

RESTRICTED - POLICY



ST ANDREW'S HOUSE
EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

The Rt Hon Jack Straw MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department
Home Office
50 Queen Anne's Gate
LONDON
SW1H 9AT

16 October 1997

Dear Jack,

**REFORM OF THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM LEGISLATION AND FUTURE
OF EXCLUSION ORDERS**

Thank you for copying to me your minute of 6 October to the Prime Minister.

I agree with your analysis of the situation and support your proposal that the Government should publish a consultation document early in the New Year on the options for permanent counter-terrorism legislation. I note your intention to revoke all remaining exclusion orders if the IRA ceasefire continues to hold and would agree with that approach. I have seen Ann Taylor's suggestion of an oral statement to Parliament and given the sensitivity of these matters, I think this is a sensible proposition.

I am copying this letter to members of IN, Ann Taylor and to Sir Robin Butler.

Yours sincerely,
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Donald Dewar".
DONALD DEWAR