



TÁNAISTE AND OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND LAW REFORM.
TÁNAISTE AGUS OIFIG AN AIRE DLÍ AGUS CIRT, COMHIONANNAIS AGUS ATHCHÓIRITHE DLÍ

25 April 2007

Dear Ms Kelly,

I am directed by the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr. Michael McDowell, T.D., to refer to your letter of 5 December, 2006 regarding CCTV for Tallaght, Dublin 24. The delay in replying is regretted.

The Tánaiste considers that it is important to harness modern technology to help keep our streets and citizens safe and he is committed to the further extension of the use of CCTV in support of policing.

The Tánaiste recently announced a major expansion of the Garda CCTV town centre scheme. A total of 17 additional locations are included in the scheme. Contracts for three schemes, (Ballyfermot, Clondalkin and Tullamore) have already been signed by the Garda authorities and implementation of these systems is now underway. Tenders have issued recently for the installation of a further nine systems, and included among these is a scheme for Tallaght.

The Tánaiste launched the Community-based CCTV Scheme in June 2005, in response to a demonstrated demand from local communities across Ireland for the provision of CCTV systems. This Scheme is designed to provide financial assistance to qualifying local organisations towards meeting the capital costs associated with the establishment of local community CCTV systems.

The Scheme offers both pre-development to enable applicants to investigate the need for CCTV in their area and to complete a detailed proposal, and development grants of up to €100,000 from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. In addition, the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs provides successful applicants from RAPID areas with a complementary grants to a possible maximum of €100,000. Pobal has been engaged to administer the Scheme on behalf of the Department and it carries out thorough assessments of all applications received.

The Tánaiste recently announced that 11 groups which submitted proposals for development funding have been approved to receive grants totalling in excess of €1 million from this Department, to be matched in RAPID areas by funding in the order of €960,000. The final amounts of funding involved for each project will be determined subject to the finalisation of contracts for each scheme.

Three proposed projects in the Tallaght area are included in the 11 groups that have been approved for grants from my Department. They are:

- Jobstown Community Development Group;
- Getting Tallaght Working Ltd., T/A Partas in Killinarden; and
- Getting Tallaght Working Ltd., T/A Partas in Brookfield & Fettercairn.

As these three areas are RAPID areas, matching funding will be provided by the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. The approval for funding now enables these Community groups in the Tallaght area to install and operate their own CCTV systems under the guidance of An Garda Síochána and the Local Authorities. Pobal will continue to monitor progress on behalf of the Department as these projects are implemented.

The Community-based CCTV schemes are an important and effective way for local people and organisations to work together in partnership with the Gardaí and local authorities to help make local communities safer.

Yours sincerely

Private Secretary

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