

22 September 2008

Mr John McKee
DARD
Organisation Improvement Branch
Room 559B
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
BELFAST
BT4 3SB

Dear Mr. McKee

DARD DIRECT

At a meeting of Council's Environmental Services Committee meeting on 16 September 2008, members requested that I respond to the consultation on the Equality Impact Assessment on the roll out of DARD Direct and to express their support for the campaign to retain the office at Killane Road, Limavady and in doing do preserving the jobs of the members of staff based there.

It is felt the creation of a new office in Dungiven will cause disruption not only to staff who are non drivers and have access to limited public transport links but also to the customers, many of whom are elderly and have a disability or are part of a farm family with caring responsibilities for an elderly parent/relative.

In addition, these proposals have come at a particularly bad time given that the local economy here in Limavady has suffered many job losses through the closure the Seagate and Huco Lightronic factories in Limavady and Ballykelly Army Camp and Council would ask that its concerns are taken on board.

Yours sincerely



LIAM FLANIGAN
Chief Executive