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FROM: M T H MAXWELL
AS CENT SEC

DATE: 31 JANUARY 1995

cc PS/Sir John Wheeler (DFP,B&L) - B
PS/Michael Ancram (DENI,B&L) - B
PS/Baroness Denton (DED,DANI&L) - B
PS/Mr Moss (DHSS,DOE&L) - B
PS/PUS (B&L) - B
PS/Mr Fell - B
Mr Thomas - B
NI Permanent Secretaries
Mr Bell - B
Mr Williams - B
Mr Watkins - B
Mr Brooker - B
Mr Gibson, DED
Mr Dodds - B
Mr McNeill - DANI
Mr Maccabe - B
Mr Hamilton, DOE
Mr Hamilton, DED
Mrs Devlin - B
Mrs McAuley

*Mr Higgins
Copy to you
John 2/2*

*1. Dr Harrison 2/2
2. Mr Kennedy 2/2
3. Mr Hunter
4. Mr Higgins
5. Mr McNeill 10/15
2/2*

TO: PS/SECRETARY OF STATE (B&L) - B

PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE MAYORS/CHAIRMEN AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES/CLERKS OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND DISTRICT COUNCILS:
23 JANUARY 1995

1. I attach a note of the meeting between the Prime Minister and the Mayors/Chairmen and the Chief Executives/Clerks of the Northern Ireland District Councils on 23 January 1995. You may wish to forward a copy to No 10: a draft covering letter to Rod Lyne is attached.
2. DOE(NI), DED, DANI and Central Secretariat officials will be meeting shortly to take forward the issues raised by the Councils at the meeting: a report will be prepared and submitted, through you, to Downing Street in due course.

(Signed: MTHM)

M T H MAXWELL

JG.15389

DRAFT LETTER FROM PS/SECRETARY OF STATE TO:

Rod Lyne Esq
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister
No 10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1 1AA

January 1995

Dear

PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE MAYORS/CHAIRMEN AND THE CHIEF
EXECUTIVES/CLERKS OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND DISTRICT COUNCILS:
23 JANUARY 1995

I attach a note of the meeting between the Prime Minister and the
Mayors/Chairmen and Chief Executives/Clerks of the 26 Northern
Ireland District Councils which was held in Downing Street on Monday
23 January.

Officials will be meeting shortly to arrange for follow-up on the
various issues raised by the Councils at the meeting. A further
report on the agreed follow-up action will be submitted to the Prime
Minister in due course.

PRIVATE SECRETARY

JG.15389

NOTE OF A MEETING BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE MAYORS/CHAIRMEN
AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES/CLERKS OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND DISTRICT
COUNCILS AT NO 10 DOWNING STREET ON MONDAY 23 JANUARY 1995

1. The list of those present at the meeting is attached at Annex A.

Prime Minister's Opening Remarks

2. In welcoming the party to Downing Street the Prime Minister said that he looked forward to hearing the Councils' ideas on how to make peace work on the ground. The prospect of peace was already boosting the local economy, a fact which was clearly evident on his last visit to Belfast for the International Investment Forum. A spectacular economic recovery was underway, but Northern Ireland needed more investment if the peace was to be underpinned: hence the rationale for the Belfast Investment Forum in December. Northern Ireland was now an exciting investment opportunity: some 20 new investment projects were now being explored.
3. However, Northern Ireland's prosperity depended on its own people. The leaders of the District Councils had a major role to play in local economic development, and in helping to heal community divisions. He sought to develop a process of close consultation, particularly on how to deploy the EU peace package. The Government particularly welcomed the views of the Councils on how to allocate these funds.
4. The Prime Minister then announced two initiatives:
 - the Government would introduce legislation soon to double the present provision of expenditure from the District rate on local economic development from 2p to 4p (further into the meeting he agreed to raise the limit to 5p); and

- the Government would increase the Resources element in the General Grant by £2m, from a total of £17.8m to just under £20m.

He also referred to the previous allocation of a further £5m to the Community Regeneration and Special Programme (CRISP) which would facilitate a further 25 projects in disadvantaged areas. He also announced an extension of the District Councils Community Relations Programme for a further three years.

