



**LARNE**  
Borough Council

Our Ref C/11/13

31 October 2013

The Committee Clerk  
Committee for Justice  
Room 242  
Northern Ireland Assembly  
Ballymiscaw  
Stormont  
BELFAST BT4 3XX

Dear Ms Darrah

**Human Trafficking & Exploitation (Further Provisions and Support for Victims) Bill**

I refer to the above and the request to submit views by Friday 01 November 2013.

Council welcome the opportunity to comment and please find enclosed draft response. Members are due to further consider the draft response at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 04 November.

I should be grateful if any amendments, which can be provided to you on Tuesday 05 November 2013, could be considered alongside the draft submitted.

Yours sincerely

Geraldine McGahey  
Chief Executive

Enc

## DRAFT

### The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Further Provisions and Support for Victims) Bill

#### Larne Borough Council – Written Evidence

In relation to the Bill, the following motion was recently debated by Council.

*“That this Council,*

- 1. Recognises that human trafficking and exploitation is a growing problem in Northern Ireland;*
- 2. Believes that existing statistics regarding the number of people trafficked in to Northern Ireland do not reflect the scale of the problem and are only the "tip of the iceberg" in regard to the scale of the problem;*
- 3. Believes that no human being should be subjected to: sexual exploitation, enforced labour or domestic servitude and condemns those who engage in human trafficking;*
- 4. Believes that more action should be undertaken to support those who have escaped from exploitation and to punish those who exploit them and, accordingly;*
- 5. Calls upon the Northern Ireland Assembly to endorse the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Further Provision for Victims) Bill”*

Its relevance in relation to the Holding Centre operated by the UK Borders Agency, which is located within the Council boundaries, was discussed and it was noted that the Minister for Justice had recently launched a leaflet entitled ‘Human Trafficking Know Your Rights’ which was aimed at the victims of human trafficking, and which is available in different languages.

Whilst there was general agreement on points 1 – 4, an amendment was introduced to point 5, the intention being to reflect that the Bill is entering Committee Stage and with both the DOJ and PSNI having some outstanding concerns there may yet be changes to be made..

This amendment was accepted by Council;

*“Welcomes the fact that the issue of human trafficking is being addressed by the Northern Ireland Assembly in the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Further Provision for Victims) Bill and supports the Bill in principle”.*

No specific issues of concern were raised in relation to any clauses in the Bill although some members noted that as it progressed, there was a possibility that amendments could be introduced and they would consider these further at the appropriate time.

Thursday 31 October 2013