

Title of Report:	Correspondence Report
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Leisure and Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	20th April 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Information

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	
Outcome	
Lead Officer	Director of Leisure and Development

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	n/a
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	n/a
Code	n/a
Staffing Costs	n/a

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present correspondence for Members information.

2.0 Protection from Stalking Bill

Correspondence has been received the NI Assembly on the Damages (Return on Investment) Bill. The Committee for Justice would welcome comments/views on the contents of the Bill. Details of the Bill can be found at <http://nia1.me/4gr> or on request by emailing damagesbill@niassembly.gov.uk

Correspondence attached.

The closing date for submissions is Friday 30 April 2021.



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

David Jackson
Chief Executive
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
Civic Headquarters, Coonavin
66 Portstewart Road
Coleraine
BT52 1EY

25 March 2021

Dear Mr Jackson

Damages (Return on Investment) Bill

The Damages (Return on Investment) Bill was introduced into the Assembly on 1 March 2021. The Bill passed Second Stage on 9 March 2021 and the Committee Stage commenced on 10 March 2021.

The Committee for Justice would welcome your views/comments on the content of the Bill.

Your written submission should be structured to address specific Clauses or the Schedule of the Bill. If appropriate, it should include any amendments you wish to propose to the text of the Bill. Information regarding the Bill can be obtained from the Assembly's website <http://nia1.me/4gr> or can be provided on request by emailing the Committee at damagesbill@niassembly.gov.uk

The Committee will be considering the following issues when scrutinising the Bill and would welcome views on them:

- Is the new statutory methodology to calculate the personal injury discount rate the most appropriate to achieve as close to 100% compensation as possible?
- Has the new methodology the potential to veer towards over compensation and if so how can this be rectified?
- Has the new methodology the potential to veer towards under compensation and if so how can this be rectified?

- Does the new statutory methodology reflect how a claimant would be advised to invest their award?
- What are the likely effects of using an investment period of 43 years rather than 30 years in the model and do you agree with this approach?
- What are the advantages or disadvantages of transferring responsibility for setting the rate from the Department of Justice to the Government Actuary and is there an appropriate level of accountability in the new statutory methodology?

The closing date for written submissions is **Friday 30 April 2021**.

Written evidence should be submitted in Word format and preferably by email to damagebill@niassembly.gov.uk or, by post, to The Committee Clerk, Room 242, Parliament Buildings, Ballymiscaw, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3XX.

Unless indicated otherwise it will be assumed that those submitting written evidence have no objection to it being made public by the Committee.

If you have any queries or require any further information please contact the Committee Clerk, Christine Darrah, on 028 9052 1629.

Yours sincerely

Christine Darrah

Christine Darrah
Clerk to the Committee for Justice