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07 AUG 2008			
OTHER DEVEL.		LEGAL	CORP H&ES
REFERENCE	MCN 21/08		

Mr Peter McNaney
 The Chief Executive
 Belfast City Council
 Cecil Ward Building
 4-10 Linenhall Street
 Belfast
 BT2 8BP

4 August 2008

Dear Peter,

I have been delighted to hear of the ongoing enthusiasm of the City of Belfast to re-establish its longstanding links with the Royal Navy in the form of a civic affiliation with a major warship.

It is therefore with much pleasure that I write to formally offer the City of Belfast an affiliation to HMS DUNCAN, one of the new Type 45 Destroyers. HMS DUNCAN is currently under construction at BVT's yard on the River Clyde and is due to be launched in August 2010. She will be the sixth, and final one, of her class. Once accepted into Naval service in early 2012 the ship will be based in Portsmouth. It is planned that the ship will enjoy a dual (and equal) affiliation with the City of Dundee in addition to that with Belfast, should you feel able to accept.

If you are willing, I would welcome the opportunity to attend or perhaps be represented at a suitable event, such as the 'Tall Ships' in Aug 09, during which the Royal Navy can announce this new affiliation to the City, thus renewing the strong historical maritime links between the Royal Navy and the people of Belfast.

I know that my Naval Regional Commander for Northern Ireland, Commodore Charles Stevenson will be happy to offer any further details and advice as required, should the City be interested in this offer.

Yours sincerely,
Phillip Jones

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