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PUBLIC PROSECUTION SERVICE
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Senior Assistant Director

Ms Judi Kemish
Solicitor to the Inquiry
Robert Hamill Inquiry
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PPS Ref: 238326

17 September 2009

Dear Ms Kemish

Arising from his interview on 21 August 2009 with Mr Michael Stephens of the Inquiry team the Director undertook to provide certain information in regard to conviction rates, recommendations from the Police Ombudsman and delay in forensic reports.

The Director asked me to take this forward on his behalf.

I enclose herewith relevant statistics which have been provided to me by PPS Management Information Section.

The statistics refer to:

- (i) A comparison of Crown Court conviction rates in Northern Ireland and England and Wales over the period 1997 to 2004.
- (ii) A comparison of PPS decisions and Police Ombudsman recommendations based on a sample of 100 cases in which decision issued during 2008.

Management Information Section observes that the following points should be noted:-

- (i) The comparison of Crown Court conviction rates in Northern Ireland and England and Wales over the period 1997 to 2004.

In order to ensure comparability, both the Northern Ireland and England and Wales figures are based on cases which proceeded to