



FROM: MARY BUNTING

6 FEBRUARY 2002

TO: BILL SMITH

WESLEY SHANNON see copy distribution below

UPDATE ON NORTH BELFAST

- 1. I spoke to Gerry Kelly MLA on the telephone this morning. He advised that he had only been able to speak to a few people but hoped to have a bigger meeting tomorrow. I explained that Derek Wheeler and I would arrange meetings today with the Ardoyne community and Holy Cross School interests to ensure that everyone was fully aware of the latest design proposal. (From discussions with Marion Kane yesterday we were aware that there is some speculation in the Ardoyne community and that emotions are beginning to rise.)
- 2. Derek spoke to Gerard McGuigan this morning to arrange the meeting with the Ardoyne community interests who reiterated his view that consultation on this matter and any other matters must go through the proposed Community Forum. I subsequently spoke to Gerard McGuigan and emphasised that we considered it most important that a meeting is arranged today so that we are in a position to have a clear view of the Ardoyne community's response to consultation. Gerard McGuigan agreed to speak to some people and come back to me.
- 3. A meeting has been arranged with Father Troy at 5 pm today.
- 4. Derek and I met yesterday with DHSSPS officials concerning transfer of land from the Everton complex to DRD. This matter is now being urgently pursued with the North and West Belfast Health and Social Services Trust. We understand that Minister de Brún is aware that this process is being explored.
- 5. I will keep Ministers updated on any further developments during the course of the day.

(sgd) Mary Bunting

MARY BUNTING

