

BRUTON: NORTHERN IRELAND: CHECKLIST

Hume/Adams

- Understand your feelings about our decision to publish, but no choice: conspiracy theories running riot.
- And could not have changed our position anyway.
- Has calmed position here enormously and improved prospects of progress in the talks on decommissioning.
- Want a ceasefire and inclusive talks. Much better.
- But cannot set a date for Sinn Fein entry. Depends on IRA/Sinn Fein words and actions.
- Have not moved goalposts: simply made clearer our understanding of paras 8 and 9 of Groundrules paper.
- If there is a ceasefire, will assess IRA/Sinn Fein's words and actions in all good faith.
- Do not want you to make unreasonable promises to Sinn Fein. Realise they do not trust us. But the only way forward is for them to declare a ceasefire and try us.

Decommissioning

- Very keen to break through impasse before Christmas.

- Get on to real political discussions in New Year. Would be a great incentive for Sinn Fein too.
- Chairman may be able to help. But his proposals have to be saleable to at least the UUP.
- Believe proposals on the lines of ours - with independent Commission having a significant but not dominant role - offer a way forward.
- Fully compatible with Mitchell.
- So please support if you can.

Anglo-Irish Relations

- Happy with development. Robinson visit a highlight.
- Hope we can issue short text focusing on more youth cooperation.
- No difficulty with better RTE reception (but not for our taxpayers to pay).