5. Turning to the Joint Framework Document (JFD) the Prime Minister made four points. First, there was no question of the two Governments imposing a blueprint on the parties; the JFD contained proposals for negotiation. Second, the proposals were not yet completed; when they were finalised and published the people of Northern Ireland would be able to comment on them to the Government and to the political parties. Third, there would be no provision within the JFD for the exercise of joint authority by the British and Irish Governments over the affairs of Northern Ireland. And finally, the agreed outcome would be put to the people of Northern Ireland in a referendum. He concluded by saying that he hoped people would read the JFD with care before forming their own opinions.
6. The Prime Minister then invited the four designated speakers to make brief presentations in the areas of economic growth, urban and rural regeneration and finance.

Economic Growth (Alderman Hugh Smyth, Lord Mayor Belfast, PUP)

7. Alderman Smyth pointed out that Northern Ireland already had many of the building blocks for economic growth in place. These included a wide range of attractive investment incentives; a well trained and educated labour force; a well developed infrastructure; growing confidence in the local economy; a willingness of local industry to develop to new products and to

export; a vibrant and well-developed community and voluntary sector; and a strong democratic base at District Council level. To maximise the current goodwill and interest in the local economy, it was important to ensure that Northern Ireland was competing on a level playing field. Government policy towards incentive packages and corporation tax must be flexible enough to allow Northern Ireland to compete effectively with other countries and regions. District Councils had the civic responsibility of bringing together all the players and resources within the local community: with respect to his own city, Belfast, they were currently finalising their own Economic Development Strategy. He argued that District Councils were uniquely placed to play a central role in the area of local economic development in partnership with local groups and communities. He asked the Prime Minister to ensure that District Councils' role in this area was extended through greater involvement in both national and European economic development programmes: specifically he argued for more resources to be made available to District Councils through the European Local Economic Development Initiative.

Urban Regeneration (Councillor Jim Guy, Mayor Derry City Council, UUP)

8. Councillor Guy underlined the importance of partnerships. Many of Derry City Council's successes had been achieved by partnership involving the public, private and voluntary sectors: examples included the Craft Village and the triple award winning Tower Museum, achieved in partnership with the Inner City Trust, and the North West region economic strategy which covered 4 Councils in the North West of Ireland, including Donegal County Council. By such partnerships the Councils had been able to act as a local channel for job creation programmes, infrastructure projects and marketing campaigns. Councillor Guy also stressed the importance of early action on agreeing the principles to be attached to the European aid package, followed by tangible projects some of which should be people-centred. He

added that Councils must be financially able to respond to the peace process. This would entail a number of measures, including a high grant rate on EU assisted projects, block funding arrangements perhaps on a Regional Challenge basis, easement or abolition of the 2p limit on spending on economic development, and restoration of cuts in the General Grant. More resources for local economic development measures were also needed. Exceptional measures were required to do the job well.

Rural Regeneration (Councillor Gerry Gallaher, Fermanagh, SDLP)

9. Councillor Gallaher described briefly the work undertaken at local level to encourage and build community reconciliation, community development and community empowerment. He believed that some of the promised European aid package should be applied towards the needs of village environmental programmes of improvement, enhancement and regeneration. He also felt that there was a need to show young people that there were opportunities for them to contribute at home, and to do that jobs were needed: in this context the pilot Community Work Programme was welcome. Local economic development strategies were important in preparing a real bottom up approach: in preparing these his Council sought to involve the whole community in meaningful partnership. In rural areas the potential of rural development programmes, such as the EC Leader II programme, was significant, and he believed that the methodology applied to local economic development and partnership strategies could be applied also in the implementation of this programme. Fermanagh District Council was also keen to extend meaningful cross-border co-operation, and would be including a network strategy for cross-border projects in their own local economic development strategy. Tourism also was vital to the local economy, and would clearly need investment support, especially in marketing and accommodation provision. Continued support through the International Fund for Ireland would also be welcome.

