



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

COMMITTEE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

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Our Ref: CSD/017/2011/SK

Ms Margaret Sisk
Department for Social Development
Lighthouse Building
1 Cromac Place
Gasworks Business Park
Ormeau Road
Belfast
BT7 2JB

Dear Margaret,

Review of Gambling Legislation

You will be aware that the Committee has had a briefing from the Department on the outcome of the consultation regarding the review of the current gambling legislation and that it has also received briefings from stakeholders.

At this stage the Committee is considering how to take this issue forward. In order to assist with this it is seeking clarification from the Department on the Minister's intention with respect to the review. Specifically, it would ask if it is the Minister's intention to produce proposals for revision of the gambling legislation and if so, when the Committee would be receiving these.

If it is *not* the Minister's intention to revise the gambling laws the Committee would like to know when the Minister will make this clear to the Committee and other stakeholders.

Furthermore, the Committee agreed to forward submissions made to the Committee by the NI Turf Guardians Association and Legalise Poker in NI to

the Department. The Committee asks for the Department's appraisal of the economic assessments provided by these groups, in particular the detailed papers provided by the NI Turf Guardians Association.

Thank you for your assistance with this. I would be grateful if you could forward a response to me within 10 working days of receipt of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Dr Kevin Pelan
Clerk, Committee for Social Development