



Good Shepherd Provincialate

Congregation of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
NGO in special consultative status with ECOSOC, United Nations

245 Lower Kilmacud Road,
Goatstown,
Dublin 14

Tel: 353-1-2982699
Fax: 353-1-2989033
email: rgsdublin@eircom.net
Website: goodshepherdsisters.com

Mr. Brian Cowan
Taoiseach
Government Buildings
Dublin 1

20.10.09

REF: LETTER TO '18 CONGREGATIONS, 24/09/09'

Dear Mr. Cowan,

We have given serious consideration to the contents of the above mentioned letter.

At our meeting in your offices in June and July I gave a commitment to do my best to respond to the request "to make a generous contribution in the light of the findings of the Ryan Report."

In our report to the Government Panel we showed that in our Annual Accounts for 2007 and 2008 we had deficits on our ordinary activities of approximately €600,000 and €900,000 respectively. Our budgets for 2009 and 2010, prepared by our financial advisors, showed projected deficits of €1 million and €1.1 million respectively. An actuarial report, prepared by Price Waterhouse shows a deficit of over €15 million. This is a matter of grave concern to our congregation and we are very worried about providing for the future long term care of our sisters and in sustaining our current ministries, in particular to the women who have lived with us for most of their adult lives. We also have financial commitments to support the service of Faoiseamh.

Our financial advisors are working with us in an attempt to address our rapidly deteriorating financial situation and have strongly advised that we are not in a position to offer any contribution in response to your request.

This is matter of great regret to our Congregation but we feel that we cannot ignore this expert financial advice.

Yours sincerely

Sr. Bernadette Mc Nally
Province Leader

MINISTERS OFFICE

23 OCT 2009

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND SCIENCE

2437