Finance (Councillor Jim Nicholson, Armagh, UUP)

10. Councillor Nicholson put forward a number of specific proposals which encompassed the themes of economic development and social inclusion provided for in the European Union aid package. These were:

- an increase from 2p to 5p in the pound to be spent on local economic development;
- an extension of the pilot Community Work Programme to all District Council areas;
- a major job training creation programme. He believed that some 1,500 places could be provided within 6 months;
- special consideration to secure invitations to local government to attend the proposed economic conference in Washington on 18/19 May. In this context he felt that District Councils could play a useful ambassadorial role;
- new regeneration strategies involving partnerships between central government, local government and the business community, together with the appointment of Town Centre Managers;
- the introduction of a village and rural action programme;
- District Councils to be asked to act as suitable management agents for rural development programmes such as those which could be funded under Leader II;
- the introduction of block funding arrangements for the EU peace package; and

- the establishment of community development agencies made up of representatives from public and private sectors to undertake activities such as raising money, European funds, acquiring property, creating employment schemes, co-ordinating the efforts of the public and voluntary sectors, and emphasising physical reconstruction. On this he indicated that a detailed paper would be given to officials for further discussion.

Councillor Nicholson stressed the importance of partnerships and suggested that Government should extend existing Partnership Boards to other areas. He also was critical of the recent General Grant awards from the DOE(NI) which he claimed were penalising local government. Finally, Councillor Nicholson proposed a number of regional measures to boost the local economy, including the designation of the whole of Northern Ireland as an Enterprise Zone: more support for small and medium sized companies, a more sympathetic tax environment: more help for firms to exploit export markets: and higher priority attached in EU funding to economic development initiatives.

11. Following the four presentations the Prime Minister invited interventions from the floor.

Ards Borough Council (Alderman John Shields, UUP)

12. Alderman Shields made three points. First, on the distribution of the EU Peace package he argued that it would be a mistake to concentrate on areas of highest unemployment and those which have experienced the highest levels of investment to the exclusion of areas like Ards, which whilst not generally perceived as being deprived according to normal statistical analysis, had nevertheless large pockets of deprivation. For example, the Borough had large housing areas with 25% male unemployment. The town of Newtownards had also suffered major devastation through a terrorist bomb in 1993, and there had been a "sinister" increase in terrorist-related activity after that

time. On job creation, Alderman Shields said that he would like to see an extension of the pilot Community Work Programme to all District Council areas. Investment in long-term skilled jobs was required; in addition he felt that action was needed to increase the provision of venture capital, and investment in infrastructure. His own area would benefit from a comparatively small investment in the provision of a road to link two existing roads. Finally, Alderman Shields asked the Prime Minister to consider diverting some of the money released by the ending of violence to help Councils find the shortfall between funding and the total cost of economic development measures.

Coleraine Borough Council (Councillor David McClarty, UUP)

13. Councillor McClarty argued for an extension of Urban Development Grant scheme to areas other than Belfast and Londonderry. He also hoped that Councils would be involved in the use and disbursement of funds from the European peace package. He referred to the programme of economic development being pursued in Coleraine, and hoped that Government would allow Councils greater financial leeway to pursue such activities. He believed that there needed to be an ongoing programme for rural diversification and training, and advocated the role of tourism in the generation of employment opportunities. The promotion of tourism would, however, require an improvement in the quality of the physical environment.

Craigavon Borough Council (Councillor Brian Maguinness, UUP)

14. Councillor Maguinness believed that true prosperity was jobs and peace throughout all of Northern Ireland, and pressed for more help and assistance for Craigavon which had suffered from 4 massive bombs in the recent past. He referred to a perception that the East of the Bann was being neglected when aid was being given to the Province, and felt that this disparity needed to be addressed. He accepted the need for Partnership arrangements to be undertaken in the areas of urban and rural regeneration, and

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long term unemployment, but suggested that consideration also be given to including infrastructure schemes: in this context he said that the Centre of Craigavon needed a link to the M1 Motorway. With respect to the EU aid package he suggested that a separate body with Local Authority, and possibly other outside representation, should be set up to administer the package. He also argued for a higher EU grant rate than 75%, or Government help to Councils to find the difference between grant-aid and the total cost of projects.

