

E.R.

MR Warburton

Mr Pearson  
Central Secretariat - T

cc Miss Elliott  
~~Mr Hamilton DOE (NI)~~  
~~Mr McConnell PAB~~  
Mr Pinkerton ESL

25 APR 1985  
1557

DERRY CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION: THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

1. I attach a copy of the Clerk's letter to the Secretary of State conveying the terms of this resolution, which has been referred to CPL for advice. I understand Mr Hamilton has already discussed the letter with you.
  
2. Although we are happy to provide advice on the general issue of returning powers to district councils, the letter does not otherwise directly impinge on CPL's responsibilities. A number of other divisions and departments are, however, involved: in addition to DOE (NI), PAB may be able to provide the political background to the resolution and ESL might <sup>with</sup> to comment on the economic consequences of dissolving the Society; there might also be some educational implications since the Society runs a school. In view of the wide number of interests involved, I wonder whether this is a subject suitable for a co-ordinated reply by Central Secretariat; if you agree, I will forward the folder to you.
  
3. Whoever is responsible for the final reply, it would seem inappropriate for it to issue before the council elections: the resolution seems something of an electoral stunt.

*Jonathan Stephens*  
JONATHAN STEPHENS

CPL

24 April 1985

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