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" P R E S S R E L E A S E "

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Alderdice In Round Of Meetings

The Alliance Leader Lord Alderdice is today meeting with the Secretary of State in Belfast, with the Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and John Bruton, the leader of the opposition in Dublin.

The meeting with the Secretary of State, which takes place at Parliament buildings at 2.30pm, was requested by John Alderdice.

He is seeking to ensure that in the legislation which will follow the referendum there is a statutory responsibility laid down to ensure that victims are made aware of the arrangements and release times of any prisoners responsible for the crimes which affected them.

Lord Alderdice will be accompanied to the meeting by Councillor Steve McBride, Alliance Justice Spokesperson, who said before the meeting:

"We must ensure that our concern for the victims, so clearly expressed by many politicians in recent weeks, is written into legislation which will follow a 'Yes' vote in the referendum on Friday."

The meeting with John Bruton will take place at Dublin Airport at 5.45 pm and the meeting with the Taoiseach will take place at his office at 7.30pm.

Speaking in advance of the Dublin meetings, Lord Alderdice said:

"These meetings are part of a continuing exercise following on from the Agreement on April 10, intended to ensure that we get a clear yes vote in the referendum both North and South, and that we move swiftly towards establishing the structures set out within the Agreement."

For further information contact Alliance Press Officer Richard Good on 0468 151792 (Mobile), 01426 245779 (Pager) or Lord Alderdice's Parliamentary Advisor, Mr. Niall Johnston, on 0973 561175 (Mobile).