



transparent governmental procedures — open meetings, freedom of information laws, freedom of the press, disclosure of the financial status of officials, and others — will make corruption, bribery, and the like more difficult.

The Transparency Deficit in Northern Ireland

- *Fiscal transparency - the timely publication of essential budget documents forms the basic building blocks of budget accountability and an open budget system - is required.*
- *Rules that require public disclosure of income and assets for elected and senior public officials and political parties are essential to anti-corruption and open, accountable government.*
- *The provision of open data by default rather than by exception would increase the transparency of government, provide better opportunities for public scrutiny of government transactions & outcomes and help the public hold government to account.*

