cc Mr Watkins

Mr McCusker

Mr Corbett

Mr Evans

Mr Durbin

Mr Jagelman

TO: MR PEOVER

DENI

FROM: P. MC ALISTER

CCRU

23 December 1992

IRISH LANGUAGE POLICY: GLOR NA NGAEL

Attached please find for information and input where appropriate a letter from Ms Ui Chleirigh to the Secretary of State which we have been asked to treat officially. I would be grateful for responses by 8 January.

Patricia & In Algest PATRICIA K MC ALISTER OF EDUCATION

or na nGael ste Bhéal Feirste Thiar

145 Bóthar na bhFál, Béal Feirste 12. Guthán 232608. Facs 236817

Natonral-Ranganna-Siopa-Leabharlann-Enittoigháin-Eolas-Ceol-Ionad Soisialta-

CIALTY CCEU

NUÍC/CUÍHA

Rt. Hon. Patrick Mayhew, M.P. Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Stormont Castle
Belfast



Dear Mr. Mayhew,

While welcoming the move to remove the discriminatory and ineffective act prohibiting street signs in Irish (announced Wednesday 16 December) the West Belfast Committee of Glór na nGael are dismayed at the government's apparent refusal to recognise or accommodate the existence of a bi-lingual society in substantial areas of the North.

We therefore take this opportunity to ask the following questions of the Northern Ireland Office:

- 1. Does the Northern Ireland Office have an Irish language policy?
- 2. If not, does the Northern Ireland Office have plans to introduce a comprehensive policy for the Irish language in the North?
- 3. Does the Northern Ireland Office consider that the census returns concerning Irish merit a considered language policy?
- 4. Does the Northern Ireland Office envisage active government promotion and increased financial aid for the language in view of the census figures?

We hope your reply will be of benefit to all in our bi-lingual community.

Is mise, Los Rin li Clarkigh

Noirin Ui Chleirigh

Chairperson

Scéim na mBuaiteoirí: 1989 & 1991 Trófaí Ghlór na nGael: 1985/86