Minister, the Minister for the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment on 2 September 2015. That decision was to take effect from 4 November 2015. No DUP Special Advisor or any other individuals from the then Office of First Minister and deputy First Minister sought to prevent the 'closure of the original scheme'. Indeed, the date from which the scheme was to be amended and terms of any such amendment of the scheme were a matter for the responsible Minister. In the event the scheme did not close until 18 November due a delay in securing financial and legal approvals.

**Did Arlene Foster as First Minister ask for an extension to the tiered non-domestic RHI scheme when senior civil servants had asked for it to be closed in early 2016?**

Following representations, including those from other political parties, the Minister for the Department for Enterprise, Trade and Investment decided to extend the tiered scheme for a further two weeks. This decision was publicised and explained at the time as were the criticism of the Minister for the original proposed timing of the closure.

<http://www.mydup.com/news/article/bell-announces-extension-to-rhi-closure-date>

<http://uup.org/news/4093/21/Minister-s-latest-renewables-decision-puts-jobs-at-risk-Cochrane-Watson#.WFBTtlfPxsN>

As the Enterprise Minister made clear at the time the First Minister and deputy First Minister supported this decision in light of the concerns expressed at the time and the fact that cost controls had already been introduced from November 2015. Civil Servants expressed no objection to the two week extension in light of the legal dangers of the lack of adequate notification period.

<https://www.theyworkforyou.com/ni/?id=2016-02-15.6.20>

It should of course be noted that despite the extension of the scheme for a further two weeks the opposition parties nonetheless still voted against the closure.

From: **Richard Bullick** Personal information redacted  
by the RHI Inquiry  
Subject:  
Date: 14 December 2016 at 09:17  
To: **Clive McFarland** [clivemcfarland@dup.org.uk](mailto:clivemcfarland@dup.org.uk)  
Cc: **Timothy Johnston** [timothyjohnston@dup.org.uk](mailto:timothyjohnston@dup.org.uk)



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Clive, line to issue ASAP to Nolan show.

"For the avoidance of any doubt, no one at the then OFMDFM sought to delay the closure of the scheme."



From: **Edgar, Leona** Leona.Edgar@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk  
Subject: FW: Nolan Show Questions  
Date: 14 December 2016 at 08:17  
To: Richard Bullick email redacted by the RHI Inquiry

Sent from my iPhone managed by BlackBerry Enterprise Service

---- Original Message ----

**From:** David Thompson - Current Affairs, NI <David.Thompson02@bbc.co.uk>  
**Date:** 13 December 2016, 15:42 GMT  
**To:** Edgar, Leona <Leona.Edgar@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Nolan Show Questions

Hi Leona

Two questions for tomorrow morning's Nolan Show at 9am

Did any DUP special advisers or any individuals from the then Office of First and Deputy First Minister act to try to delay or prevent the closure of the original version of the non-domestic RHI scheme in the months leading up to November 17th 2015?

Did Arlene Foster as First Minister ask for an extension to the tiered non-domestic RHI scheme when senior civil servants had asked for it to be closed in early 2016?

Best

David Thompson  
Producer  
BBC Nolan Show