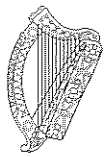




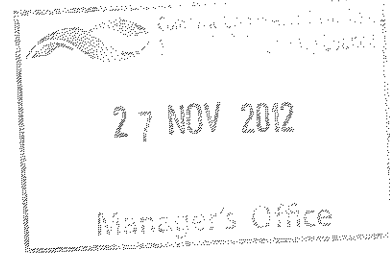
Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



Oifig an Aire

Office of the Minister

[Signature] November, 2012.



Ms. Mary Maguire,
South Dublin County Council,
County Hall,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24

Laura D. Gorman
Laura D. Gorman

RE: REP5900/PH/12

Dear Ms. Maguire,

The provision of a fire service in its functional area, including the establishment and maintenance of a fire brigade, the assessment of fire cover needs, the provision of a premises and the making of such other provisions as it considers necessary or desirable, is a statutory function of individual fire authorities under the provisions of the Fire Services Act 1981 and 2003.

My Department supports fire authorities through the setting of general policy and guidance, and the provision of capital funding, including the recoupment (within the overall funding available) of costs incurred by fire authorities in relation to approved construction projects and the purchase of fire appliances and equipment. The current priority for capital funding is supporting the national fire appliance fleet, in respect of which Dublin Fire Brigade has been approved for 2 new appliances which are currently in the tender process.

A proposal to extend Tallaght fire station was approved in principle in 2006 under the Fire Services Capital Programme. However, given the current constraints on public finances it has been necessary, in keeping with other reductions, to reduce the fire service capital allocations in 2011 and 2012. Accordingly, my Department is not in a position to fund the significant investment (circa € 3 million) to progress the extension of Tallaght Fire Station from the fire services capital programme.

As an alternative, in light of the business case made by Dublin City Council in August 2011, my Department approved-in-principle grant-aid of € 300,000, to supplement funding committed by the Council in respect of necessary and urgent works at the fire station. It is expected that the upgrading works will be completed in 2012. My Department has received a recoupment claim from Dublin Fire Brigade and payment of the € 300,000 grant-aid has recently been made to the Council.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature of Eddie Kiernan]

Eddie Kiernan,
Private Secretary

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