



Rt Hon Paul Murphy MP
British-Irish Inter-Parliamentary Body
Westminster House
7 Millbank
London
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1 February 2007

Dear Paul,

Thank you for your letter of 19 December 2006 enclosing a copy of the 33rd plenary session of the **British-Irish Inter-Parliamentary Body, held in Belfast in October 2006.**

I was very interested to read the Committee's report and discussion on the life chances of young people in economically deprived areas of Belfast.

I have passed copies of the document onto my officials within the Scottish Executive Education Department and I am sure my colleagues will be as interested as I was in the discussion and recommendations. It is clear that we share the same aim of giving every child and young person the best possible start in life. If there are areas where we could usefully work together in future, then we would be pleased to discuss this.

Once again, thank you for sharing your findings with us.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack McConnell".

JACK MCCONNELL

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