



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

Committee for Finance

Rt. Hon. Darren Jones MP
Chief Secretary to the Treasury
HM Treasury
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3rd December 2024
Our Ref: 2024/43

Dear Darren

Interparliamentary Finance Committee Forum

I am writing to invite you to participate in the upcoming Interparliamentary Finance Committee Forum, which will take place on Wednesday, 19th March 2025 at Parliament Buildings. As the host, the Assembly Finance Committee is responsible for the agenda for the meeting and issuing briefing invitations. Forum meetings take place in closed session with a joint statement agreed at the end of the conclusion of proceedings.

As you may be aware the primary purpose of the Interparliamentary Finance Committee Forum is to provide Finance Committees from the devolved Parliaments with an opportunity for information sharing and networking, to hear from UK and Devolved Government Ministers and consideration of common challenges. Members attend from the Finance Committee at Senedd Cymru, the Finance and Public Administration Committee at the Scottish Parliament and the Finance Committee of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

We would be delighted if you, or one of your officials, could engage with the Forum on the approach your Government is likely to take regarding discussions with the Devolved Administrations about the agreement of their budget settlements going forward. Your insights would be invaluable and greatly appreciated by all attendees.

The Forum has been pleased to hear that your Government is keen to reset relations with the Devolved Administrations. Improved relationships are key to clarity and understanding and the Forum is keen to engage in mutually beneficial engagement with you.

**Matthew O'Toole, Chairperson, Committee for Finance,
Northern Ireland Assembly
Room 346, Parliament Buildings, Ballymiscaw, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3XX.
Email: committee.finance@niassembly.gov.uk Tel. 028 9052 1799**

Obviously, the Forum appreciates that there are many pressures on your time and that of your officials, so virtual attendance can be arranged. The meeting will have morning and afternoon discussion sessions and timings are flexible.

I would be grateful if your Private Office could liaise with the Assembly Finance Committee Clerk using the contact details attached to organise a time for your attendance or that of your officials.

I would be grateful for an acknowledgement of receipt of this letter and a response at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

[Signed]

Matthew O'Toole MLA
Chairperson
Committee for Finance