



FROM THE Rt. HON. MICHAEL ANCRAM QC DL MP
MINISTER OF STATE



S/MAR 7/97

The Rt Hon Virginia Bottomley MP
Secretary of State for National Heritage
Department of National Heritage
2-4 Cockspur Street
LONDON
SW1Y 5DH

ALW

(F)

*cc JEH
✓ PU.*

19 March 1997

Dear Mrs Bottomley,

**"FUTURE OF SPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN NORTHERN IRELAND" -
PROGRESS REPORT**

I enclose a copy of the Progress Report on the Sports Policy Statement which I will be launching on Tuesday 25 March. An earlier draft of the document has already been sent to your officials.

The purpose of this Report is to reflect on progress in Northern Ireland towards implementing the action agenda set out in the Sports Policy Statement issued in September 1995. It reviews the 23 points listed in the action agenda in the Policy Statement which call for action by the Department of Education or the Northern Ireland Sports Council.

This report reflects encouraging progress particularly in relation to providing encouraging opportunities for young people to participate in sport.

It will be important, however, to keep up the momentum and the Department of Education in conjunction with the Sports Council for Northern Ireland will be working towards this objective.



I am copying this letter and the document to the Prime Minister, Patrick Mayhew, Michael Forsyth, William Hague and Gillian Shephard.

*Yours sincerely,
Colin Jack*

PP THE RT HON MICHAEL ANCRAM QC DL MP
Minister for Education

*[Approved by the Minister of State
and signed in his absence.]*