

Informal meeting with Janette O'Hagan

Date: 27 October 2016

Attendees: Janette O'Hagan
Robin Swann, Chair of PAC
Declan Kearney, PAC Committee member
Trevor Lunn, PAC Committee member
Lucia Wilson, Clerk to PAC

Janette O'Hagan briefed the PAC members and provided a timeline of the sequence of events from her initial contact with Arlene Foster and the Department. Members were provided with a copy of this timeline.

She said she had had a positive response from Arlene Foster who referred her to officials in her Department over her concerns that energy efficiency in the non-domestic scheme was being ignored. DETI Officials encouraged her to look at the domestic scheme.

She confirmed that there was no minutes of a meeting with DETI in October 2013.

She also met Stephen Agnew who raised an AQ on RHI

Janette's observations

She outlined her observations remarking that Biomass companies "popped up everywhere." She said only the good ones were left.

She knew of one boutique hotel that was making £6000 per year. Places were "sweltering in the summer" and they might as well of "mounted radiators" on the outside

From her experience of visiting places to promote energy efficiency she knew 'it was set up wrong'

Conclusion

The Members asked if she would be willing to give oral evidence to the Committee. The pros and cons were discussed with Janette including how to protect her identity.

She said she would consider this informal request and would speak to the Clerk once she had made a decision.

It was agreed that Lucia would contact Janette after Halloween Recess.