



Department for  
**Communities**

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Mr Kevin Doherty  
Irish Congress of Trade Unions  
45-47 Donegall Street  
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BT1 2FC

Our Ref:

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10 November 2020

Dear Mr Doherty

Thank you for your letter dated 27 October 2020 to the Minister which raised a number of issues about the serious hardship caused to new comer workers by the decision to halt the issuing of National Insurance Numbers. The correspondence has been passed to me as the Deputy Secretary in the Department with responsibility for the administration of National Insurance Numbers,

I recognise and appreciate the concerns your letter highlights and I understand Mickey Kelly the Director in the Department with responsibility for this issue has been in touch with you to set up a meeting scheduled for 13 November to discuss the matters raised and to examine what practical solutions can be implemented given the concerns highlighted.

I hope this response is helpful.

Yours sincerely

**Jackie Kerr**  
**Deputy Secretary Supporting People Group**