

RW 96/7.



**ROADS SERVICE HEADQUARTERS**

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND  
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*Letter to typing  
A 23/7*

Mr R Wilson  
Central Secretariat  
Stormont Castle  
BELFAST

21 July 1988

Dear Mr Wilson

**LOYALIST STREET DECORATIONS**

I refer to your minute of 8 July 1988 addressed to Mr McCann.

I understand that representations have already been made to the Coleraine Roads Division of this Department about both of these incidents.

I do not feel that there is anything further which could be said to the Irish other than:-

1. Local moderate Protestants were also annoyed at the Castlerock incident and were attempting to remove the paint themselves. However this nearly led to an ugly incident and the RUC asked that all activity cease to prevent a public order problem.
2. It has been our experience that where Roads industrial staff or contractors men can be encouraged to remove these decorations it often results in further more extensive street painting in retaliation.
3. DOE Roads Service policy is to remove obscene or offensive graffiti. Both these examples at Castlerock and Garvagh were not considered to fall into this category and since sand-blasting would damage the kerbs the Divisional Roads Manager felt it best to let weathering take its course. This weathering will usually fade any paint in about a month's time.

If you require any further information please contact me.

Yours sincerely

**A MILLER**  
Assistant Secretary