

6th December 2007

Melanie McGinnis  
Economic Policy Unit  
OFMDFM  
Room E5.22  
Castle Buildings  
Stormont  
BELFAST BT9 3NR

Dear MS McGinnis,

**Re: Deficient Budget for Mental Health and Learning Disability**

I would like to share my concerns with you regarding the gross under-funding being proposed for Mental Health and Learning Disability – namely **£18**million over three years. This level of funding will in my view not allow the implementation of the recommendations of the Bamford Review in any way or to a sufficient degree to make a real difference.

The issues associated with Mental Health and Learning Disability impact on everyone right across Northern Ireland and in all communities. We as citizens expect and indeed demand that our politicians in government put in place adequate services for all our people but importantly they should make sure that there is adequate funding made available to achieve this;

We demand [and deserve] first rate mental health services – this cannot be achieved with inadequate funding that retards a proper developmental process.

I am therefore, as a citizen, asking OFMDFM and the NI Executive to invest in the future of our country and our people by ensuring that we have the best possible mental health services in place – in brief provide a level of funding consistent with the requirements of the Bamford Review.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Ken Addley