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AVL.

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Dear Adam,

Thank you for your letter of 3 September about the role of HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Northern Ireland.

I am happy to agree, in principle, to extending the statutory role of HMIC for England and Wales to Northern Ireland. This is, of course, on the understanding that the Northern Ireland Office will meet the full cost of these inspections as indeed happens currently for inspections which HMIC carry out in Northern Ireland on a non-statutory basis. I would be content for this to be covered in your proposed Police Bill for Northern Ireland when this is introduced.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, members of IN Committee and to Sir Robin Butler.

Yours ever,

Jack

JACK STRAW