

Our Ref: AMD/CDT/AMD/EIG/1/2 2701496V1

Your Ref:

19 February 2009

URGENT

FAO: Peter Allan
Community Planning Manager
Dundee City Council
21 City Square
Dundee
DD1 3BY

By Fax Also: 01382 434996

Dear Mr Allan

**Eighteen and Under
Meeting with Dundee City Council: 20 February 2009 at 2.30p.m.**

We act on behalf of our above named clients.

We note a meeting has been scheduled to take place tomorrow and we shall be accompanying Irene Clark of Eighteen and Under to the meeting. Should you have any objection to our presence at the meeting, please let us know immediately, together with your reasons. We understand that our clients emailed Gordon Sharp this morning to advise they shall be accompanied by their solicitor and to request an agenda for the meeting.

With reference to your letter of 13 February 2009 addressed to our clients, we note the Social Work Department is of the view that Eighteen and Under does not meet adequate standards in terms of protecting and safeguarding children and young people. As a result, we note you have instructed your social work teams and personnel to refrain from having any further involvement with our clients and that you have shared your concerns with your partner agencies, including Tayside Police, NHS Tayside and Dundee Voluntary Action. Further, we note that you have instructed all schools and educational establishments to suspend any VIP sessions with our clients and to refrain from having any involvement with them.

Given the far reaching implications of your actions, our clients understandably wish to respond to your concerns and where necessary address those, as soon as possible. However, this can only be achieved if our clients have a clear understanding of what your concerns are. Please therefore provide us with details of the complaint made against our clients together with a copy of your findings following your comprehensive review, in advance of tomorrow's meeting. Further, we note you have concerns about the robustness and transparency of our clients' recruitment process. To enable our clients to respond to your concerns please provide us with details in advance of tomorrow's meeting.

Turning to the issue of funding, we note it is your intention to terminate our clients funding on 31 March 2009 unless they can demonstrate they have satisfactorily addressed your concerns. As already stated, our clients cannot respond to and where necessary address your concerns until they know precisely what they are. Further, you state that our clients require to meet the standard of organisations on the Social Work Department's Approved Provider List. Please provide us with a copy

of the document outlining the standard you refer to, together with your findings detailing why you consider our clients do not meet that standard.

In addition to the foregoing, please provide us with an agenda for the meeting in order that our clients can adequately prepare. That way both parties can hopefully utilise the time allocated for the meeting constructively.

We look forward to hearing from you by return.

Yours faithfully

Partner
MacRoberts LLP

DRAFT