

Ulster Unionist Council

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Ulster Unionist Party

Press Release

Date: 18 August 1997

Time: Immediate

Consultation Process - Political Situation

Statement issued by Dermot Nesbitt (UUP Talks delegate) regarding the present stage of the Consultation Process

"The Ulster Unionist party has commenced the consultation process by having a number of meetings with the business community. They were very positive and constructive. I believe that all participants at these meetings gained from the process. It is fully our intention that this positive beginning continues throughout the process.

This week we commence a series of meetings with community and voluntary groups. In order to avoid any possibility of subjective selection, thirty six groups were selected by computer. The criteria used were: spread by type and geography; and size by financial turnover and number of members. In this way we hope to gain a genuine cross-section view from the community. I emphasise the point that we have not selected participant groups in order to hear a particular view.

We are thus participating in a genuine process of consultation and dialogue. We are in both a listening mode and also conveying a clear positive message from the Ulster Unionist Party."

Contact Point:

Enquiries regarding this statement can be made today (Monday) between 8.30am and 10.30am by calling 01396 - 831561 or thereinafter Jim Wilson's Office at UUP IIQ (01232 - 324601)