

FROM SPEAKER'S OFFICE

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Speaker's House Westminster London SW1A 0AA

8 July 1997

Dear Mr Adams.

Thank you for your letter of 4 July.

My statement on 14 May, of which I enclose a full copy for your information, made clear the reasons why House of Commons facilities will not be made available to Members who choose not to take their seats. I draw your attention in particular to the second paragraph. Those who do not take up their democratic responsibilities as Members at Westminster should not have access to the facilities that are made available to assist Members who do.

My decision stands. But I shall of course be willing to see you and Mr McGuinness if you wish. I am sure you will understand, however, that my programme is fully committed to the end of July: any meeting would therefore have to take place after the summer recess.

*Yours sincerely,**Deirdre Docking*

Speaker

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