



CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Stye Braes o Ulidia Burgh Coouncil

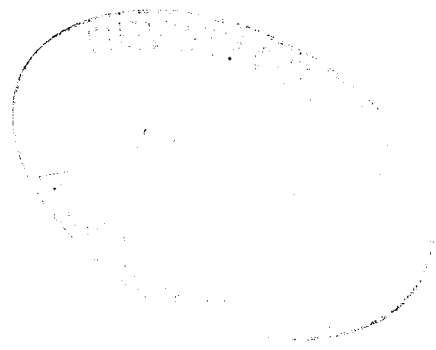
A M DONALDSON MSc MBA FIMgt
Chief Executive

AMD/SS

CL 59-02-2004

26 February 2004

Mr Greg McConnell
Review of Public Administration
McKelvery House
25 Wellington Place
BELFAST BT1 6GD



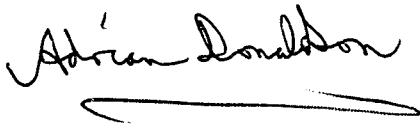
Dear Greg

RESPONSE TO THE REVIEW OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CONSULTATION

Castlereagh Borough Council formally responded to the initial draft paper produced by NILGA. In its response the Council supported the principle of sub-regional authorities which would strengthen democratic accountability, enforce the principle of subsidiarity, provide integration and economies of scale of services, and subsume a large number of quangos. The Council, however, strongly supported the need for 'localisation' as evidenced by the March 2003 Omnibus Survey, on the basis that it is vital to have a strong capacity at local level for leadership, to join up governance, to take initiatives and to deliver on the ground, if some of the most complex social, economic and environmental challenges of our society are to be tackled. Care needs to be taken to ensure that any new system of administration strikes the correct balance between sub-regional authorities and maintaining a local identity and that functions are delivered at the most appropriate level.

The Council debated NILGA's final draft response at its monthly meeting on Thursday 22 January at which point it was resolved that the matter should properly be left to NILGA as it was the representative body for all 26 district councils. Accordingly, therefore, in terms of publishing the response for this Council on your website, it should be recorded as acknowledging the paper submitted by NILGA on behalf of all 26 district councils.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Adrian Donaldson". Below the signature is a horizontal line that tapers at both ends, resembling a stylized underline or a flourish.

A M DONALDSON
Chief Executive