

ANNEX "A"

CITY OF LONDONDERRY & DISTRICT UNIONIST ASSOCIATION

President—Major GERALD S. GLOVER, C.B.E., E.R.D., J.P.  
Honorary Treasurer—G. N. MOORE  
Honorary Solicitor—J. F. BOND, B.A.  
Organiser—Major W. J. STRAWBRIDGE, M.B.E.



Honorary Secretary



Registration Offices—Unionist Headquarters

*2x Water Temple 17/6*

*Thomas of Road 13/14/84*  
*Mr. [unclear] Vice [unclear]*  
13th February 1984.

James Prior Esq MP  
Secretary of State,  
Stormont,  
Belfast.

*DBA by 20.3.84.*

Dear Mr. Prior,

The Council of the City of Londonderry and District Unionist Association earnestly requests that you set up a public inquiry to determine why more than 7,000 citizens of Londonderry of the various non-Roman Catholic denominations have felt compelled to withdraw from their traditional family places of residences on the West Bank of the River Foyle and transfer to the Waterside.

This movement of population has accelerated since direct rule was introduced in Northern Ireland

This Association also requests that you institute an investigation and publish in terms of sectarian distribution (A) the allocation and re-allocation of houses controlled by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, and (B) the similar statistics relating to dwellings controlled by the State-aided housing Associations.

In view of the vital importance of this matter to the Protestant (minority) population, we would request that you give this matter your earnest and early consideration.

Yours sincerely,

*84-90 7,000 more*  
*90-93 1,700*

*[Signature]*  
Major GS Glover, C.B.E., E.R.D., J.P.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND  
STORMONT, BELFAST BT4 3SS

Major G S Glover CBE ERD JP  
City of Londonderry and District  
Unionist Association  
5 Society Street  
LONDONDERRY

9 April 1984

Dear Major Glover

You wrote to the Secretary of State on 13 February 1984 requesting a public inquiry into the population shift of non-Roman Catholic denominations from the West to the East Bank of the River Foyle in Londonderry. You also requested the publication, in terms of sectarian distribution, of statistics detailing the allocation and re-allocation of houses controlled by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and registered housing associations. Your letter has been passed to this Department for investigation and direct reply.

Whilst it is accepted that there has been a movement of population as outlined in your letter it is felt that a public inquiry along the lines proposed would not reveal any new information regarding the reasons behind this or serve any other useful purpose.

With reference to your request for statistics on the allocation of houses the Department has investigated this but is unable to provide specific information on the sectarian distribution of allocations because records are not maintained on a sectarian basis.

Under Article 22 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 the Northern Ireland Housing Executive is required to allocate dwellings in accordance with a selection scheme approved by this Department. Registered housing associations are also required to allocate dwellings in accordance with selection schemes approved by this Department. The approved schemes reflect allocation on a basis of housing need and are available to members of the public on request.

Any applicant for housing who feels aggrieved by a decision of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive may refer the matter to the Office of the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Complaints whereas in the case of registered housing associations complaints can be referred direct to this Department for investigation. The Department is content, therefore, that the present procedures provide adequate machinery for appeals in the event of irregularities arising.

I hope you will find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

J McCORMICK