



NORTHERN IRELAND
Legal Services
Commission

2nd Floor Waterfront Plaza
8 Laganbank Road
Mays Meadow
Belfast
BT1 3BN

Tel: 028 9040 8805

Office of the Chairman and Chief Executive

Email: accesstojustice@nilsc.org.uk

By e-mail only to: justice.bill@niassembly.gov.

Our Reference CEO/14/229

Date 1 August 2014

Dear Ms Darragh

Re: Justice Bill

I refer to your letter dated 8 July 2014.

On behalf of the Commission I would confirm we have no contrary views to the proposed amendments to the Justice Bill.

The Commission welcomes the introduction of Section 78, Duty of solicitor to advise about client about early guilty pleas, as this could serve to reduce the volume of contested cases coming before the courts and will monitor if the introduction of this section results in a saving for the Legal Aid Fund.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for inviting the Commission to formally respond to the proposed amendments.

Yours sincerely

Noleen Smylie
Secretary to the Board