

cc GH

cc: PS/Secretary of State (L&B) - B
 PS/Sir John Wheeler (L&B) - B
 PS/Michael Ancram (L&B) - B
 PS/PUS (L&B) - B
 PS/Sir David Fell - B
 Mr Thomas - B
 Mr Bell - B
 Mr Blackwell - B
 Mr Leach - B
 Mr Watkins - B
 Mr Wood (L&B) - B
 Mr Beeton - B
 Mrs Brown - B
 Mr Carson, Forum Sec - B
 Mr D J R Hill - B
 Mr Lavery - B
 Mr Maccabe - B
 Mr Stephens - B
 Mr Whysall - B
 Mr P Dickinson - B
 Mr Clayton, HOLAB - B
 Mr McCartney, DFP Sols - M
 Mr Brearley - B
 Mr Campbell Bannerman - B

4 June 1996

The Secretary of State has also written in similar terms to:

Cllr Dr John Alderdice
 Alliance Party

Cllr Mark Langhammer
 Labour

Robert McCartney QC MP
 UK Unionist Party

David Trimble MP
 Ulster Unionist Party

John Hume MP
 SDLP

Cllr Gary McMichael
 Ulster Democratic Party

Alderman Hugh Smyth
 Progressive Unionist Party

Ms Monica McWilliams
 Northern Ireland Women's Coalition

Head of our Talks Administration Unit, Mr Peter Dickinson.
 His telephone number is 01232 522128 and his fax number
 01232 522113.

The Reverend Dr Ian R K Paisley MP MEP
91 Dundela Avenue
BELFAST
BT4 3BU

4 June 1996

Dear Ian,

Under the terms of section 2 of the Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc) Act 1996 I am writing to you as the nominating representative of a party which has been successful in the elections, to invite you to nominate a team to participate in the negotiations beginning next Monday. I will be in touch further about arrangements for the negotiations.

The negotiating team must under the Act be composed of delegates returned at the elections. There is no limit to the number of delegates who may be included. The Ground Rules for the negotiations agreed by the two governments would however generally limit a party's team for any one meeting to three (with a further three people, who need not be elected, in support if they wish).

SIGNED

We need to make arrangements with all speed. It would be helpful if your nomination could be passed to me as quickly as possible, and in any event no later than 6 June, via the head of our Talks Administration Unit, Mr Peter Dickinson. His telephone number is 01232 522128 and his fax number 01232 522119.

PQ REPLY

To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, if he will make a statement about nominations to the forthcoming political negotiations, and about progress in setting up the forum established by the Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc) Act 1998.

It would be convenient also if Mr Dickinson could be notified as soon as possible after you receive this letter of the name of a person with whom he should be in contact (a colleague, or indeed yourself if you wish) over initial administrative arrangements for the negotiations. representatives of the following parties:

I am enclosing for your information a copy of a response I propose to give tomorrow to a parliamentary question about nominations to the negotiations.

Democratic Unionist Party - DUP

I also enclose a note about the allowances which the two Governments intend to pay to delegates, in respect of the meetings in the relevant strands.

Northern Ireland Women's Coalition

We shall be in touch further about arrangements for the negotiations. UUP

I believe we are embarking on a process of dialogue with great potential to improve the lives and prospects of the people of Northern Ireland, and of everyone in these two islands. I look forward very much to your contribution.

Ulster Democratic Party (UDP)

Ulster Unionist Party (SIGNED)

I am required by section 2(3) P.M the Act to refrain from inviting nominations in respect of any party if I consider that requirements set out in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Ground Rules for substantive all-party negotiations (published as command paper 3232) are not met in relation to it. Paragraph 3 of the Ground Rules makes clear the