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Robin Newton MLA  
The Speaker  
Northern Ireland Assembly  
Stormont  
Belfast  
BT4 3XX

9 January 2020

Dear Robin

I have been engaging intensively in political talks with the Northern Ireland parties since before Christmas with the aim of getting Stormont back up and running.

I have today published a deal based on those discussions, which I believe provides a fair, balanced, and clear basis on which to restore the Institutions immediately.

I have urged all parties to now accept that deal, and to return to the Assembly to nominate a First and deputy First Minister, fill all vacant Ministerial offices, and restore the Executive. I believe this deal provides a sufficient basis for a meeting of the Assembly on Friday to take Executive reformation forward.

On behalf of Her Majesty's Government, I therefore request that you now make arrangements for an urgent meeting of the Assembly tomorrow, Friday, so that the Institutions can be fully restored immediately.

Yours sincerely,

**RT HON JULIAN SMITH CBE MP**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND**