

Wednesday, 28 December 2011

Mr Brendan Toland  
Parks Estates Manager  
Belfast Castle  
Antrim Road  
Belfast, BT15 5GR

Dear Brendan

Further to my telephone call on 26<sup>th</sup> October, I would like to submit a request to hold a charity abseil at Belfast Castle in 2012 for Northern Ireland Hospice.

As you may know, Northern Ireland Hospice is a local charity providing care to over 3000 adults, young people and children with life-limiting and life-threatening illnesses. We provide care 24 hours a day, every day of the year, both in hospice and in the patient's own home. Our services cost £8m to run each year, and with limited government funding we depend upon the support and generosity of local people and businesses to help us raise over £5m to maintain these vital services of care and support.

Challenge events such as abseils are an excellent way to raise funds for our work, while also getting the local community involved in an event which combines excitement and a sense of achievement. They also help to raise awareness of our work amongst the local community and recruit new supporters. Northern Ireland Hospice has organised successful charity abseils for many years and we are keen to continue to grow this area of our fundraising. As a leading landmark, in close proximity to both our adult and children's hospices and situated within the heart of an area well served by Hospice, we believe Belfast Castle would be an ideal and unique setting for our charity abseil in 2012. The location also offers the opportunity for family and friends to support participants and would be an excellent way to promote both our services to a wide range of people.

The abseil will be organised and carried out in partnership with Outdoor Concepts (NI) Ltd. Outdoor Concepts have been running charity abseil events for the past 10 years in Northern Ireland and use the highest standard of equipment and highly qualified instructors. They also have comprehensive risk management policies in place and comprehensive adventure insurance with a £10 million Civil Liability insurance policy and a £10 million Employers' Liability policy applicable to the event.

I would like to express my thanks to Belfast Castle and Belfast City Council for their ongoing support to Northern Ireland Hospice and I look forward to hearing from you regarding this potential fundraising opportunity. Please find enclosed further information on our work which you may find useful. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9078 1836 or email [Karen.dunlop@nihospice.org](mailto:Karen.dunlop@nihospice.org).

Yours sincerely



Karen Dunlop  
**Challenge Events Fundraiser**