BRIEFING NOTE

FROM ALASTAIR CAMPBELL

copies to John Holmes

Siobhan Kenny

NIO Duty Officer (

(This takes in comments from Mo Mowlam. I will brief some time tomorrow. Mo and I will discuss and agree exact time tomorrow).

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN

A Sinn Fein delegation will meet the Prime Minister and the Northern Ireland Secretary in Downing Street on 11 December.

This will be the second meeting between the Prime Minister and Sinn Fein.

Mr Blair is determined to drive forward the peace process, and believes it is vital to keep up momentum.

The meeting will focus in detail on the state of the talks process at Stormont, which the Prime Minister believes is beginning to show what can happen when dialogue replaces violence. He and the Secretary of State will take the opportunity to stress once more the absolute necessity of a continuing commitment to exclusively peaceful means.

Mr Adams will be treated exactly the same as other leaders involved in the peace process. The Prime Minister does not normally take part in photocalls at such meetings, and there will be no exception to that for this meeting.

Mr Adams, like anyone else who visits the Prime Minister, will be entitled to address the media in the Street afterwards.

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