



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE  
WHITEHALL  
LONDON SW1A 2AZ

Stephen Wall Esq  
No 10 Downing Street

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*Dear Stephen*

**MEETING WITH THE TAOISEACH: POLITICAL TALKS**

I attach briefing, in the form of points to make and a short background note, on the current political talks. I also attach a draft section for the Communique.

One of the main Irish concerns about further postponement of the next Conference meeting is the number of security co-operation and confidence issues which they claim are not being addressed in the meantime. I also attach some briefing on these.

Copies go to Richard Gozney and Melanie Leech.

*Yours ever*

W R FITTALL