



Northern Ireland Office
Block B, Castle Buildings
Belfast BT4 3SG

Professor Monica Williams
Northern Ireland Woman's Coalition
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST
BT4 3XX

15 February 1999

Dear Monica

**THE NORTHERN IRELAND (MODIFICATION of ENACTMENTS - No 1)
ORDER 1999**

As part of the legislation required to implement new structures of government in Northern Ireland and as a result of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, an Order in Council is needed to introduce consequential amendments in a number of existing enactments.

The draft Order would in the main make provision for enactments which require amendment or repeal as a direct result of the new arrangements. It would also transfer to the appropriate transferred authority in the new administration, gubernatorial powers which are currently vested in the Secretary of State. The other main feature in the draft Order is a savings provision for statutory rules made before devolution.

I would like to provide you with the opportunity to comment on a draft of the Order. Also enclosed is an Explanatory Document which provides more detail on the rationale behind the proposals. It is my intention to have this Order made at Privy Council on 10 March. In order to allow for the required parliamentary procedures before that, I would welcome any comments you have by 19 February.

MARJORIE MOWLAM