



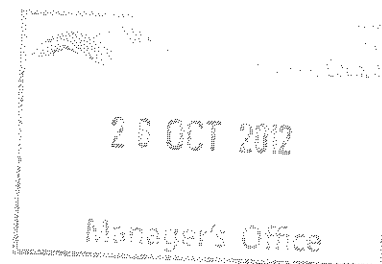
**Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil**  
Environment, Community and Local Government



**Oifig an Aire**  
Office of the Minister

*24* October 2012

Ms Emer O'Gorman  
South Dublin County Council  
Town Centre  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24



**Re: REP6266/PH/12**

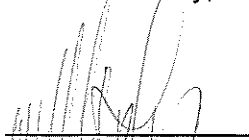
Dear Ms O'Gorman,

I refer further to your letter, dated 10th October 2012, to Mr Phil Hogan, TD, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, on behalf of South Dublin County Council, regarding Dodder Valley Partnership (DVP) and Clondalkin, Palmerstown, Lucan, Newcastle Area Partnership (CPLN). Minister Hogan has asked me to respond to you on his behalf.

The Council's motion regarding the above matter has been noted. In light of, inter alia, the fiscal imperative to reduce programme budgets significantly in 2013 and 2014 in line with the Comprehensive Review of Expenditure (2011), the Report of the Local Government/Local Development Alignment Steering Group (March 2012) which envisages a greater role for Local Government in Local and Community Development, the Department proposes that a single contract for Local and Community Development Programme (LCDP) delivery will be awarded to cover the SDCC area, where currently there are two separate contracts held by CPLN and DVP.

To this end, the key stakeholders involved (CPLN, DVP and SDCC) have been requested to develop a plan that might involve merger/rationalisation, or another approach resulting in a single structure in the two areas in question. That structure should facilitate greater management of the budget cuts in the short, as well as longer term, by achieving a more effective sharing of resources, thereby reducing overall administration and operating costs, while, at the same time, preserving the core, front-line element of the LCDP in both areas. It should also result in savings and efficiencies to include among others, one Board, one CEO/Head of Organisation and one head quarter location. The intention would be to have the plan in place in a short period of time and that a new/remodelled structure would be operational in 2013.

Yours sincerely,

  
**Eddie Kiernan**  
Private Secretary