

SB/41/10 HW 25/10

22 OCT 1999

PS/0263/10

CG 0182/10

20 OCT 1999



the new Northern Ireland Assembly

Parliament Buildings  
Belfast BT4 3XX

19 October, 1999

Clive Gowdy  
Permanent DHSS Secretary  
Block B  
Castle Buildings  
Stormont  
Belfast BT4 3SG

copied  
cg/mw please

A221.0

*Handwritten notes in pink:*  
Mr. New  
Should be  
be on the form for  
on urgent reply on this  
one. Would you  
check whether be for  
the top 5 case - one  
reply - could suffice.  
Sal 22/10

Dear Clive, *Mr Simpson: for advice + draft reply pl. 20/10/99*

Enclosed you will find a letter which I have sent to the Secretary of State regarding funding for the Family Trauma Centre. The letter raises many of my concerns surrounding this issue. I sincerely hope that this has already been brought to your attention and is under your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you in this matter.

Yours sincerely,  
*Monica Mc Williams*  
Monica McWilliams  
Assembly Member

Enclosed



*the new*  
Northern Ireland  
Assembly

Parliament Buildings  
Belfast BT4 3XX

19 October, 1999

Peter Mandelson  
Secretary of State

Dear Secretary of State,

Following our meeting with you at Millbank Road last week, in which I discussed the issue of future funding for the Family Trauma Centre, I am now putting my concern to you in writing. You visited this centre during your first week in Belfast and undoubtedly agree that it is a much needed resource for victims. I have now learned that if funding is not secured for March, the staff will be informed before Christmas that their jobs will be at risk. I am extremely concerned about this issue, given the priority which government attaches to victims needs. I am also concerned that any publicity at this stage highlighting funding issues in relation to victims would be detrimental to the current review of the Belfast Agreement. The Anti-Agreement parties have gone to great lengths to make a media weapon of the funding for victims. As you may know, I do not wish to give them anymore ammunition in this regard. I look forward to hearing from you on this.

Yours sincerely,

Monica McWilliams  
Assembly Member

Cc. Clive Gowdy, Permanent DHSS Secretary

Cc. Adam Ingram, Minister for Victims