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6th March 2014

The Clerk
Committee for Social Development
Room 412
Parliament Buildings
BELFAST
BT4 3XX

Ref: CSD/022/2013/2/SK

Dear Dr. Pelan,

Thank you for your recent correspondence and the opportunity to respond to your queries in writing; I apologise that I am not able to attend the Committee on March 13th due to a holiday commitment.

You raised two areas of interest:

Meeting 25th January, 2012 with Mr. Stephen Brimstone

At the time I was employed by Turkington's as General Manager. I was asked by Turkington's CEO, Trevor Turkington, to attend a meeting with him and Mr Brimstone at the Radisson Hotel in Belfast's Gas Works. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss potential savings for the Housing Executive and raise health and safety concerns.

During the meeting we talked about the window industry generally and in particular the Housing Executive contracts which Turkington's was involved in with Mascott.

We advised that the contracts could be operated in a more cost effective manner if the windows were installed to Glass & Glazing Federation (GGF) standards. This would realise substantial savings for the Housing Executive. We also discussed health and safety concerns as we felt that the existing process for installing windows under the contract was negatively impacting upon our staff.

I mentioned that I was a past Chairman of the GGF and that Turkington's was a member of the GGF, as were other local suppliers. As such, the company could install windows and doors to GGF standards.

I asked how best to bring this matter to the attention of the Minister and Mr. Brimstone advised that I should do so in writing – this I did.

Minutes Query

I did not receive the minutes from the meeting with Minister McCausland on 16th April 2012.

Subsequently, however, I did receive a summary of the meeting (attached) which Chris Thornton, BBC Spotlight, sent me on 21st June 2013 when he approached me in relation to his investigation.

I trust that the above is helpful, please feel free to contact me if you require additional information.

Yours sincerely

Ian Young