Basil McCrea MLA  
Chair  
Committee for Employment and Learning  
Room 416 Parliament Buildings  
Ballymiskaw Stormont  
Belfast  
BT4 3XX

10 August 2012

Our Ref: 12/PD/PLM/076

Dear Chair

Thank you for your request to provide information to the Committee’s Inquiry into Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) in Northern Ireland. I welcome the Committee’s careful consideration of this important area.

While I am not submitting detailed evidence to the Committee I would highlight my concern that the Inquiry ensures attention is given to the effectiveness of CEIAG in supporting the transition of young people with learning disabilities to further education, training and employment. I hope that the Inquiry will consider the role of CEIAG in schools for children with moderate and severe learning difficulties as well in supporting young people with learning disabilities in mainstream schools.

In response to concerns reported to NICCY regarding the effectiveness of transition arrangements for young people with learning disabilities I commissioned a scoping report to examine this across education, training, employment, health and social care. I will ensure that the Committee receives details of the launch of the publication and a copy of the report, which will be released in mid September, and hope that it will be helpful to the Committee’s Inquiry.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

Patricia Lewsley-Mooney  
Commissioner for Children and Young People