



file
Shaby
cc PC
SS

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

27 July 1984

TRANSFER OF POWER TO MAKE REGULATIONS UNDER THE JURIES
(NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1974 TO THE LORD CHANCELLOR

The Prime Minister has considered the Northern Ireland Secretary's minute of 25 July on this subject. She agrees that the powers at present vested in the Northern Ireland Secretary under the Juries (Northern Ireland) Order 1974 to make regulations for purposes connected with the summoning and attendance of Jurors should be transferred to the Lord Chancellor. She also agrees that the transfer should be included in a Juries (Northern Ireland) Order under the Northern Ireland Act 1974.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

C D Powell

Graham Sandiford, Esq.,
Northern Ireland Office

SS



PRIME MINISTER

Prime Minister ⁽¹⁾
Agree?
Yes ✓ CDP 26/7

TRANSFER OF POWER TO MAKE REGULATIONS UNDER THE JURIES (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1974 TO THE LORD CHANCELLOR

Under the Juries (Northern Ireland) Order 1974, power is vested in the Secretary of State to make regulations for purposes connected with the summoning and attendance of jurors and to prescribe days for selection and inspection of Juror's Lists and the arrangement of lists and forms of notice and medical certificate. It is proposed, subject to your approval, to transfer these powers to the Lord Chancellor.

The transfer will make clear that administrative responsibility for juries in Northern Ireland rests with the Lord Chancellor by transferring the responsibility given to me by the 1974 Order, which was not dealt with when responsibility for courts administration was transferred to the Lord Chancellor by the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978. These are responsibilities which fall to the Lord Chancellor in England and Wales and this therefore is a final instalment of the transfer agreed and implemented in 1978.

If you agree, the transfer can be included in a Juries (Northern Ireland) Order which is being drafted under the Northern Ireland Act 1974, rather than in a separate order under the Ministers of the Crown Act 1975.

The Lord Chancellor agrees to the transfer and there will be no transfers of staff or money required.

I am copying this to the Lord Chancellor and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

J.P.

J. P.