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From the Private Secretary

22 June 2011

*Dear Mr May,*

Thank you for your letter introducing the Prime Minister to the work of Christian Nightlife Initiatives and inviting him to see a Street Angels group at work. I regret that the Prime Minister is unable to accept your kind invitation, but he was interested to read about your work.

It is clear that Street Angels and other projects linked by your network are doing good work in supporting those who are victims of night-time crime, drugs and alcohol misuse and sexual exploitation.

The Prime Minister was particularly struck by the fact that your work is motivated by your Christian faith. He believes that the work that people inspired by religious belief do across the country, in charities, community groups and in countless churches and other places of worship to address problems such as drug abuse has not always been sufficiently recognised.

The Prime Minister is aware that social outreach projects such as yours can encounter obstacles such as excessive bureaucracy, confusion over regulations and local authorities' lack of understanding of faith. The Department for Communities and Local Government is taking the lead in helping voluntary social action projects overcome such barriers where possible.

The Prime Minister wants to see a society where faith communities and other local groups come together to protect the most vulnerable, including those who are particularly at risk after dark. He hopes that CNI can continue to make an important contribution in bringing this concept of a Big Society to fruition.

*Tom Sheehy,*  
*NS*

**MATTHEW STYLE**

Mr Adam May