Minister Frances Fitzgerald

Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality

Kildare Street

Dublin 2

***Our Ref: M7/0616***

28th June 2016

**Re: Motion Passed at Meeting of South Dublin County Council (M7/0616)**

Dear Minister

The following Motion was PASSED at the meeting of South Dublin County Council held on 20th June 2016

“That this Council writes to the Tanaiste and Minister for Justice outlining its concerns regarding the continuing upper age limit of 35 years for those applying for work as a member of An Garda Síochana, especially given the precedent in neighbouring jurisdictions such as Northern Ireland (PSNI limit 57 years) and many US departments (Seattle Police Department - no age limit). In order to reflect the spirit of the Equal Status Act, where discrimination on grounds of age is specifically referenced, this Council furthermore calls on the Minister and Garda Commissioner to work together to review the age limit so as to attract experienced members into the force with a variety of professional and life skills, as well as younger recruits, notwithstanding the need to pass existing competency examinations.”

I should be grateful for your comments at your earliest convenience. Please quote our reference number on any correspondence.

Yours sincerely

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Tom O’Neill,

Meetings Administrator,

Corporate Services Department.