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CRITICAL PATH ANALYSIS (last update 26 March 1998)

Week Commencing	The Agreement & Referendum - Key Stages	Other Significant Events Square Brackets indicate provisional
23 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive Talks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * show parties the text of the draft Referendum Order • Finalise propriety issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23rd: HMI Prisons' inspection of HMP Maze commences • 22/23rd: Visit to NI by SoS for Wales • 23rd: SoS at NI Partnership Conf. • 24/5th: decision on Springvale, followed by public announcement on Springvale & Odyssey • 25/26th: judicial review of the Fisher & Wright case • 26/27th: SoS & Mr Murphy at BIA Young Politicians Conference
30 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive Talks • notify Whips of dates for Referendum Order & Elections Bill debates (w/c 20 & 27 April) plus send draft Order to officials at JCSI • voter information leaflet drop • draft plans on preparing the NIO for devolution ready • proposals on accommodation, staffing & finance for new Assembly with Ministers [DoE & DFP] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27th: Commissioner for the Holding Centres Annual Report published • HMI Prisons inspection of HMP Maze concludes • 31st: Launch of Vision Statement for Londonderry • 31st: L.Dubs spkg at Local Government Conference. • 1st: SoS giving evidence to NI Affairs Committee on RUC • 2nd: publication of Narey report • 3rd: Saville Tribunal in Derry • 3rd: Parades Comm announces its formal, legally binding, decision on an ABD parade on the Ormeau Road
6 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9th: TALKS END. ANNOUNCE AGREEMENT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 April: launch of New Deal • 8th: Commons rise • 9th: Lords rise
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final text of Command Paper to HMSO for printing 	

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13 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Command Paper laid before Parliament & published • draft British/Irish Agreement signed • Irish legislation introduced. • circulate guidance on propriety issues [IPL & DFP] • [draft Prisoners Bill ready] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firearms consultation paper published
20 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referendum Order & Elections Bill debated in both Houses. • copies of Agreement distributed to households. • [Order to extinguish the NI Forum] • 22nd: Irish legislation passed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter • 13th Apprentice Boys - Ormeau Road • 20th: Parliament returns • 23rd: Parades Comm announces preliminary, non-binding view on a number of contentious parades including Drumcree • 26th: Orange Widows - Ormeau Road
27 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29th: Referendum Order & Elections Bill signed/[Royal Assent] • 1st: Start of Referendum Campaign • poll cards sent out. • scrutiny of absent voter forms. 	
4 May		
11 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • postal ballot papers sent out. • [Election Order] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [review of emergency legislation published]
18 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22nd: REFERENDUM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [visit of President Clinton]
25 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25th: start of Election Campaign • establish Policing commission (no legislation required) 	
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Rule renewal (expires mid-July) • 12th: end of consultation period on Equality White Paper • finalise programme for consultation and other purposive activity by the Assembly before it assumes its real responsibilities • Assembly building (& other logistical support) ready 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 June: "Tour of the North" parade • 27 June: "Whiterock" parade

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