

An Chartlann Náisiúnta
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ANNEX 1

NORTHERN IRELAND DEPARTMENTS

Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister

Economic Policy Unit (see Annex 2)
Equality Unit
Liaison with NSMC including Secretariat
Liaison with BIC
Civic Forum (administrative and other arrangements, including secretariat support)
Liaison with Secretary of State (excepted or reserved)
European Affairs/International Matters/Washington Bureau
Liaison with IFI
Information Services
Community Relations
Executive Committee Secretariat
Legislation Progress Unit
Office of the Legislative Counsel
Public Appointments Policy
Visits
Honours
Freedom of Information
Victims
Nolan Standards
Public Service Office (see Annex 2)
Machinery of Government
Emergency Planning
Women's Issues
Policy Innovation Unit
Cross-Departmental Co-ordination
Assembly Ombudsman (Liaison and Appointment issues)

Agriculture and Rural Development

Food, Farming and Environmental Policy
Agri-Food Development
Science
Veterinary
Rural Development
Forestry
Sea Fisheries

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Environment

Planning Control
Environment and Heritage
Protection of the Countryside
Waste Management
Pollution Control
Wildlife Protection
Local Government
Sustainable Development
Mineral Resources (planning aspects)
Driver and Vehicle Testing Agency
Road Safety
Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency
Transport Licensing and Enforcement Branch

Regional Development

Transport Planning
Public Transport, Buses and the Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company
Roads Service
Rail
Ports and Airports
Energy (Strategic and Developmental)
Water
Strategic Planning

Social Development

Voluntary Activity Unit
Housing Policy
Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Urban Renewal
Community Sector
Laganside Corporation
Rent Assessment Panel
Housing Benefit Review Boards
Social Security Agency
Child Support Agency
Lands Division
Independent Tribunal Service
Central Adjudication Services
Office of Social Fund Commissioner
Social Legislation

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Education

Schools Funding and Administration
Special Education
School Effectiveness
School Planning and Provision
Schools Inspectorate
Pre-School Education
Youth Service
Teachers (numbers, remuneration etc)
Education and Library Board Appointments

Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment

Higher Education
Further Education
Vocational Training (ACE, CWP and New Deal)
Employment Services
Employment Law and Labour Relations
Teacher Training and Teacher Education
Student Support and Postgraduate Awards
Training Grants (for Executive Development, Premier and Priority Skills Programmes)
Office of the Industrial and the Fair Employment Tribunals

Enterprise, Trade and Investment

Economic Development Policy
Industry (IDB, LEDU)
Research and Development (IRTU)
Tourism
Health and Safety Executive
Employment Medical Advisory Service
Company Regulation
Consumer Affairs
Energy Regulation
Ofreg
Minerals and Petroleum Unit (including Geological Survey)
NICO
Company Training Grants Schemes (Company Development Programme and Explorers)

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Culture, Arts and Leisure

Arts and Culture
Sport and Leisure
Libraries
Museums
Armagh Planetarium
Ulster Historical Foundation
Inland Waterways
Inland Fisheries
Ordnance Survey
Public Record Office
Language Policy
Lottery Matters
Millennium Events and Events Companies
Visitor Amenities

Health, Social Services and Public Safety

Health
Social Services
Public Health and Safety
Health Promotion
Fire Authority

Finance and Personnel

Finance
Personnel
IT and Common Services
Accommodation
Legal Services
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
Land Registry of Northern Ireland
Rates Collection Agency and VLA
Construction Service
Northern Ireland Construction Industry Advisory Council
Northern Ireland Building Regulations Advisory Council
Business Development Service
Government Purchasing Agency
Office of Law Reform

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ANNEX 2

OFFICE OF THE FIRST MINISTER (DESIGNATE) AND DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER (DESIGNATE)

STATEMENT – 18 DECEMBER 1998

1. On 1 July 1998, the New Northern Ireland Assembly asked us to report on progress towards implementing the Belfast Agreement reached on Good Friday this year.

2. Since our election, most of the parties in the Assembly have been working with us on detailed questions. Papers on Strands One, Two and Three have been considered in a series of round tables and other meetings.

3. Following intensive negotiations and consultations involving other Assembly parties, and as appropriate the Irish and British Governments, we have reached agreement tonight on matters for North/South co-operation and implementation, and on Departments.

4. We wish to express satisfaction with the outcome, which represents a major step in the implementation of the Agreement.

