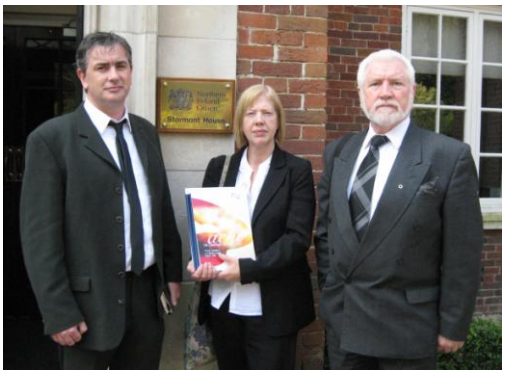
English version below

Ardaíonn POBAL Acht na Gaeilge le hAire Stáit TÉ, Hugo Swire

Bhuail grúpa abhcóideachta na Gaeilge POBAL le hAire Stáit do Thuaisceart Éireann, Hugo Swire ar 7ú Aibreán ag Teach Stoirmhonaidh, Béal Feirste, le ceist na Ghaeilge sa tuaisceart a phlé. Pléadh an gealltanas a thug rialtas na Breataine ag Cill Rímhinn cúig bliana ó shin le hAcht Gaeilge a thabhairt isteach, nár comhlíonadh go dtí seo.

Dúirt Janet Muller, Príomhfheidhmeannach POBAL, 'Ghríosaigh muid Hugo Swire chun gníomh cinnte dearfach a ghlacadh le hAcht na Gaeilge a thabhairt isteach ag Westminster más gá. Is é rialtas na Breataine a thug gealltanas Chill Rímhinn agus caithfear beart de réir briathra a dhéanamh. Labhair muid le Hugo Swire ar an ghéarghá le reachtaíocht don Ghaeilge ó thuaidh, ar an easpa straitéise don Ghaeilge ó Roinn Cultúir, Ealaíon agus Fóillíochta, agus ar éagothromaíochtaí i dtaca le cur chuige na Breataine maidir le soláthar craoltóireachta don Ghaeilge i gcóimheas leis an Bhreatnais sa Bhreatain Bheag agus an Ghàidhlig in Albain. Cuireadh in iúl don Aire Stáit go bhfuil míshuaimhneas forleathan ann maidir leis an chonstaic atá curtha roimh úsáid na Gaeilge sna cúirteanna anseo, mar thoradh ar Acht 1737 Riar na Córa.'



D'iarr POBAL ar Hugo Swire, mar bhall den rialtas úr, céimeanna leasúcháin a ghlacadh leis an dochar atá déanta don Ghaeilge thar na blianta a réiteach, mar chomhartha dearfach, do pholaiteoirí go háirithe. Gheall an tAire Swire go n-ardódh sé ceist na Gaeilge leis an aire RCEF nuacheaptha i ndiaidh an toghcháin. Rinne sé gealltanas, leis sin, go mbuailfeadh sé le POBAL arís san Fhómhar.

Tuilleadh eolais: Janet Muller, 028 90 438132, 077 13 630325

POBAL discuss Irish Language with Minister of State NI, Hugo Swire

Irish language advocacy group POBAL met with the new NI Minister of State, Hugo Swire, on April 7th in Stormont House, Belfast, to discuss the Irish language in the north. Among issues raised were the commitment by the British government at St Andrews four years ago to introduce an Irish Language Act, which has not been met so far.

Janet Muller, POBAL Chief Executive, siad, 'We Encouraged Hugo Swire to take positive decisive action to introduce an Irish Language Act, by Westminster if necessary. The British government gave a commitment at St Andrews and they must keep their word. We spoke to Hugo Swire about the urgent need for Irish language legislation in the north, about the lack of strategy for Irish from the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, and about disparities in the British government's approach on provision of Irish language broadcasting in comparison to Welsh in Wales and Gàidhlig in Scotland. We highlighted to the Minister of State the widespread frustration caused by the ban on the use of Irish in the courts here, as a result of Administration of Justice Act 1737. "

POBAL asked minister Swire, as a member of the new government, to take remedial steps to undo the harm done to the Irish language over the years, as a positive signal, to politicians particularly. Minister Swire promised that he would raise the question of Irish language with the post election DCAL minister. He also made a promise to meet with POBAL again in the autumn.

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