



BALLYMENA BOROUGH COUNCIL

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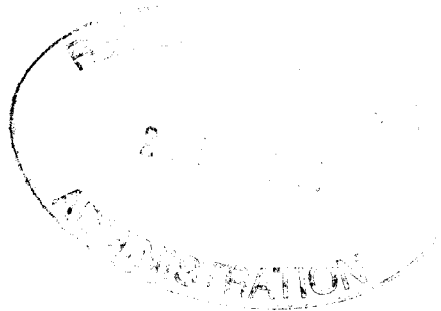
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Date: 24th February, 2004.

Our Ref: GC18/TC/NH

Review of Public Administration,
McKelvey House,
25 Wellington Place,
BELFAST,
BT1 6DG.



CR / 44 / 02 / 2004

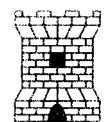
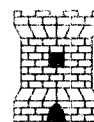
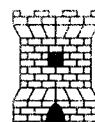
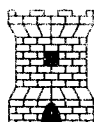
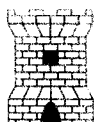
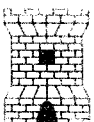
Dear Sir/Madam,

Response to the Review of Public Administration in N. Ireland
Consultation Document

Ballymena Borough Council has spent some time considering this issue and has fully considered and participated in the preparation of the detailed response by the Northern Ireland Local Government Association.

At a Special Meeting of Council on Thursday, 19th February, 2004 Council fully considered its response and has asked me to comment as follows:-

1. The Council fully supports the need for a comprehensive review of Public Administration in Northern Ireland and in principle supports the response prepared by the Northern Ireland Local Government Association.
2. Model five which advocates a strong Local Government is supported, however, the detail and structures for such a model require much more consultation and debate.
3. Council has fully supported the Regional Development Strategy for Northern Ireland and would like to see the key hubs identified in this plan as being centres for Public Administration in any sub-regional structure.
4. There is the need to ensure that when final decisions are made regarding functions and form of structures that a detailed implementation plan is put in place setting out in detail the change process and its timeframe.



5. The involvement of the political parties in Northern Ireland in a final agreed structure for Public Administration will be an important aspect of determining a final outcome on functions and structures.
6. Council welcomed the approach in the Review document of dealing with Health & Personal Social Services in a separate chapter. Should there be any delay in the Public Administration Review, Council would wish to see the Health & Personal Social Services Review continue and to be implemented as soon as possible.

Council has asked me to thank the Review Team for the opportunity of commenting at this stage of the review and we look forward to continuing involvement as the process develops and gains momentum.

Yours faithfully,



Town Clerk and Chief Executive.

c.c. Ms H. Moorehead, Chief Executive