



Edwin J Farr MBE  
31 Grosvenor Road  
Jesmond  
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK  
NE2 2RL

Tel +44 191 2818003  
or +44 786 0609279

[elsa.europe@ymail.com](mailto:elsa.europe@ymail.com)

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Ministry of Social Affairs  
Socialminister Benedikte Kiær  
Holmens Kanal 22  
1060 Copenhagen  
Denmark

Dear Ms Kiær

**Re: Stuttering Information Centre of Denmark (Dansk Videnscenter for Stammen)**

It has come to our knowledge, that The Stuttering Information Centre of Denmark/Dansk Videnscenter for Stammen is planned to be incorporated into a bigger public organisation, "Videnscenter for Handicap og Socialpsykiatri".

This may mean an improvement in the field of information about various disabilities. However, as an umbrella organisation of Europe's national stuttering associations, we are very worried about stuttering as a field in its own right possibly being diluted in a bigger organisation comprising a multitude of impediments and disabilities.

Dansk Videnscenter for Stammen has had a remarkable impact with respect to conveying information to Danish speech therapists regarding the treatment of stuttering and research in stuttering, particularly for children who stutter where it has been proven that early intervention is the key to preventing stuttering continuing in later life.

In addition, the Dansk Videnscenter for Stammen is an important player in the international scientific and clinical community working with stuttering. The Centre is also a link for the international flow of knowledge about the impediment of stuttering. Being a part of the international information flow specifically in stuttering both as a user and as a contributor is especially important, as stuttering only has a very few things in common with other impediments in the area of speech, language, hearing and reading.

**European League of Stuttering Associations**  
[www.elsa.info](http://www.elsa.info)

Finally, we would like to point out that the Dansk Videnscenter for Stammen is internationally recognised and considered as a very innovative institution, as it is very unique – there exists no similar body anywhere in the world.

We conclude this letter expressing our sincere hope that stuttering will keep its hitherto position and profile as an independent field of interest in the new Videnscenter for Handicap og Socialpsykologi.

Yours sincerely

Edwin J Farr MBE Chair  
For and on behalf of the European League of Stuttering Associations (ELSA)

**European League of Stuttering Associations**  
*[www.elsa.info](http://www.elsa.info)*

ELSA, Zülpicher Str. 58 D-50674 Köln, Germany  
Tel. +49 221 139 1106 Fax + 49 221 139 1370  
e-mail [elsa@bvss.de](mailto:elsa@bvss.de)

ELSA, 31 Grosvenor Road, Newcastle-U-Tyne, NE2 2RL, UK  
Tel. +44 191 281 8003 Fax +44 191 281 8003  
e-mail [elsa.europe@ymail.com](mailto:elsa.europe@ymail.com)