



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



Oifig an Aire
Office of the Minister

11 January, 2013.

Ms. Emer O'Gorman,
South Dublin County Council,
County Hall,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24

RE: REP6750/PH/12

Dear Ms. O'Gorman,

I have been asked by Mr Phil Hogan, T.D., Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to refer to your recent letter regarding the reduction in South Dublin County Council's 2012 General Purpose Grant as a result of the level of compliance locally with the household charge.

Circular Fin 09/2012 which issued on 18th July 2012, outlined the approach to the payment of General-Purpose Grants from the Local Government Fund for Quarter 3 2012. The revised allocation for South Dublin County Council was based on the original allocation of €16,963,904 modified by a deduction of €1,900,842 which was based on a collection rate of 55% of the Household Charge due in its area. **€475,210 or 25%** of this deduction was offset against the Q3 payment. Circular Fin 11/2012 clearly confirms that the Q3 reduction of €475,210 would not be reviewed, and set out the position in respect of Q4.

A deduction of €84,820 was made to South Dublin County Council's Q4 Tranche 2 General Purpose Grant Payment in November 2012 based on a compliance level of 63.6% at the time. However, as a compliance rate of 65% was achieved by 31st December 2012, this Q4 deduction will be re-instated and paid in conjunction with South Dublin County Council's Quarter 1 2013 payment in January 2013.

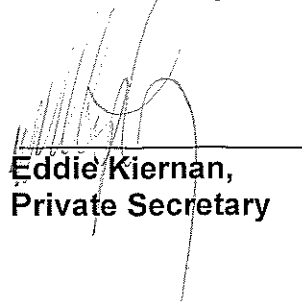
The Minister welcomes the increasing level of household charge compliance nationally and urges South Dublin County Council, in conjunction with the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), to continue their efforts to collect the household charge in its administrative area.



The Minister is satisfied that the revised general purpose grant allocations provided for 2012, together with the income available from other sources, was sufficient to enable local authorities, including South Dublin County Council to provide a reasonable level of services to their customers.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Eddie Kiernan', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping 'E' and 'K'.

**Eddie Kiernan,
Private Secretary**