

From: The Reverend W. Martin Smyth, M.P.  
(Belfast, South)



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Tel: 020 - 7219 4098

Fax: 020 - 7219 2347

Email: mckeem@parliament.uk

SB96/3/04  
SB105/2/04

Reply to  
117 Cregagh Road  
Belfast BT6 0L  
028 - 9045 7000  
Fax: 028 - 9045 0807

28<sup>th</sup> May 2004  
Ms Angela Smith, MP  
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State  
Northern Ireland Office  
Clarence Court  
10-18 Adelaide Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8GB

Dear *Angela*,

I am writing to you with concern over the future of Windsor Park Stadium.

It may be true that Windsor Park did not apply to you directly for funding, but as I'm sure some of your staff can testify, they did apply through the IFA.

In 2002, they applied for funding to rebuild the South and Railway Stands. This development will cost around £15 million. In 2003, they put forth another application to help with fixing the North Stand roof and the floodlights.

£1.2 million is needed for the North Stand and the floodlights. This was apparently promised as part of the £8 million Soccer Strategy programme, but as yet they have heard no word of any progress. The floodlight situation must be resolved by 13<sup>th</sup> October, as that is the date of Northern Ireland's first mid-week match against Austria in the World Cup qualifying games. As you will know, Northern Ireland will also host England and Wales in this series of matches and it would be a shame if our national football team's stadium looks like the poor cousin of those on the mainland.

I would appreciate it if you could investigate this situation immediately as October is not that far away.

Yours sincerely,

W. Martin Smyth, MP

