



From: David Polley
Director of Housing Supply Policy

Level 3
Causeway Exchange
1-7 Bedford Street
Belfast
BT2 7EG

Your ref: HC176/21

Telephone: (028) 9082 9261
e-mail: david.polley@communities-ni.gov.uk
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Karen McFarland
Director of Health & Community
Derry City and Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road,
Derry BT48 7NN

Via email: Lorraine.Shields@derrystrabane.com

Dear Karen

LA DOLCE VITA PROJECT

Thank you for your correspondence of 11 August to Minister Hargey seeking to identify funding streams that could help La Dolce Vita Project to stay open.

As Director of Housing Supply Policy, I have been asked to reply on the Minister's behalf.

Tackling domestic abuse is extremely important to Minister Hargey. We all want to live in a society where domestic violence and abuse is not tolerated, and where home is a place of safety. The Department for Communities contributions to tackling domestic violence and abuse includes jointly funding along with the Department of Health (DoH) and the Department of Justice (DoJ) a 24hr Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline, which is a free phone service offering support and signposting information to anyone affected by domestic and sexual violence and abuse in NI 365 days per year. The Department has input to and delivery of actions under the Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy. We also provide funding for refuges and floating support for women at risk of domestic violence whilst floating support is provided to women and children affected by domestic and sexual violence who choose to remain at home or in a community setting.

Whilst the Department acknowledges the excellent services being provided to many vulnerable people in Derry City and district by the La Dolce Vita project and is very supportive of the service, however, as it is not a housing project, unfortunately the Department is not in a position to provide any funding.



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I wish the Council best wishes in its efforts to secure funding for this valuable and worthwhile project.

Yours sincerely

David Polley
Director of Housing Supply Policy