

SECRET AND PERSONAL
NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
WHITEHALL
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POINTS TO MAKE

- Very grateful for your efforts on this matter, and for your advance warning that you would have a new text today. Would like to have your assessment of that text and of the Taoiseach's position.
- You kindly offered to speak to Mr Molyneaux if we judged the time was right. May we clarify - have you discussed this with Mr Molyneaux? Have you said anything to the Taoiseach about Molyneaux's reactions to the Declaration? [Patrick Mayhew mentioned to you that we had shown Mr Molyneaux an earlier draft - did you mention that to the Taoiseach?]
- We have been considering other approaches to this and would like to show you a version we have drafted. It has not been shown to the Irish but, if they agreed, would be delivered following my meeting with the Taoiseach in Dublin in early December. [Show draft Dublin Statement - not for retention] Do you agree that this would be more acceptable to the Protestant community in Northern Ireland?
- I must give these matters further consideration. Very grateful for your help. For the moment I think there is nothing more I can ask you to do, but I will, of course, keep you in touch with further developments.