

**To:** Teri Clifton[teri.clifton@ofgem.gov.uk]; Edmund Ward[Edmund.Ward@ofgem.gov.uk]; Jane Pierce[Jane.Pierce@ofgem.gov.uk]  
**From:** Gareth John  
**Sent:** 2016-10-13T18:06:40Z  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Outstanding Information - NI RHI [OFFICIAL Internal Only]  
**Received:** 2016-10-13T18:06:41Z

Can we discuss first thing please

How long have we had the site audit reports - as we can play that back along with we anticipate confirming actions on the Cat 4s etc and identify where the site audit reports have not been done properly and are ambiguous - perhaps a table with row for each installation confirming action status and comments

Teri - I thought the Luke doc was finished ? - where did that get to ?

I need to see that tomorrow really i thought it was with legal ?

Gareth John  
[Gareth.John@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:Gareth.John@ofgem.gov.uk)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Chris Poulton <[Chris.Poulton@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.Poulton@ofgem.gov.uk)>  
**Date:** 13 October 2016 at 18:22:28 BST  
**To:** Gareth John <[Gareth.John@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:Gareth.John@ofgem.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** FW: Outstanding Information - NI RHI [OFFICIAL Internal Only]

This doesn't look good. Its clear we have actions here. If we need more people on it we just move them off NI approvals to help?

Also in one of my notes it was said we had agreed a new protocol for engagement, exactly along the lines of KPIs, ways of working etc which Stuart puts at the end of the note. I was told it was done and requested the document but I've not seen anything (this was the one to be done in conjunction with Luke). If it is done and doesn't cover KPI, ways of working etc, it seems not to have hit the mark so how did we complete this?

Lets make sure we don't turn what is an ok story for us into an issue due to delays. Get more people in the room if needed  
 Chris

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**From:** Wightman, Stuart [<mailto:Stuart.Wightman@economy-ni.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 13 October 2016 18:07  
**To:** Edmund Ward  
**Cc:** Chris Poulton; Gareth John; Stewart, Chris (DFE); McCann, Brendan  
**Subject:** Outstanding Information - NI RHI

Edmund

**Outstanding information from Ofgem**

There are now several pieces of work which have been requested from Ofgem over the past couple of weeks that are still outstanding. You have agreed to provide this information several days ago, but despite our follow up, these remain unresolved. I realise we have all been working on briefing for the PAC, etc and appreciate everyone's efforts in this regard. However, there are two crucial items outstanding which were requested from you – most recently at our meeting last Thursday (6 October).

(i) **Ofgem Response to PWC Site Visits**

Firstly, you agreed to provide the Department s with a **detailed breakdown** of what action Ofgem would be taking with the **Category 4 site inspections**. To date, you have provided lines for PAC confirming that payments might be withheld for some of these installations pending further investigation. We have yet to be provided with a table stating the action being taken against each Category 4 site. You agreed to provide this by cop on Friday. You have all the detailed Category 4 site inspection reports so there should be absolutely no reason why you can't provide this. Please confirm if further information is required.

In addition, you agreed to examine the Category 2 and 3 site inspection reports and advise what Ofgem will be doing with these – again you have not provided us with this, or a valid reason why this request has not been met.

Given the seriousness of the PWC findings the levels of expenditure involved, we must be in a position to confirm to PAC what we (DfE/Ofgem) are doing about the Category 2, 3 & 4 cases. I recognise that each case must be considered on their individual merits but it is disappointing that only some of the Category 4 Cases are considered serious enough for further investigation (and a hold placed on payments). Given the evidence and level of public expenditure involved, I have now been asked to secure an opinion from Senior Legal Counsel on the Department's ability to stop making payments to these installations.

**(ii) Revised Guidelines**

Secondly, you agreed to provide suggested **revised guidelines**. This information is necessary, not only to PAC preparation but also for vital strategic planning going forward including options on how best to reduce the multi-million pound block grant deficit. You have now agreed to provide this by cop tomorrow. We must come to an agreed position on what changes/improvements might be possible.

Clearly the PWC, NIAO and Internal Audit reports have highlighted a number of significant issues for the Department and Ofgem to address going forward. Once the ongoing PAC Hearings are over, it is imperative that we revise our current arrangements and look at how we can improve certain areas, including governance, KPIs, communication and inspections but obviously these discussion will be for another day.

I trust these matters will be dealt with as a matter of urgency and I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Stuart

**Stuart Wightman**

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