

## NORTHERN IRELAND GRAND COMMITTEE

There is already a Grand Committee for Northern Ireland, as for Scotland and Wales. It normally meets twice a year. Following reforms to the Scottish and Welsh Committees, the Government now propose to consult the Northern Ireland political parties about similar changes to the Northern Ireland Committee.

These might include:

- more frequent meetings, including some in Northern Ireland, and more general debates during these meetings;
- NIO Ministers making statements and taking questions in the Committee regularly, and other departmental Ministers with responsibilities covering Northern Ireland doing so occasionally;
- NIO Ministers making a formal statement to the Committee on public expenditure plans in the Province, in place of the present briefing arrangements;