



**Unionist**  
**Ulster Unionist Party**  
**Doing what's right for Northern Ireland**

Henry Downey  
Democratic Services Section  
Belfast City Council, Chief Executive's Department  
City Hall  
Belfast  
BT1 5GS

6 June 2017

Dear *Henry,*

**Historical Institutional Child Abuse Inquiry**

Thank you for your letters dated 4th July on behalf of Belfast City Council regarding the above matter inviting comments.

I wrote to the Secretary of State on 30th May on this issue and I am committed to maintaining the Ulster Unionist Party's long held position of engaging with and seeking to provide support wherever possible, to the victims of Historical Institutional Abuse.

I want to see justice done and I believe that the victims have suffered enough and waited long enough.

I deeply regret the fact that the absence of a fully functioning Executive and Assembly has caused further delay to the victims receiving redress, and I believe that this is indeed a case of 'justice delayed is justice denied.' It was little short of a scandal that the Institutions should collapse just as Sir Anthony Hart outlined his recommendations on 20 January this year.

I note that the motion passed by Belfast City Council calls for an incoming Executive to Implement the Inquiry's recommendations in full as a matter of urgency. I am happy to do this, but I am also aware that the Panel of Experts on Redress believe that the recommendations for compensation of the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry (HIAI) fall short of survivors' needs and has both identified flaws and recommended improvements.

Clearly any new Executive must address this issue as a matter of priority, and in the absence of an Executive, I have already called on the Government to examine both the recommendation of Sir Anthony Hart and the Panel of Experts on Redress, and consider what can reasonably be done to bridge the gap between the two.

**Room 216, Parliament Buildings, Ballymiscaw, Stormont, Belfast BT4 3XX**  
**T: 028 521766 E: [robin.swann@ma.niassembly.gov.uk](mailto:robin.swann@ma.niassembly.gov.uk)**

**ULSTER UNIONIST PARTY HEADQUARTERS**

Strandtown Hall, 2-4 Belmont Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT4 2AN  
Tel: 028 9047 4630 Fax: 028 9065 2149 Email: [uup@uup.org](mailto:uup@uup.org) Web: [www.uup.org](http://www.uup.org)

I forward to working with other local political parties to see where we can find common ground and help deliver some long-overdue justice for the victims.

*Regards,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robin Swann', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robin Swann MLA  
Leader, Ulster Unionist Party  
**Doing what's right for Northern Ireland**