

From the Acting Director Safety, Quality
& Standards Directorate
Fergal Bradley



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

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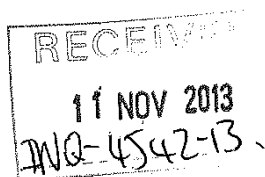
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Your Ref:
Our Ref:

11 November 2013



Dear Nuala

PROFESSOR SCALLY'S EVIDENCE

You will recall that there has been considerable discussion as to Professor Scally's third and, most recent, report. In particular it was intended that Professor Scally would attend at the Inquiry on Wednesday 13 November to give oral evidence. The Department has been keeping this matter under review particularly in the light of the evidence that the Inquiry has heard over the past two weeks.

I thought that it would be useful if I was now to set out the Department's position and am asking that you share this with the Inquiry. This is:

- a. We maintain the position that Dr Scally's report and the conclusions he arrived at do not accurately reflect the situation and the realities in Northern Ireland and England at the times under consideration.
- b. We recognise that the Inquiry now has the benefit of hearing first hand evidence on the key issues and is well positioned to take a view in this regard
- c. We recognise that it may be that the Inquiry will consider that hearing oral evidence from Dr Scally will not add materially to the understanding of the relevant issues. We are prepared to accept whatever view the Inquiry comes to as to whether Dr Scally gives oral evidence.
- d. We know that the Inquiry will, of course, bear in mind our concerns as to that evidence but we are content to stand on the oral evidence thus far and the points that will be developed in our written submissions.

I trust that this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

FERGAL BRADLEY

Working for a Healthier People

