



An Roinn Sláinte
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

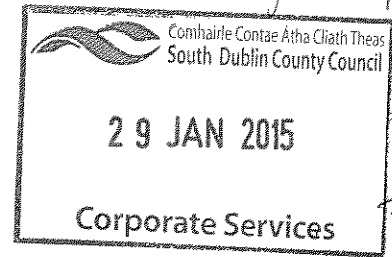
27 January 2015

Mr Tom O'Neill
Meetings Administrator
Corporate Services Department
South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24

Oifig an Aire
Office of the Minister



Ref. M12/1214 - *ready on Feb 15*



Dear Mr O'Neill,

The Minister for Health, Leo Varadkar, T.D., has asked me to thank you for your recent letter concerning TeenLine Ireland.

I appreciate the Council's concerns in relation to the mental health of Ireland's young people. TeenLine Ireland is an organisation which provides a helpline for this vulnerable group and was funded by the National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP) between 2007 and 2013. As is best practice in these circumstances, an independent evaluation was carried out regarding this service and following many months of engagement with TeenLine Ireland, the NOSP decided to withdraw funding from the organisation. TeenLine Ireland were notified of this on 3rd March 2014. This decision was based on two primary considerations; the enduring and prevalent concerns pertaining to multiple aspects of TeenLine Ireland's governance and service provision and the limited capacity of TeenLine Ireland to provide a national, quality assured helpline and multimedia service to young people.

However, NOSP continues to support a range of services for teenagers and young people including Childline, SpunOut.ie and ReachOut/Inspire Ireland. The 24 hour call services provided by the Samaritans and Childline remain available to any young person in distress and continue to be funded by the NOSP.

The NOSP helps to support a wide array of work in communities - in partnership with the voluntary sector - across the country, that focus on promoting positive mental health and reducing suicide and self-harm by providing significant grant funding each year - almost €5 million in 2013 - as well as by assisting in coordinating and giving strategic direction to the work undertaken.

I trust that this clarifies the matter for you.

Yours sincerely

David O'Connor

David O'Connor
Private Secretary



Cuirfear fáilce roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge
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Tús Aite do
Shabhalheacht Othar
Patient Safety First

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Email: dgpa@hse.ie

15th January 2015

Our Ref: 342034
Your Ref: M12/1214

M12/1214
Referral

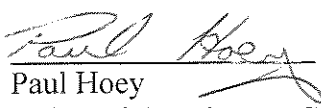
Mr. Tom O'Neill
Meetings Administrator
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Dublin 24

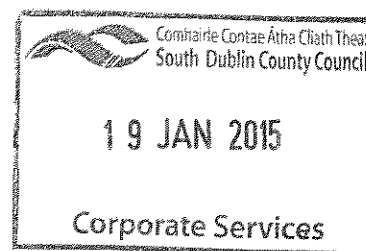
Dear Mr. O'Neill,

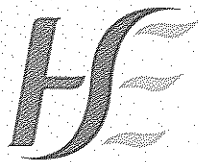
I wish to acknowledge with thanks your letter dated 6th January 2015 to Mr. Tony O'Brien, Director General, regarding the motion to call on HSE management to intervene with the National Office for Suicide Prevention to restore funding to TeenLine, which has been brought to his attention.

I wish to advise you that your correspondence has been referred to Ms. Anne O'Connor, National Director, Mental Health, for her attention and follow up with you.

Yours sincerely,


Paul Hoey
Office of the Director General





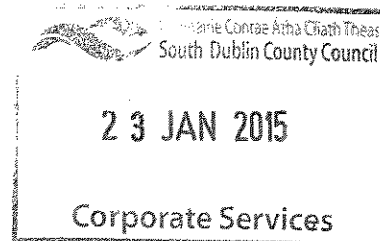
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

National Office for Suicide Prevention

Health Service Executive
Stewart's Hospital
Palmerstown
Dublin

Tel: 01 6201670
Email: info@nosp.ie

Tom O'Neill
Meetings Administrator
Corporate Services Department
South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24



20th of January 2015

Re: Motion Passed at Meeting of South Dublin County Council (M12/1214)

Dear Mr O'Neill

I write in connection with the above.

On the 3rd of March 2014 the National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP) advised Teenline Ireland that funding was being withdrawn. This decision was taken by NOSP following many months of robust engagement with Teenline Ireland and an independent evaluation of the service.

The decision to withdraw funding was based on two primary considerations:

- The enduring and prevalent concerns pertaining to multiple aspects of Teenline Ireland's governance and service provision; and
- The limited capacity of Teenline Ireland to provide a national, quality assured helpline and multimedia service to young people.

NOSP now funds 3 national helplines:

- The Samaritans 116123 free-to call number.
- Childline number 1800 66 66 66.
- Console Suicide Crisis and Bereavement Support Helpline 1800-247-247.

In working with these 3 providers the intent of NOSP is to reduce duplication and multiplicity of helplines and to deliver safe, streamlined, efficient and effective services to the public.

www.nosp.ie

www.yourmentalhealth.ie

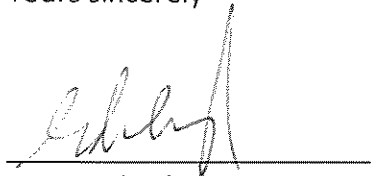
www.letsomeoneknow.ie

With respect to service provision for young people, Childline is now deemed as the appropriate national service, providing 24/7 supports through various multimedia fora including phone, online, text and social media. The service is free, confidential and for children up to the age of 18 and the majority of young people contacting the service are aged between 13-18 (Approx 64%). The agency also demonstrates rigorous vetting, recruitment and training of volunteers which is an essential aspect for any service provider.

NOSP is working closely with Childline to ensure the needs of teenagers are being met and that its service is marketed at this age group.

NOSP is satisfied in the steps it has taken in 2014 to consolidate and expand help line services and as such it is not planning to reinstate funding of Teenline Ireland.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerry Raleigh', is written over a horizontal line.

Gerry Raleigh

Director of the National Office for Suicide Prevention

cc. Paul Hoey, Office of the Director General



An Roinn Leanaí
agus Gnóthaí Óige
Department of
Children and Youth Affairs

Oifig an Aire
Office of the
Minister



M12/12/4 *Referred*

9th January 2015

Mr Tom O'Neill
Corporate Services Department
South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24

Dear Mr O'Neill

On behalf of Dr. James Reilly TD Minister for Children and Youth Affairs I wish to acknowledge and thank you for your correspondence concerning the suspensory motion passed at the meeting of South Dublin County Council held on 8th December in relation to funding of Teenline.

As this matter is more appropriate to the Department of Health, the Minister has asked me to let you know that he has forwarded your correspondence to his colleague, Ms Kathleen Lynch TD, Minister of State at the Department of Health with special responsibility for Primary and Social Care for her appropriate attention and direct reply.

Yours sincerely

P.P. Justine Burke

Evan Hackett
Private Secretary to Minister James Reilly, TD

