

FROM THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH,
SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY
Michael McGimpsey MLA



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

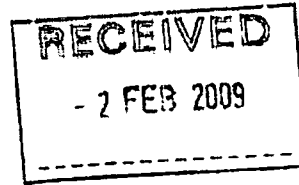
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AN tSáirde

Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poblí

Ministère de la

Santé, Résidents Heistsin
an Fòlk Sicear



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Our Ref: COR/41/2009

29th January 2009

Dear Sir Paul,

Thank you for your letter of 11 January.

I agree with the General Dental Council's view that tooth whitening and bleaching constitute the practise of dentistry. As such, this procedure should only be undertaken by suitably qualified General Dental Council registrants. This is either by a dentist or under the prescription of a dentist.

As regards bleaching being a health procedure; each case must be taken on its merits as the procedure may be for purely aesthetic purposes or for the overall health and well being of the patient.

I hope this reply is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Michael McGimpsey MLA
Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety

