

From: The Minister

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Mr Alex Maskey
Chairperson
Committee for Social Development
Room 412
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Our ref: INV/118/2014

10 March 2014

Dear Alex

Inquiry into allegations, arising from a BBC NI Spotlight programme aired on 3 July 2013, of impropriety relating to NIHE managed contracts and consideration of any resulting actions

I refer to your letter dated 27 February 2014 requesting that I attend the Committee meeting on 13 March 2014 to provide further oral evidence.

You ask in your letter that, in relation to a meeting with my officials on 28 June 2013, I provide the Committee with a briefing indicating who attended this meeting; the issues discussed at the meeting and, in particular, whether the status of Messrs McKeag and Young at the meeting of 16 April 2012 was discussed.

This is attached at Annex A.

Yours sincerely

Nelson M'Causland

Nelson McCausland Minister for Social Development



SDC Inquiry Phase 1 - In relation to a meeting with officials on 28 June 2013 who attended this meeting; the issues discussed at the meeting and, in particular, whether the status of Messrs McKeag and Young at the meeting of 16 April 2012 was discussed.

Who attended the meeting?

With the significant number of meetings I hold it is difficult to recollect a meeting with my officials held more than eight months ago. However, I have been advised that my diary indicates that the meeting was to include:

Will Haire

Jim Wilkinson

Michael Sands

Susan McCarty

The issues discussed at the meeting

I understand that the diary entry records at Subject "Meeting with Officials."

However, I have now had sight of the documents, forwarded to the Committee on 26 February 2014, which appear to indicate that the meeting was to discuss my response to a letter received from Spotlight on 27 June 2013 requesting that I consider an on camera interview. The letter to Spotlight, which I signed and which was issued on the afternoon of 28 June, would appear to be the result of the meeting.

Whether the status of Messrs McKeag and Young at the meeting of 16 April 2012 was discussed

I do not recall the specific discussions at the meeting.