



An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta

Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

Oifig an Aire Stáit
Office of the Minister of State

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Ms Mary Maguire
South Dublin County Council
Corporate Services
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24

Dear Ms Maguire

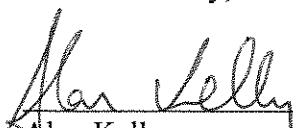
I refer to your letter of 17th December 2009 to Minister of State, John Curran, T.D., regarding a motion passed at a meeting of South Dublin Council held on 14th December 2009 on Drugs funding. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

In excess of €31m has been made available to fund the activities of Drugs Task Forces in 2010 of which over €21m is being provided for the Local Drugs Task Forces and €10m for the Regionals. Despite the overall reduction in funding available, the Minister is confident that the work of the Drugs Task Forces will continue to make a positive impact on the lives of those affected by drug misuse.

Minister Curran met with all Drugs Task Forces in the last months of 2009 and funding for 2010 was among the issues discussed in all cases. The Minister emphasised the need to prioritise projects with a view to ensuring the most effective use of resources and the most beneficial outcomes for service users to match changing circumstances. In addition, the Minister gave the Drugs Task Forces the scope to redirect funding within their allocations to best address the realigned priorities that they identified for their areas of operation.

The Minister is satisfied that this approach has helped to minimise the impact from the reduction in funding in 2010 and would not envisage any further cuts.

Yours sincerely,


Alan Kelly
Private Secretary

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