

SPEAKING NOTE FOR THE TAOISEACH

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- Grateful for your quick reaction to Manchester bomb and subsequent statements.
- Fear there will be more attacks, here and in Northern Ireland. But difficult to be sure.
- Delighted that two governments so obviously stand together in rejection of violence and pressure on Sinn Fein to decide whether it wants to be a genuine political party. Likelihood of a split at some stage?
- This pressure must be maintained in different ways.
- From you, from us, from the Americans.
- And from a full commitment by all concerned to the success of the talks in Belfast. Doubly important to ensure they go ahead successfully. Reasonably encouraged so far, despite all the difficulties.
- Not ruling out Sinn Fein joining at some stage. But as you have said, they will have to satisfy everyone that any new ceasefire is credible and lasting. Can be no instant entry.
- Must also step up pressure on the security front. Doing all we can here, on mainland and in Northern Ireland.

- Want to be absolutely sure we have covered all the angles in security cooperation with you - not only across the North-South border, but East-West too because of mainland campaign - including transit from the Republic to the UK.
- Know RUC and Garda in close touch. But also propose that John Chilcott and Tim Dalton should review intensively existing cooperation and make proposals as necessary.
- Happy to refer to such an exercise publicly, in low key, without raising expectations of e.g. great new initiative on internment.
- Stay in close touch. Let us not be knocked off course by more violence if it comes.

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