



Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



Oifig an Aire
Office of the Minister

15 July 2011

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

RE: REP1766/PH/11

Dear Ms Maguire,

I have been asked by Mr Phil Hogan T.D., Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, to refer further to your recent letter in connection with South Dublin County Council's motion proposing a national household waste collection waiver system.

A number of recent developments are of relevance to the County Council's motion. You may be aware that the Programme for Government commits to the development of a coherent national waste policy, adhering to the waste hierarchy, which will aim to minimise waste disposal in landfill and maximise recovery. Minister Hogan is prioritising this commitment, as he is anxious to provide early regulatory certainty, in the form of both policy and legislation, to ensure that the necessary actions and investments are progressed to achieve those aims.

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The Programme for Government also states that the Government "will introduce competitive tendering for local waste collection services" whereby waste collection service providers may bid to provide waste collection services in a given geographic area, for a given period of time and to a guaranteed level of service, including a public service obligation in respect of a waiver scheme for low income households. Minister Hogan aims to complete the policy development process this year, in line with the finalisation of wider waste policy. A public consultation process in respect of this commitment has commenced to help inform the policy development process and the perspective of South Dublin County Council would be strongly welcomed. A discussion document on Reorganising Household Waste Collection Services was published in June and raises the issue of waivers; the discussion document is available on the Department's website. Responses are requested no later than 2 September 2011.

Please feel free to contact Mr Eoin Corrigan, an official of the Department, who is available on (01) 888 2858 and who will be happy to answer any queries you may have on the matter.

Yours sincerely,

PP. P. J.

Eddie Kiernan

Private Secretary