



Department for
**Social
Development**

From: The Minister

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**Councillor Gareth McKee
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Our ref: COR/43/2013

5 February 2013

Dear Gareth

Thank you for your letter dated 17 January regarding the derelict land in Glenbryn Parade and Drive that has been placed on the open market for purchase.

This site is located within Glenbryn Urban Renewal Area and was vested by the Housing Executive in 2002. The area is located at a major peace line and it was the collapse of the local housing market that necessitated NIHE intervention. All the existing dwellings were demolished. Helm HA developed the first phase of new social housing in 2006 consisting of 25 two and three bedroom homes.

The remaining land was sold to a private developer, Quayside Construction who obtained planning approval for 60 dwellings. The first 9 properties in the private site were constructed for sale but the developer could only sell 2 with the remaining 7 eventually acquired for social housing in 2008. Due to the collapse in the private housing market nationally and locally the developer went into liquidation. The site which has planning permission for a further 51 three and four bedroom houses is currently on the market for sale.

There is limited demand for family social housing at this location. The site is located with Alliance CLA which has a very low demand for social housing. The housing stress waiting list is 7 applicants with 3 average annual allocations.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Nelson McCausland

**NELSON McCAUSLAND MLA
Minister for Social Development**

