



Minister of State

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Lord Irvine of Lairg  
Lord Chancellor  
House of Lords  
London SW1A 0PW

4 December 1997

*Dear Deny*

**POLICE (NORTHERN IRELAND) BILL - CLEARANCE FOR INTRODUCTION**

You and other colleagues will be aware of the need to have a Police Bill this session, in order to achieve the momentum necessary on police reform to secure both increased public confidence and to enable essential efficiency measures to be made. The Secretary of State spoke to Ann Taylor this morning to say that the Bill was now needed urgently. Ann has very kindly agreed that if we could get Legislative Committee clearance by 5.00 pm today, then the Bill could be introduced today with second reading in the week commencing 15 December. With apologies to you and copy recipients for the short notice, therefore, I should be grateful if you could agree to the introduction of this Bill.

A Legislative Committee Memorandum, copy of the Bill and Explanatory and Financial Memorandum are attached. As you will recall, policy clearance has already been received from IN and HS Committees.

I am copying this letter to members of QFL, LEG, IN, First Parliamentary Counsel and Sir Robin Butler.

*Yours Asa*  
*Adam*

ADAM INGRAM JP MP  
Minister of State