

Dear members of the Committee,

I am so pleased this Bill is being put forward, and I fully support it.

I recognise the primary reason for trafficking into Northern Ireland is for sex, and I therefore especially welcome clause 6 of Lord Morrow's Bill which criminalises paying for sex. This clause recognises that is the prime source of demand for trafficking, and would directly address that problem.

It is tragic that today so many people across the world are being lured unsuspectingly into what becomes enslavement, particularly for the sex market, and governments need to be taking much more action to deal effectively with this cruel and dehumanising practice, particularly in their own country.

I understand there is a European Directive along these lines, backed by the Council of Europe, and this Bill will help ensure that Northern Ireland properly fulfils its international obligations.

I therefore ask you to be very much influenced along these lines in furthering and even strengthening this Bill.

Yours sincerely,

D L Lumb, Broadclyst, Exeter, Devon, UK