

30<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Deputy Frances Fitzgerald, TD  
Minister for Justice & Equality  
Office of the Minister for Justice & Equality  
94 St. Stephen's Green  
Dublin 2

REF: 40789

RE: Clondalkin Area Committee Meeting of South Dublin County Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Dear Minister,

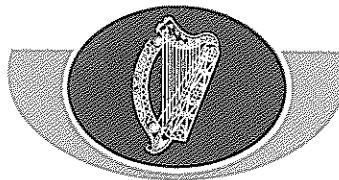
At the meeting of the Clondalkin Area Committee held on the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2014 the following motion was passed by the Members:

*"That the Chief Executive brings a report as to how Direct Provision at the Towers Hotel is funded and what are the long term plans for this, and that this Committee write to the Minister for Justice and Equality regarding direct provision and ask if there are any plans to change the Direct Provision at this and other locations."*

I would be obliged for your comments and response as soon as possible to enable me to revert to the Committee.

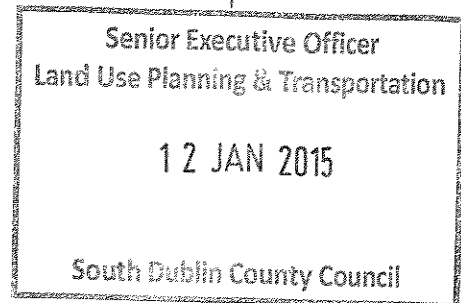
Yours sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Edel Colgan  
Senior Staff Officer



OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND LAW REFORM  
OIFIG AN AIRE DLÍ AGUS CIRT, COMHIONANNAIS AGUS ATHCHÓIRITHE DLÍ

Ms. Edel Colgan  
Senior Staff Officer  
South Dublin County Council  
County Hall  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24



9 January, 2015

Dear Ms. Colgan,

I am directed by the Minister for Justice and Equality to refer to your letter dated 30 October 2014 regarding the Clondalkin Area Committee Meeting held on 15 October 2014.

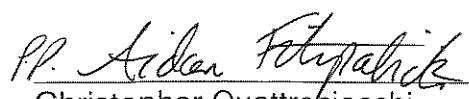
With regard to the funding of the Direct Provision system, the Council is advised that the system of Direct Provision is supported by Exchequer funding administered through the Vote of the Department of Justice and Equality.

The Minister has asked me to take this opportunity to inform you that in the statement of Government Priorities 2014-2016, the Government made a number of commitments with regard to asylum seekers and the protection process as follows:

- to legislate to reduce the length of time the applicant spends in the system through the establishment of a single application procedure, to be introduced by way of a Protection Bill.
- to address the current system of Direct Provision for asylum seekers to make it more respectful to the applicant and less costly to the taxpayer
- to establish an independent Working Group to report to Government on improvements with the protection process, including Direct Provision and supports for asylum seekers
- to treat asylum seekers with humanity and respect whilst continuing to ensure rigorous control of our borders and immigration procedures.

In October 2014, the Minister announced the terms of reference and membership of the Working Group. The first meeting of the Working Group took place on Monday 10 November 2014 and the Group is expected to report to Government with recommendations by Easter 2015.

Yours sincerely,

  
Christopher Quattrociocchi  
Private Secretary to the Minister  
for Justice and Equality