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STORMONT CASTLE,  
BELFAST,  
BT4 3ST.

The Rt Hon H V Kirk MP  
Minister of Finance  
STORMONT

22 October 1971

*Dear Minister*

CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT

I enclose a copy of the text of the Consultative Document as it has now gone to the printer. The intention is that this Document will be published on Tuesday when the Prime Minister will take the opportunity to emphasise the point that it is not announcing decisions but providing an informed basis for discussion.

Simultaneously with the publication it would be the Prime Minister's intention to withdraw from the Notice Paper the motion in his name dealing with the committee proposals and other matters, and to replace it with the following "that this House takes note of the Consultative Document on the future development of the Parliament and Government of Northern Ireland; welcomes and endorses the proposals of the Government for the establishment of a system of Functional Committees of the House; and commends the widest possible public and parliamentary discussion of the other important issues reviewed in the Consultative Document".

It would be the Prime Minister's intention to have a Debate upon this motion in the House of Commons on Wednesday 3 November and in leading off this Debate the Prime Minister would make a major statement again emphasising the consultative nature of the proposals except those dealing with Functional Committees.

*Yours sincerely*  
*K. P. Bloomfield*

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