5. As regards Departments (Annex 1), the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister will have an Economic Policy Unit and special responsibility for Equality. There will be ten Departments:

- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Environment
- Regional Development
- Social Development
- Education
- Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment
- Enterprise, Trade and Investment
- Culture, Arts and Leisure
- Health, Social Services and Public Safety
- Finance and Personnel

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6. The Agreement required a 'work programme' on at least 12 matters, six being new implementation bodies, and six being matters for co-operation. The six implementation bodies (Annex 2) are:

- Inland Waterways
- Food Safety
- Trade and Business Development
- Special EU Programmes
- Language (Irish and Ulster Scots)
- Aquaculture and Marine Matters

7. The six areas for co-operation (Annex 3) include some aspects of:

- Transport
- Agriculture
- Education
- Health
- Environment
- Tourism

8. We will be making a detailed report the Assembly early in January, and will bring forward proposals on the British-Irish Council and the Civic Forum.

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[Annex 1 (of the 18 December 1998 statement)]

DEPARTMENTS

Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister

Economic Policy Unit
Equality

Other central functions (within the Secretariat of the Executive Committee):

Liaison with NSMC
Liaison with BIC
Liaison with Civic Forum
Liaison with Secretary of State on reserved and excepted matters
European affairs and international matters
Policy Innovation Unit
Liaison with IFI
Information Services
Community Relations

1. Agriculture and Rural Development

Food, Farming and Environmental Policy
Agri-Food Development
Science
Veterinary
Rural Development
Forestry
Sea Fisheries

2. Environment

Planning Control
Environment and Heritage
Protection of the Countryside
Waste Management
Pollution Control
Wildlife Protection
Local Government
Sustainable Development
Mineral Resources

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Driver & Vehicle Testing Agency
Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agency

3. **Regional Development**

Transport Planning
Roads Service
Rail
Ports and Airports
Energy
Water
Strategic Planning

4. **Social Development**

Housing Policy
NI Housing Executive
Urban Renewal
Community Sector
Laganside Corporation
NI Construction Industry Advisory Council
Rent Assessment Panel
NI Building Regulations Advisory Committee
Housing Benefit Review Boards
Social Security Agency

5. **Education**

Schools Funding and Administration
Teachers and Special Education
School Effectiveness
School Planning and Provision
Schools Inspectorate
Nursery Education
Youth Service

6. **Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment**

Higher Education
Further Education
Vocational Training
Employment Services
Employment Law and Labour Relations

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7. **Enterprise, Trade and Investment**

Economic Development Policy
Industry (IDB, LEDU)
Research and Development (IRTU)
Tourism
Health and Safety Executive
Company Regulation
Consumer Affairs

8. **Culture, Arts and Leisure**

Arts and Culture
Sport and Leisure
Libraries
Museums
Visitor Amenities and Services
Ulster Historical Foundation
Inland Waterways
Inland Fisheries
Ordnance Survey
Public Record Office
Language Policy

9. **Health, Social Services and Public Safety**

Health
Social Services
Public Health and Safety
Health Promotion
Fire Authority

10. **Finance and Personnel**

Finance
Personnel
IT and Common Services
Accommodation
Legal Services
NI Statistics and Research Agency
Land Registry of NI
Rates Collection Agency

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ECONOMIC POLICY UNIT

To support the FM/DFM, and through them the Executive Committee as a whole, in their strategic role and responsibilities for the formulation, co-ordination and management of the policies of the new Administration.

The Unit will assist the FM/DFM in:

- undertaking, together with the responsible NI Minister and the Secretary of State, negotiations with HM Treasury on the size of the NI Block grant and on EU and IFI funding;

- determining, within the Executive Committee, the Administration's detailed strategic goals and inputting them to the Programme of Government and the allocation of financial resources;*

- arbitrating on competing funding demands and making final determination thereon;

- co-ordinating the Executive's economic policies and monitoring the effectiveness of public spending in achieving the Administration's economic goals, including responsibility for the Economic and Social Steering Groups;

- co-ordinating EU policy and reviewing the progress and effectiveness of EU and IFI funds;

- overseeing the development of joint financing of public expenditure, including the Private Finance Initiative;*

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- monitoring the financial implications of legislation passed in the NI Assembly, at Westminster and by the EU.

