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30 JUL 2004

29 July 2004

The Chief Executive
NIHRC
Temple Court
39 North Street
BELFAST
BT1 1NA

Dear Paddy

RE: NIACRO's RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT BILL OF RIGHTS

I am well aware of the effort and time which has been devoted to bring this draft Bill forward. However we remain concerned that there is not sufficient provisions made to counter the legislative structural and attitudinal barriers which are experienced by those who have been through criminal justice processes.

These barriers are evident in accessing employment but also in relation to obtaining such services as insurances, loans etc. Whilst the NIO have plans to revise the Rehabilitation of Offenders Order – a right enshrined in the Bill to the necessary means to make positive reintegration and resettlement plans post sentence is in our view necessary.

I hope these brief remarks are helpful. They are intended to be!

Yours sincerely


OLWEN LYNER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
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