

## Department of Finance Public Task Statement

### Introduction

This statement sets out the Department of Finance's (DoF) public task for the purposes of the [Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015](#) (RPSI).

The Department of Finance (DoF) is one of nine Northern Ireland departments as part of the Northern Ireland Executive by the [Northern Ireland Act 1998](#) and the [Fresh Start - The Stormont Agreement and Implementation Plan](#).

### Public Task

DoF's public task is to help the Northern Ireland Executive secure the most appropriate and effective use of resources and services for the benefit of the community. In pursuing this aim, the key objective of the Department is to deliver quality, cost effective and efficient public services and administration in the Department's areas of executive responsibility. Our core functions are carried out within a legislative framework.

The core public functions of DoF are:

- monitoring and controlling the public expenditure regime in Northern Ireland; ensuring compliance with budget and accountability controls and ensuring the optimal allocation of resources;
- providing professional internal audit and fraud investigation services to NI Executive departments and their sponsored bodies;
- promoting strategic reform of the public sector; delivering policy on the domestic and non-domestic rating systems; providing strategic economic policy advice including on fiscal devolution; ensuring all Departments comply with the Executive's pay policy; overseeing the delivery of European Structural and Investment Funds Programmes; and reviewing and improving public sector performance and delivery;
- supporting the Procurement Board in the development, testing and dissemination of best practice policy in public procurement, and providing a central procurement and delivery service for works, supplies and services for Departments and their arm's-length bodies;
- support the delivery of the Programme for Government through the provision of high quality HR services to Departments;
- holding contractual and operational responsibility for HR, IT and Finance Shared Services, Properties Division and Digital Transformation Service (including nidirect) in order to deliver customer focused services to the NICS and to the public;

- collecting, processing and managing land and property information, including for registration and valuation purposes, and underpinning the collection of rates, in support of the Executive's commitment to economic and social development in Northern Ireland;
- advancing and protecting the interests of the Northern Ireland government departments by the provision of high quality, cost effective legal services;
- providing a service to the public through the dissemination of reliable official statistics; administering the census; administering the marriage laws; and providing a system for the civil registration of births, marriages and civil partnerships, adoptions and deaths in Northern Ireland.

### **Re-use**

All information held by DoF which was collected or created in accordance with its public task is available for re-use, unless the re-use is excluded by the PSI regulations. RPSI does not apply where, for example, a third party owns relevant intellectual property rights, or if access to information is restricted under the Data Protection Act 1998, the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Any person may apply to DoF for permission to re-use public task information. Permission may be granted by way of:

- an [Open Government License](#), or
- a license for which charges may be made

Permission to re-use information does not affect any requirement to pay a statutory fee for access to information or to a document, and is subject to any other access issues being resolved. Our [publication scheme](#) sets out the information which we have already made available for re-use.

To apply to DoF for permission to re-use public information please contact the Departmental Information Manager by email: [foi@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:foi@finance-ni.gov.uk) or by post: Room 26, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3SB

### **Complaints**

Should you wish to make a complaint under RPSI, you should write to us in the first instance at the addresses above. If you are still not satisfied, you may also refer your complaint to the [Information Commissioner's Office](#).

### **Review**

This public task statement is reviewed at least annually. The next planned review is intended to be carried out in November 2018.