Under the authority of the FM/DFM, the Unit will be responsible for:

- providing central initiatives, eg, the analogue to the PM's new Performance and Innovation Unit in the Cabinet Office;

- improving the effectiveness of management within Government through overseeing and co-ordinating the Administration's financial management information and regulatory policies; by developing and applying performance measures and co-ordinating mechanisms; promoting the organisational and cultural change required to deliver the new Administration's strategic agenda; and including responsibility for the Public Service Office, and for the Continuous Improvement Programme;*

- evaluating the effectiveness of programmes, policies and procedures of Departments, Boards and Agencies.*

[* In these cases the Unit will work in conjunction with the Minister for Finance and Personnel.]

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[Annex 2 (of the 18 December 1998 statement)]

IMPLEMENTATION BODIES

Inland Waterways

A body with the following functions:

- Management, maintenance, development and restoration of the inland navigable waterway system throughout the island, principally for recreational purposes:

  immediately in respect of the Shannon-Erne Waterway and of the possible restoration and development of the Ulster Canal;

  progressively thereafter, in respect of the wider Shannon-Erne system and the island's other waterways (principally the Royal Canal, Grand Canal, Barrow and Lagan).

  The Body would take on the functions, together with the appropriate support functions, exercised in that regard by the Waterways Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands and the Rivers Agency of the Department of Agriculture in Northern Ireland, and would also take over the functions of Shannon-Erne Waterway Promotions Ltd.

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Food Safety

A body with the following functions:

- promotion of food safety;
- research into food safety;
- communication of food alerts;
- surveillance of food-borne diseases;
- promotion of scientific co-operation and linkages between laboratories;
- development of cost-effective facilities for specialised laboratory testing.

Trade and Business Development

A body to exchange functions and co-ordinate work on trade, business development and related matters, in areas where the two administrations specifically agree it would be in their mutual interest.

The specific areas of implementation would include:

- co-operation on business development opportunities, North and South;
- devising new approach to business developments in a cross-border context, in such areas as research, training, marketing and quality improvements;

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- supporting business by making recommendations to increase enterprise competitiveness in a north-south context in areas such as skills availability, telecoms, IT and electronic commerce;

- promotion of north-south trade and supply chains, including through business linkages and partnerships;

- promoting cross-border trade events and marketing initiatives;

- identifying new areas of trade between North and South;

- promoting market awareness and trade development in a north-south context;

- undertaking specific projects and events in relation to trade promotion, when tasked jointly on a project by project basis;

- providing advice on specific aspects of trade promotion, when tasked jointly to do so.

Existing economic agencies North and South would continue to be funded by and operate under the direction of their respective administrations.

Special EU Programmes

A body with the following functions:

Until the conclusion of the current Community Initiatives

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- the central secretariat, monitoring, research, evaluation, technical assistance and development roles currently exercised jointly in respect of INTERREG and PEACE by the Department of Finance and the Department of Finance and Personnel;

- administration of certain sectoral sub-programmes under INTERREG and PEACE (interest rate subsidy and cross-border co-operation between public bodies).

In relation to post-1999 Structural Funds

- advising North/South Ministerial Council and two Departments of Finance on negotiation with the EU Commission of post-1999 Community Initiatives and of Common Chapter;

- preparing, for the approval of the two administrations in the Council and in close consultation with the two Departments of Finance and other relevant Departments, detailed programme proposals under the new Community Initiatives (likely to be INTERREG III, LEADER III and EQUAL, and possibly a successor to PEACE);

- Central Secretariat, monitoring, research, evaluation, technical assistance and development roles in respect of these Initiatives;

- grant-making and other managerial functions in respect of INTERREG III and of north-south elements of programmes under other Initiatives, within the framework of the relevant overall policies of North and South respectively, and subject to the expenditure allocations and specific

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programme parameters agreed between the two administrations and with the EU Commission;

- monitoring and promoting implementation of the Common Chapter, which would have a specific budgetary allocation.

Language

One body, with two separate parts, with the following functions:

Irish Language

- promotion of the Irish language;
- facilitating and encouraging its use in speech and writing in public and private life in the South and, in the context of Part III of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, in Northern Ireland where there is appropriate demand;
- advising both administrations, public bodies and other groups in the private and voluntary sectors;
- undertaking supportive projects and grant-aiding bodies and groups as considered necessary;
- undertaking research, promotional campaigns, and public and media relations;
- developing terminology and dictionaries;

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- supporting Irish-medium education and the teaching of Irish.

