

**STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY THE DEPUTY JACKIE HILTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING
SUB-COMMITTEE ON 14th SEPTEMBER 2004**

I wish to make the following statement concerning the Trinity Landfill Inquiry and Report R.C. 43/2004. by Mrs. Carol Canavan.

Before I do so, I want to take this opportunity to personally apologise to those residents in Trinity affected by this affair for the distress, worry and concern that this approval has caused.

I also recognise a mistake has been made and I am prepared to accept responsibility for my part in that mistake.

When the report was published I made a public statement. I suggested in that statement that some responsibility lay with the planning officers for the approval decision by the sub-committee. The lack of quality in some information supplied to the sub-committee was one of the reasons the in principle approval was given.

Since the report was published I have discussed the whole issue with the President and Chief Officer. Changes have been implemented whereby in future any significant traffic implications will be clearly marked as to the likely volume and effect.

I wish to make an unreserved apology to any officers who were offended by the remarks I made and the associated press coverage.

I wish to say the Planning officers have remained professional and dedicated throughout.

I wish to thank Mrs Canavan for her report. There are several useful recommendations contained within it, that the department will be taking immediate steps to implement. Lessons have been learnt and will continue to be learnt.

I would like to finish by thanking the many Members of the Assembly and the general public who have contacted me with their messages of support and encouragement during these difficult weeks.