

HANDLING PLAN

1. Text: press release
laid before House
publication - distribution to all households?
printed in adverts?

2. Prebriefing: speak in advance to?

Hume)

Kilfedder) SofS?

Alderdice)

Archbishop) M Ancram

Cardinal)

NIO Ministers

and PPS's - Mtg first thing Wednesday?

3. Briefing of opinion-formers:

- Letter to key opinion formers

- priority for phone calls

- list for SofS

M Ancram

- Backbenchers: NI Cons Party?

4. Media:

- Division of responsibilities between PM, SofS,
M Ancram

- Talk to local editors? (M Ancram)

- Follow-up with media over weekend

5. Briefing Notes

We already have:

- Opening Statement for PM's press conference
- question and answer briefing
- key briefing lines, including concessions by Irish and 'what's not in JD'.
- annotated version of JD.

Anything more needed?

6. Your programme

Assume Wednesday am meeting and Wednesday pm Parliamentary Statement:

- Stay in London for statement?
- After statement:
 - stay in London to see backbenchers, do national TV, local TV down line
- OR
- back to Belfast for evening local TV, return to London early next morning for Cabinet
- Later in week?