Ballymena Borough Council (Councillor Rev Robert Coulter, UUP)

15. Councillor Coulter indicated that he had both fears and hopes for the future, but also reiterated the point made by Alderman Shields that those areas which had been relatively unaffected by bombings should not be excluded from Government expenditure on urban and rural regeneration schemes. He called for more favourable treatment from the planning authorities in respect of small businesses wishing to locate in the Ballymena area, and the need for equitable treatment and honesty in the distribution of the European Union assistance package. His perception was that the Eastern side of the Province had been neglected both in terms of investment and of public appointments. He felt that Councils were facilitators for economic development and should be given further involvement in economic development, and that there was a need for suitable infrastructure to encourage this. He was disappointed that no-one from the Ballymena area had been invited to the Belfast Investment Forum. He also advocated a moratorium on CCT to provide a breathing space for the District Councils, but believed that progress depended on building partnerships for the future.

Newry and Mourne District Council (Councillor Danny Kennedy, UUP)

16. Councillor Kennedy welcomed the announcements which the Prime Minister had made at the beginning of the meeting. He believed that the local Government system was the best vehicle for the

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distribution of the resources available to the Northern Ireland economy. His own Council had been involved in a number of cross-border initiatives at local level. His particular interests were in the upgrading of Newry Railway Station and the Newry Canal. He also advocated more emphasis on training schemes, and believed that Councils should take an important role at the Washington conference.

Banbridge (Councillor Walsh, Ind Nationalist)

17. Councillor Walsh welcomed the initiatives announced by the Prime Minister. He pointed out that Banbridge over the last 25 years had been relatively peaceful, and had not shown the normal signs of deprivation. For that reason he believed that his area had lost out on the monies which had been made available to disadvantaged areas. He argued that the entire Province should be regarded as a disadvantaged area. He expressed particular concern about the political significance of fewer jobs in the security forces who lived in the Banbridge Council area. He also advocated an urgent extension of the pilot Community Work Programme, and a meaningful role for District Councils in the Leader II programme.

Dungannon District Council (Councillor Jim Canning)

18. Councillor Canning put forward the case for a major programme of capital work to replace a number of schools which he regarded to be in a seriously dilapidated state in the area, and expressed concern at the closure of local schools. He also criticised the strict planning criteria which applied to urban regeneration. He highlighted the need for improvements to both urban and rural networks including additional pedestrian access. He drew particular attention to problems with unadopted roads: consideration should be given to a scheme to improve these. He suggested the appointment of Development Officers to deal with issues affecting community development, ie liaison with community groups. He also believed that funding should be

made available to gear up programmes of environmental enhancement in the area. He cited the need to support some cross border capital projects, such as the Blackwater scheme. Finally, in welcoming the increase in the District rate allocated to economic development, Councillor Canning suggested that the limit should apply as a percentage of revenue raised through the District Rate rather than an absolute limit, and made the point that finding even 25% of the capital required for any major initiative was extremely difficult, and perhaps impossible, for community-based organisations.

North Down (Councillor Rt Hon Roy Bradford, UUP)

19. Councillor Bradford said that he had felt a palpable measure of relief on hearing the Prime Minister's assurances about the JFD. His Council had invested over £7m in tourism in the area which had transformed the seafront at Bangor. However, there was a glaring gap in the shape of the seafront at Queens Parade, which was extremely dilapidated, and an eyesore. The Council had plans for a £17m development scheme, including an exhibition hall and theatre, to improve the appearance of the area. However, the £700k reduction by the DOE in the Resources element of the General Grant had taken the wind out of their sails, and would imply a rise of 7 to 8p in the District Rate. He appealed to the Prime Minister for further support to keep rate rises down, especially when he believed that Councils were not profligate in their expenditure.

