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13 December 2007

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Dear Peter

**REVIEW OF THE PRIORITIES FOR YOUTH - 2008 ONWARDS** 

The Department is shortly to begin a process to develop Priorities for Youth which build on the current Strategy for the Delivery of Youth Work in NI 2005-2008. The new Priorities will be set within the existing strategic framework rather than emerging from a review of the overall Strategy. This reflects the fact that a great deal of time and effort was spent developing the Strategy which contains important principles and themes from a solid foundation for a new set of Priorities. To achieve this, we intend to work with all stakeholders to identify the main issues currently facing youth work and determine the priorities on which to focus, prior to and beyond the establishment of the new Education and Skills Authority.



Oliver McKearney from the Department's Youth and Community Relations
Branch will be taking the lead on the review and to initiate this, a
questionnaire will be issued shortly for all stakeholders to complete. The
findings will be discussed in a series of focus groups and this will be followed
by a formal consultation process. We intend to engage with all those who
have an involvement or interest in youth work, as this will ensure that the key
issues are identified and prioritised in the future. All stakeholders will therefore
have an opportunity to be involved in the process at every phase.

A copy of this letter and the questionnaire, when available, can be accessed on the DE website under the Youth section.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of colleagues you consider might have an interest in this review.

Yours sincerely

**LOUISE WARDE HUNTER** 

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