



**An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe
agus Gaeltachta**
Department of Community, Rural
and Gaeltacht Affairs

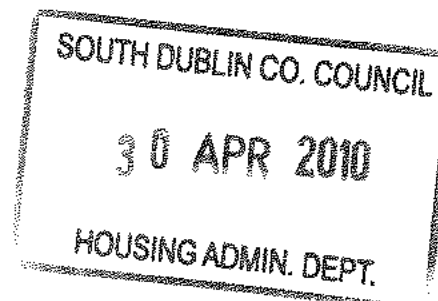
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Ref: 0156/2010/PC/DON

Ms Allyson Rooney
South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Town Centre
Tallaght
Dublin 24



29 April 2010

Dear Ms Rooney

I wish to refer to your recent letter to Minister Éamon Ó Cuív, T.D., regarding the Local and Community Development Programme.

The new Local and Community Development Programme (LCDP) preserve elements of good practice from the Community Development and Local Development Social Inclusion Programmes (CDP/LDSIP) and will enable groups to objectively demonstrate the positive impacts they are securing for local communities. It is intended that the new Programme will be implemented nationally on an integrated basis through new structural arrangements involving the 53 Partnership Companies and the 164 Community Development Projects. An implementation strategy, involving the stakeholders, is underway for LCDP roll-out over the course of 2010.

The Department have set out a model for integrated service delivery and structures at a local level which would involve, among other things, the re-constitution of the voluntary boards from the end of 2010. Those boards will then form an Advisory Committee to the Local Development Company, this will preserve the community development ethos in areas and will not detract from the key essential services and supports being provided through the CDP. The directors would continue to have a key role in that model.

My Department and Pobal are in consultation with the Local Development Company to ensure relevant support and services are maintained in the Local Development catchment area, in particular where

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CDP's have lost Department funding following the review of the Programme in 2009.

My primary concern is to make every effort to ensure that the front-line services provided by, or supported through, my Department - especially those providing tangible benefits for the most disadvantaged communities - are protected. Under the new programme, local development companies will be able to identify and meet the needs of communities and the Department has asked that particular attention is given to RAPID areas and to those areas where a CDP is no longer operating.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat Carey', is written below the closing.

Pat Carey T.D.
Minister for Community, Equality & Gaeltacht Affairs