Department for Infrastructure
An Roinn Bonneagair
www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

FROM: **NICHOLA MALLON MLA**
Minister for Infrastructure

DATE: **WEDNESDAY 29 JULY 2020**

TO: **EXECUTIVE COLLEAGUES**

REF: **DfI/SUB-1566-2020**

In the New Decade, New Approach Agreement, we set out our commitments to addressing the impacts of climate change in a fair and just way as an Executive. As Infrastructure Minister, I have made addressing climate change one of my key priorities.

Yesterday, I hosted a virtual roundtable meeting on transport and climate change with local stakeholders as part of the preparations for the United Nations Climate Change Conference in November 2021. Joined by COP26 Champion Nigel Topping who is currently promoting the 'Race to Zero' campaign, we discussed opportunities to focus on what we can do together and how to build on relationships between the public and private sectors across these islands and further afield as we work towards the same ultimate goal of achieving net zero emissions..

Transport is the second highest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions after agriculture. With a high reliance on private car use, we face a significant challenge in Northern Ireland if we are to decarbonise transport in order to meet this target. Achieving this will require cooperation and collaboration across our departments, these islands and across many sectors.

I'm pleased that my own department has already been working with DAERA to explore what we can do together, to protect our environment and promote a greener and

cleaner future. There are opportunities to promote a greener economy across all departments. Now is the time for us to be ambitous, and particularly I would like to see us committ to much more ambitious targets, namely aiming for zero net emissions by 2030.

The impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic have introduced additional challenges, for example, in how we balance the promotion of sustainable modes of transport whilst ensuring the health and wellbeing of our people. It has also presented opportunities as demonstrated by the work my Department has been doing to accelerate actions that promote active travel as a safe and 'carbon free' alternative form of transport.

I believe, that as an Executive, we need to lead by example. Therefore, I would like to encourage you to join me in committing to walking, cycling and using public transport where possible. Where this is not feasible, adopting ultra-low emission vehicles is an important part of our transition to achieving energy efficient, cleaner road transport. Since January, I have been using an e-car for Ministerial business where possible and would urge colleagues to consider switching Ministerial vehicles to fully electric where possible at the earliest opportunity.

By our individual and collective actions we can help to safeguard the future sustainability of our planet, protecting this generation and our future generations.

NICHOLA MALLON MLA

Minister for Infrastructure

Department of Finance
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From the Minister of Finance

Nichola Mallon MLA
Minister for Infrastructure

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Our reference: *CORR-2057-2020*

Date: *06 August 2020*

Dear Nichola

DFI MEMO TO EXECUTIVE COLLEAGUES - CLIMATE CHANGE

Thank you for your letter of 29 July in relation to addressing the impacts of climate change.

I agree fully that climate change is a key issue for the Executive and that we should all lead by example in working to address the challenges we face and to promote a more sustainable, greener and cleaner economy. I look forward to continuing to discuss Executive targets and solutions in this area. In terms of the DoF Ministerial car, options for a low emissions car or e-car will be fully considered when this is due to be replaced.

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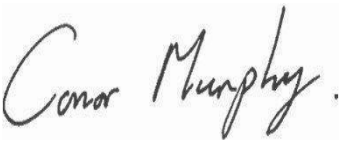

CONOR MURPHY MLA
MINISTER OF FINANCE

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE JUSTICE MINISTER

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FROM: **NAOMI LONG MLA**
MINISTER OF JUSTICE

DATE: **11 AUGUST 2020**

TO: **NICHOLA MALLON MLA**
MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

CLIMATE CHANGE

Thank you for sight of your memo dated 29 July in relation to addressing the impacts of climate change. The DoJ is fully committed to addressing the impacts of climate change as set out in the New Decade, New Approach Agreement and agree that climate change is a key priority. Achieving net zero emissions is a goal that we fully support and recognise that the decarbonisation of transport plays a significant part, along with promotion of active travel.

In terms of transport within the DoJ, one of our larger users of vehicles is The Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS).

NIPS purchased its first electric car earlier this year and is due to take receipt of same before the end of August. Further electric vehicles are being considered to replace conventionally fuelled vans. In respect of larger vehicles, this will all be kept under consideration as the technology progresses. They may become viable options for the future but unfortunately to date this is not the case: however, in recent years, the Prison Service has invested heavily to refresh its vehicle fleet with the reduction of carbon emissions being a major factor.

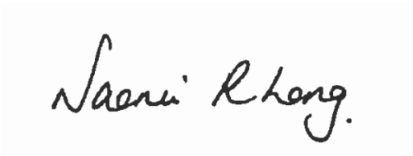
Department of Justice
www.justice-ni.gov.uk

Between January 2019 and December 2020 the Prison Service will have replaced 80% of its cellular vehicle fleet to those benefitting from the cleanest Euro 6 engines (to date 15 vehicles have been replaced and another 5 vehicles are currently under construction for delivery before the end of the year). All four HGV vehicles within the fleet were also changed over in the past 12 months to benefit from the cleanest Euro 6 engines. Continuing to make progress on reducing carbon emissions will be a major factor in future fleet procurement. This will include the provision of electric and hybrid vehicles wherever possible.

I agree and fully support the collective actions we can all to do help to safeguard the future sustainability of our planet.

This memo has been copied to Ministerial colleagues, the Attorney General, Departmental Solicitor's Office, the Office of the First Legislative Counsel and the Executive Secretariat.

Best regards,



NAOMI LONG MLA
Minister of Justice

FROM THE MINISTER OF HEALTH

Department of
Health
An Roinn Sláinte
Männystrie O Poustie
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Nichola Mallon MLA
Minister for Infrastructure

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Our Ref: EXEC-0532-2020
Date: 13th August 2020

Dear Nichola,

COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

Thank you for your correspondence of 29 July 2020 on our actions to address climate change.

I am in agreement that decarbonising transport is a significant challenge and that there are many opportunities to promote a greener economy. My Department will continue to engage with other Departments and the Health and Social Care sector in these areas so as we can help meet any agreed emission targets.

I must commend you for leading by example and the actions you have undertaken recently. I will indeed consider a similar approach and endeavour to promote and utilise healthy and sustainable travel options.

Yours sincerely

Robin

Robin Swann MLA
Minister of Health