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Dear Kevin

Licensing of Pavement Cafes Bill – Call for Evidence

The Social Development Committee wrote to Dr John McPeake, Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) inviting the Housing Executive to submit written evidence for consideration at the Committee Stage of the above Bill.

The Northern Ireland Housing Executive has advised that the Bill will impact on its commercial tenants who carry on business that includes the sale of food and wish to provide street furniture outside the demise of their tenancy for patrons to sit and eat. The tenants will apply direct to the local councils for the licensing of an area outside their tenancy. They will solely have to abide by the licensing terms and conditions. Therefore the Housing Executive see this Bill as having no direct impact on its Commercial Portfolio.

It may also impact on the Housing Executive if the pavements are not adopted by the Department for Regional Development and are still the responsibility of the Housing

Executive. The Housing Executive would therefore require consultation before a license would be granted.

However, the Housing Executive advise that as this Bill will have no direct impact on its Commercial Portfolio, they see no need to change the clauses in the Bill.

I trust this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Susan McCarty", with a stylized flourish at the end.

SUSAN MCCARTY