

IN CONFIDENCE

FROM: Paul Murphy, MP
TO: Participating political parties
DATE: 16 January 1998

STRAND 1 MEETING ON 19 JANUARY, 11 AM

The plenary agreed that we should meet at 11 am on 19 January to consider the Propositions on Heads of Agreement tabled on behalf of the British and Irish Governments on 12 January; and that the Chair should make proposals regarding the detailed arrangements for the meeting.

2. I suggest we meet in the small conference room on the fifth floor, with up to two delegates and two supporters per party.
3. I propose that we should have a general debate of those aspects of the Propositions which are relevant to Strand 1, with a view to identifying a programme of work for the next few weeks which ensures that we cover all the key issues of concern to participants. I will have some proposals to make but it would be helpful if parties could also identify the issues they think we should aim to cover and the papers which might be required to facilitate those discussions.
4. In response to the UUP request made at Tuesday's plenary, I attach a factual background paper on the proposed arrangements for devolution to Scotland and Wales, which I trust will be of value to parties in preparing for Monday's meeting.
5. Also attached, for your consideration, are the draft minutes of the Strand One meeting on 10 November 1997
6. I look forward to seeing you on Monday.

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