

Headquarters

88 University Street Belfast BT7 1HE

Tel. (01232) 324274 Fax. (01232) 333147 e-mail alliance_party@cix.compulink.co.uk

"PRESS RELEASE"

Friday 15 November

Alderdice to meet Taoiseach on Monday

The Alliance Leader, Lord Alderdice, will not be present at the Plenary session of the Talks at Castle Buildings on Monday 18 November as he will be in Dublin for a meeting with the Taoiseach John Bruton.

As the debate on decomissioning continues at the Stormont Talks, the Alliance negotiating team are seeking to promote their proposals on the issue as offering the only realistic possibility for an agreement which would allow the negotiations to move on to substantive issues.

In advance of Monday's meeting Lord Alderdice said:

"The resolution of the decommissioning problem is in sight. We should grasp it and then move with all speed into the substantive political negotiations. Waiting around endlessly for the agreement of the extremes on either side is a recipe for stalemate rather than success"

The meeting will take place at Government Buildings at 11.30am on Monday 18 November. Lord Alderdice will attend the meeting alone, with the remaining members of the Alliance Talks Team remaining at Castle Buildings. Any enquiries should be directed to the Alliance Party Press Officer, Richard Good, on 0468 151972.

N.B. Richard Good has replaced Paul McErlean as Press Officer for the Alliance Party. His contact numbers are as follows:

Alliance Headquarters:

01232 324274

Mobile:

0468 151972

Pager:

01426 245779