



## DERRY CITY COUNCIL

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Ref: POD/SS

22 March 2005

Mr Seamus Camplisson  
Regional Strategy Team  
DHSSPS  
Room C4.22, Castle Buildings  
Belfast  
BT4 3SJ

Dear Mr Camplisson

**Re: A Healthier Future Consultation**

I am writing to you on behalf of Derry City Council in response to the consultation on the above strategy.

Firstly, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to respond to the consultation and on behalf of Derry City Council congratulate the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety on a well-involved process and the delivery of a comprehensive and well-read document.

Council endorses the thrust of the strategy that improving the health of the population has a major impact on us all, irrespective of our role in society. We acknowledge that the causes of poor health and health inequalities are directly linked to the wider determinants of health, of which we all must contribute a role in tackling. We welcome the direction of the strategy in that it sees a clear vision for the future, with a major emphasis on investing for health and wellbeing.

We strongly support the approach that prevention is much cheaper than cure and are encouraged by the approach outlined in the Departments Strategy. To an extent, the infrastructure for taking forward much of the initiatives that have been outlined already

-2-

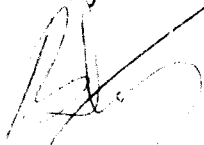
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Mr S Camplisson

exist in the Investing for Health structures that have been established. We would encourage continued support for this model of engagement at a strategic level through structures such as the Ministerial Group on Public Health and at a local level, through the Investing for Health Partnerships.

We await the delivery of a comprehensive action plan, which clearly outlines the necessary resources and lead stakeholders in taking forward this strategy and look forward to playing our part in the implementation of the plan.

Yours sincerely



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**Philip O'Doherty**  
**Deputy Chief Environmental Health Officer**