

The Committee Clerk Room B32 Parliament Buildings Ballymiscaw Stormont Belfast BT4 3XX Performance and Corporate Services

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Our Ref: KM Date: 7th August 2015

Dear Ms Austin

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill.

As other respondents have commented the Hansard report of the departmental briefing on the Bill has assisted in clarifying a number of issues the Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) may otherwise have raised.

Comments:

1. Control of information of a relevant person

Section 1 (5) references 'having regard to the cost of and the technology available for achieving that purpose' – there is perhaps a need for further clarity within the Bill on this issue to avoid differences that could potentially arise in the application of this point.

2. Establishment of committee to authorise processing of confidential information

Section 2 (1) - The HSCB would emphasise the need for an independent, suitably empowered Committee not only to ensure robust decisions are taken but also to maintain a strong public confidence in the processing of such information.

3. Code of Practice

Section 3 (1) and (2) - The HSCB acknowledges the requirement to publish and regularly review a Code of Practice on the processing of information.

4. Regulation

No comments

5. Interpretation

No comments

6. Short title and commencement

No comments

Yours sincerely

Kenneth Moore.

Kenneth Moore Information Governance Manager

