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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

11 January 1980

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of 31 December covering your party's proposals for systems of devolved and local government in Northern Ireland. I have read them with interest and have passed a copy to Humphrey Atkins.

I cannot help thinking that it is a pity that you are not present at the Conference in Belfast where discussion of just the issues raised by your proposals is now taking place. I know that they have received wide publicity and the Conference can be expected to be well aware of what they contain. But it could well be helpful for Humphrey to table your proposals in their entirety at the Conference, and I should be grateful if you would confirm to him that you would have no objection to his doing so.

Yours ever

*James Callaghan*

J. H. Molyneux, Esq., J.P., M.P.