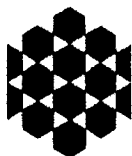


From the office of the  
Minister of the Environment



Department of the  
**Environment**

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Jim Wells MLA  
Chairperson  
Committee for Health Social Services and Public  
Safety  
Northern Ireland Assembly  
Parliament Buildings  
Stormont  
Belfast  
BT4 3XX

DoE Private Office  
Room 717  
Clarence Court  
10-18 Adelaide Street  
BELFAST  
BT2 8GB

Telephone: 028 9054 1166

Email: [private.office@doeni.gov.uk](mailto:private.office@doeni.gov.uk)

Your reference:

Our reference: CQ/253/10

10 January 2011

Dear Mr Wells

Thank you for your later dated 10 December 2010 which invited my Department to make a written submission regarding the Autism Bill. The Autism Bill was formally introduced to the Northern Ireland Assembly on 8 November 2010 and received its Second Reading on 7 December 2010. I understand the Bill has now been referred to the Committee for Health, Social Services and Public Safety for Committee Stage.

I can confirm I have no substantive comments to offer at this point.

Yours sincerely

**EDWIN POOTS MLA**  
Minister of the Environment