

RESTRICTED - POLICY



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From the Private Secretary

12 February 1998

Dear Jenny,

LEGAL AID REFORMS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The Prime Minister was grateful for the Lord Chancellor's minute of 21 January about the changes he proposes to make to the legal aid system in Northern Ireland.

Subject to the views of others, not least Treasury Ministers, the Prime Minister would be content for the Lord Chancellor to proceed with these changes, the thrust of which he welcomes. However, he has noted that as with the legal aid reforms in the rest of the UK, they will need very careful handling and he would be grateful to be kept in touch with developments.

I am copying this letter to Ken Lindsay (NIO), Peter Schofield (HM Treasury), David Seymour (Legal Secretariat) and Jan Polley (Cabinet Office).

Yours,

Angus

ANGUS LAPSLEY

Ms Jenny Rowe,
The Lord Chancellor's Department.

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