Newtownabbey (Alderman Jim Robinson, UUP)

20. Alderman Robinson stressed the importance of the Hualon investment to the Newtownabbey area. He advocated an extension of the pilot Community Work Programme, and an extension of qualified training schemes for a period of 2-3 years.

Down (Councillor Jim Cochrane, UUP)

21. Councillor Cochrane referred to the fact that while his area had been relatively peaceful they had not escaped entirely from the troubles: since he had assumed Chairmanship of the Council the area had witnessed the Loughinisland disaster, the fatal shooting of the last victim of the IRA prior to the ceasefire and bomb damage in Downpatrick. He believed that his area was lacking in infrastructure, deprived of investment and very dependent on tourism, an industry which had suffered over the last 25 years. He felt that if Northern Ireland was to reap the benefits of peace, the tourism industry had to be assisted by increasing the level of grant-aid through a top-up scheme and the improvement of tourist access eg by improving tourist routes such as the Down coastal route linking North Down, Ards, Down and Newry with the main Euro routes. He added that if local economic development strategies were to be effective, the current method of assessing deprivation would have to be reviewed and new criteria agreed. He also pressed for a higher level of grant-aid to facilitate matching funding to ensure the success of these measures, particularly in the light of the cut in the resources element of the General Grant by DOE.

Omagh District Council (Councillor Wilfred Breen, UUP)

22. Councillor Breen suggested that the City Challenge concept developed in England offered a potential way forward to engage all parties in economic regeneration. He cited the Tyrone Economic Development Initiative (TEDI) and the North West Passage as examples of this. He felt that a Regional Challenge type partnership, enabling robust joint venture initiatives with the private sector, would have value in promoting local economic regeneration in Northern Ireland: a pilot scheme based on this model would be beneficial to the Omagh District Council area. He also advocated the need for a major hotel and better hospital provision in the area.

Larne Borough Council (Alderman Mrs Rosalie Armstrong, UUP)

23. Alderman Armstrong pointed to the loss of tourism accommodation in Larne during the troubles through the closure of 3 hotels. She felt that there was a need for an increase in the volume of quality, good value, and strategically placed hotel accommodation. At the same time it would be important to avoid duplication of marketing effort. She favoured an increase in funding dedicated to tourism. She also felt that energy costs were too high for local industry, and pressed for an examination of every possible means to prevent rises in energy costs, thereby protecting home industry and inward investment. She argued strongly for more nursery school provision, and the introduction of classroom assistants in primary schools.

Carrickfergus (Alderman S Crowe, Con)

24. Alderman Crowe said that he supported all of the points put forward by his colleagues. He called for further resources for District Councils to enable them to help the Government take forward their plans for Northern Ireland.

Limavady (Councillor Ian Grant, UUP)

25. Councillor Grant pointed to the high level of unemployment in his Council area, and to the high preponderance of public sector employment (mainly RUC, Prison Service and Army) in the area: between 1971 and 1991 those employed in the public sector within the Borough had grown by over 200%. He therefore appealed for special consideration to be given to areas such as Limavady when funding policies were being formulated. He also believed that the European Union's Physical and Social Environment Programme should be extended. Finally, there was a need for growth in the number of bed spaces and self catering facilities for tourists: he therefore asked that Government consider the introduction of grant-aid for the provision of family-owned and managed bed and breakfast and self-catering facilities in rural areas.

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Castlereagh (Alderman John Bell, UUP)

26. Councillor Bell praised the work of the District Councils and their forward looking attitudes towards the issues facing them. He drew attention to the need for real jobs for young people coming out of Northern Ireland's excellent education system. He agreed with the proposal that the whole of Northern Ireland should be designated as an Enterprise Zone. Finally, on a local issue he requested that the proposal submitted by his Council regarding the Forensic Laboratory site at Belvoir be considered sympathetically.
27. The Prime Minister then invited Mr Sam Magee, Chairman of SOLACE, to make a presentation. Mr Magee pointed out that essential local services had been provided to a high standard against a background of exceptional difficulty and management stress not experienced in any other area of the United Kingdom. This meeting was taking place at a time of unparalleled opportunity for all political representatives and officials to consider the important issues facing Northern Ireland in the light of the recent ceasefires. He pleaded for positive action in placing further confidence in the District Councils by providing more financial resources to counteract deprivation. Chief Executives, like elected representatives, had a clear picture of local requirements which would counteract the voids, and he gave an assurance that their full endeavours would be applied to establishing networks and partnerships with other statutory agencies and local associations to provide real alternatives for young people. He requested adequate resources for all Districts to break the cycle of despair brought about by lack of training needs, community affiliation processes, social and economic infrastructure: in response they would provide the energy and professional commitment necessary to make significant and immediate progress towards the goal on achieving peace and reconciliation.

