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

Ministers Reference: 0219115009

γ February 2015

Your Ref: M7/2015

Dear Mr O'Neill.

The Minister for Justice and Equality, Ms Frances Fitzgerald, T.D. has asked me to respond to your recent letter regarding the motion passed by South County Dublin Council on 9th February 2015.

The Minister wishes me to convey to you that the Government is committed to introduce consolidated and reformed domestic violence legislation to address all aspects of domestic violence, threatened violence and intimidation, in a way that provides protection to victims.

The Minister intends to bring the General Scheme of a consolidated bill on domestic violence to Government in the coming months. The legislation proposed will strengthen the protections available in relation to such violence. The proposed Domestic Violence Bill will be complemented by legislative changes to improve the rights of victims of crime generally. These further changes to our law will be included in legislation currently being drafted by this Department to transpose the EU Victims of Crime Directive into Irish Law.

I am also to inform you that the funding of front-line services is a matter for Tusla, the Child and Family Agency, who are under the remit of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Quattrociocchi Private Secretary to the

Minister for Justice and Equality

