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Our Ref:

12<sup>th</sup> August 2005

ANTI-POVERTY

**Ms Liz McMeekin**  
**New TSN Unit**  
**Room E3.19, Block E**  
**Castle Buildings**  
**BELFAST BR4 3SR**

16 AUG 2005

RECEIVED

Dear Ms McMeekin

### **Response to NI Antipoverty Strategy from Sperrin Lakeland Health & Social Care Trust**

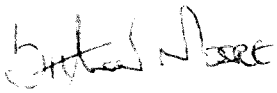
The Trust have considered the proposals set out in the NI Anti Poverty Strategy and would offer the following comments by way of follow up to our earlier response to the initial public consultation:

- the evidence that demonstrates NI generally has higher levels of poverty than Great Britain confirms and supports the demands placed on the provision of health and social care services in NI
- the significant number of children for example living in households experiencing consensual poverty highlights the continuing need for comprehensive child health and care services
- in this context the Trust supports the proposal to broaden the former TSN approach to a more comprehensive anti poverty strategy, linking the effects of poverty on social and indeed health and well being status. Clearer focus and optimum collaborative approach towards the achievement of common succinct agreed outcomes should prove more effective in taking forward this agenda

- improved income and living conditions will undoubtedly impact on the health and well being of those severely disadvantaged in this respect over the longer term though the health and care sector should expect to see a high demand for services for those disadvantaged by poverty until significant measurable progress in the achievement of the Anti Poverty Strategy objectives can be demonstrated and realised over time

We trust these comments might be useful in taking forward the strategy to implementation which the Trust and the wider health and social care sector will no doubt be fully engaged in.

Yours sincerely

PP 

**Mrs Briega Donaghy**

**Director of Planning Commissioning and Information {A}**