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28. The Prime Minister thanked the Mayors/Chairmen and Mr Magee for putting across their thoughts clearly and concisely, and invited Ministers to respond to some of the general points made in their areas of responsibility.
29. On the subject of the European aid package Sir John Wheeler said that NI officials had now written to a whole range of interests representing the community in Northern Ireland, including District Councils, to keep them informed of progress on the initiative, and to prepare them for a wide process of consultation which will begin when the European Commission produces guidelines on the operation of the programme.
30. Baroness Denton reflected the fact that last month unemployment had fallen in each of the District Council areas: this was good news. She looked forward to receiving the Councils' economic development strategies, and to building on these. She recognised that there were concerns about the pilot Community Work programme, and would be happy to work with the Councils to iron these out. The Belfast Investment Forum had been a major success, although she acknowledged the disappointment felt by those who had not been invited to the Conference. The Government's intention was to generate wealth creation and investment in order to promote new employment opportunities. She also wished to attract successful companies and hotel groups. She recognised the concerns about energy prices, and her Department would continue to look for ways of keeping energy costs down.
31. Mr Moss referred to the additional £2m of General Grant which the Prime Minister had announced, and which represented a 7% growth on the Resources element of the General Grant over last year. On the EU aid package he anticipated that proposals would be called for in April, and that a prioritisation exercise would be undertaken. It was important that the priority projects should get chosen, and that there was a fair distribution of assistance across the Province. The key word which he took away

from the meeting was partnerships. He greatly enjoyed his regular visits to the District Councils, and had set himself the task of visiting all Councils as quickly as possible.

32. The Secretary of State said that he had greatly profited from listening to the various contributions. He was interested in the thought that the Councils might play an ambassadorial role in helping Government agencies to attract new investment, and he agreed with that. He was in favour of overseas visits by District Councils; in his view there should be more of this, and he would look at ways in which they might be helped. His Department wished to assist the District Councils to promote economic and social progress in their areas in whatever way possible.
33. Summing up the discussion the Prime Minister thanked the Mayors/Chairmen and Clerks/Chief Executives for coming to Downing Street, particularly the 4 introductory presenters. Ministers would pick up all the points which the Councils had made. He found the discussion doubly useful in that he had learned a great deal about what District Councils were thinking on the ground.
34. More generally the Prime Minister said that he would like all the people of Northern Ireland to reap the benefits of peace, although there was a need to focus on areas of disadvantage. He appreciated, however, that there were other areas which were not generally perceived as being deprived according to normal statistical criteria, and that these needed assistance also. Finally, he pointed out that while a maximum grant rate of 75% had been set for the EU aid package there was provision for a higher grant rate under the "social inclusion" part of the package. The relevant NI Departments would consult further with the Councils about the grant rate, and about any difficulties which Councils would have in finding matching funds.

35. The meeting finished at 6.45pm. A reception followed.

Ministers

(Signed: MTHM)

Sir Patrick Mayhew

M T H MAXWELL ler

Michael Antram

Baroness Denton

Mr Malcolm Moss

Officials

Mr D Fell, Head of NI Civil Service

Mr R Spence, (DOX(NI))

Mr N Hamilton, (DOX(NI))

Mr D McNeill, (DANI)

Mr P Bell, (NIO)

Mr C Maccabe, (NIO)

Mr W Hamilton, (DES)

Mr M Maxwell, (Central Secretariat)

Mr R Lyne (Downing Street)