Ulster Scots

- promotion of greater awareness and use of Ullans and of Ulster Scots cultural issues, both within Northern Ireland and throughout the island.

Aquaculture and Marine Matters

A body with the following functions:

Lough Foyle and Carlingford Lough

- promotion of development of Lough Foyle and Carlingford Lough, for commercial and recreational purposes;

- existing functions of Foyle Fisheries Commission in regard to inland fisheries conservation, protection, management and development, and equivalent functions in respect of Carlingford Lough;

- development and licensing of aquaculture;

- development of marine tourism.

Lighthouses

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- existing functions of the Commissioners of Irish Lights (CIL) in respect of providing and maintaining aids to navigation along the coast of the whole island of Ireland and its adjacent seas and islands.

Given that the CIL functions in an East-West context, arrangements to maintain linkage with the relevant British authorities.

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[Annex 3 (of the 18 December 1998 statement)]

MATTERS FOR CO-OPERATION

In accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 (i) of Strand Two of the Agreement, at least six matters are to be identified and agreed for co-operation through the mechanism of existing bodies in each separate jurisdiction.

The matters below have been identified as suitable for initial consideration by the NSMC in this regard. It would be open to the NSMC, by agreement between the two sides, to consider other matters.

(i) Transport

Strategic planning and development of cross-border co-operation in transport: while co-operation would primarily arise in respect of road and rail planning, it would take account of issues arising in the port and airport sectors; road and rail safety.

(ii) Agriculture

Discussion of CAP issues, Animal and Plant Health Policy and Research; Rural Development.

(iii) Education

Education for Children with Special Needs (eg autism, hearing impairment); Educational Underachievement; Teacher Qualifications; School, Youth and Teacher Exchanges.

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(iv) Health

Accident and emergency planning; co-operation on high technology equipment; cancer research; health promotion.

(v) Environment

Research into environmental protection; water quality management and waste management in cross-border context.

(vi) Tourism

Establishment of publicly-owned limited company as set out below.

A publicly-owned limited company will be established by Bord Failte and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board to provide the following services:

- planning and delivering international tourism marketing programmes, including programmes in partnership with the industry North and South;

- publication and dissemination in overseas markets of information of a balanced and comprehensive nature on the island of Ireland as a tourist destination which must reflect the diverse traditions, forms of cultural expression, and identities within the island;

- market research, provision of information and other appropriate assistance to help the industry develop international marketing expertise;

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- co-operation with, consulting, and assisting other bodies or associations in carrying out such activities;

- carrying out surveys and collecting relevant statistics and information.

The new company would subsume the existing Overseas Tourism Marketing Initiative. It would carry out overseas marketing and promotion activity for Bord Failte and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board, and would establish overseas offices for that purpose.

The company's Articles of Association and Memorandum, which would establish its overall strategic objectives, would be agreed by the two administrations.

The board of the new company would be appointed by the two administrations after consultation with the existing tourist boards and relevant industry interests and with their involvement.

The operations of the new company would be monitored by the existing tourist boards, and by the relevant Northern Ireland and Irish Government Ministers meeting as appropriate under the auspices of the NSMC.

The Northern Ireland Tourist Board would continue to have access to the services of the British Tourist Authority. There would be clear guidance to the company that is promotional efforts should take account of the need to develop tourism in Northern Ireland against the background of the particular problems faced by the industry there over the past thirty years.

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ANNEX 3

STANDING ORDER 21: DETERMINATION BY THE FIRST MINISTER (DESIGNATE) AND THE DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER (DESIGNATE)

In accordance with Standing Order 21 of the Initial Standing Orders of the New Northern Ireland Assembly, we hereby determine:

a. that there shall be ten Ministerial offices as set out in column 1 of the Table below; and

b. that the holder of each such office shall, as from the day appointed under section 3(1) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, be in charge of the Northern Ireland Department specified in relation to that office in column 2 of the Table and shall exercise the functions of Minister of that Department.

TABLE

Column 1	Column 2
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure	Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure
Minister of Education	Department of Education
Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Development	Department of Enterprise, Trade and Development
Minister of the Environment	Department of the Environment
Minister of Finance and Personnel	Department of Finance and Personnel
Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety	Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety
Minister of Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment	Department of Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment
Minister for Regional Development	Department for Regional Development
Minister for Social Development	Department for Social Development

Rt Hon David Trimble MP
Séamus Mallon MP

15 February 1999

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