Mrs P McAuley, (Central Secretariat)

Mr M Howard, PS/Secretary of State

COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN/MAYOR

CLERK/EXECUTIVE

Antrim BC

Cllr Edgar Wallace

Mr Sam Magee (Chairman
of SOLACE)

Ards BC

Ald John Shields

Mr David Fellows

Armagh BC

Cllr Jim Nicholson

Mr Des Mitchell

Ballymena BC

Rev Robert Coulter

Mr Harvyn Rankin

Ballymoney BC

Cllr Cecil Cousley

S/A

Banbridge BC

Cllr James Walsh

Mr Robert Gilmore

Belfast CC

Ald Hugh Smyth

Mr Brian Hanna

Carrickfergus BC

Ald Samuel Crowe

Mr Raymond Boyd

Castlereagh BC

Ald John Bell

Mr Jim White

Coleraine BC

Cllr David McClarty

Mr Eddie Andrews

Cookstown BC

Cllr Samuel Glasgow

Mr Michael McDuckin

Derry BC

Cllr David McClarty

Mr Eric McKinley

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GUEST LIST

ANNEX A

Ministers

Prime Minister
 Sir Patrick Mayhew
 Sir John Wheeler
 Michael Ancram
 Baroness Denton
 Mr Malcolm Moss

Officials

Mr D Fell, Head of NI Civil Service
 Mr R Spence, (DOE(NI))
 Mr N Hamilton, (DOE(NI))
 Mr D McNeill, (DANI)
 Mr P Bell; (NIO)
 Mr C Maccabe, (NIO)
 Mr W Hamilton, (DED)
 Mr M Maxwell, (Central Secretariat)
 Mr R Lyne (Downing Street)
 Mrs P McAuley, (Central Secretariat)
 Mr M Howard, PS/Secretary of State

COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN/MAYOR

CLERK/EXECUTIVE

Antrim BC

Cllr Edgar Wallace

Mr Sam Magee (Chairman
 of SOLACE)

Ards BC

Ald John Shields

Mr David Fallows

Armagh DC

Cllr Jim Nicholson

Mr Des Mitchell

Ballymena BC

Rev Robert Coulter

Mr Mervyn Rankin

Ballymoney BC

Cllr Cecil Cousley

N/A

Banbridge DC

Cllr James Walsh

Mr Robert Gilmore

Belfast CC

Ald Hugh Smyth

Mr Brian Hanna

Carrickfergus BC

Ald Samuel Crowe

Mr Raymond Boyd

Castlereagh BC

Ald John Bell

Mr Jim White

Coleraine BC

Cllr David McClarty

Mr Eddie Andrews

Cookstown DC

Cllr Samuel Glasgow

Mr Michael McGuckin

Craigavon BC

Cllr Brian Maguinness

Mr Eric McKinley

COUNCIL	CHAIRMAN/MAYOR	CLERK/CHIEF EXECUTIVE
- Derry CC	Cllr James Guy	Mr John Keanie
- Down DC	Cllr Jim Cochrane	Mr Owen O'Connor
- Dungannon DC	Cllr Jim Brady/ Cllr Jim Canning	Mr William Beattie
- Fermanagh DC	Cllr Gerry Gallagher	Mr Gerry Burns
- Larne BC	Ald Rosalie Armstrong	Mr George McKinley
- Limavady BC	Cllr Ian Grant	Mr John Stevenson
- Lisburn BC	Cllr Harry Lewis	Mr Maurice Fielding
- Magherafelt DC	Cllr Bertie Montgomery	Mr John McLaughlin
- Moyle DC	Cllr Robert McIlroy	Mr Richard Lewis
- Newry & Mourne DC	Cllr Danny Kennedy	Mr Kevin O'Neill
- Newtownabbey BC	Ald Jim Robinson	Mr John Campbell
- North Down BC	Cllr Rt Hon Roy Bradford	Mr Adrian McDowell
- Omagh DC	Cllr Wilfred Breen	Mr John McKinney
- Strabane DC	Cllr Edward Turner	Dr Victor Eakin