



Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland
Northern Ireland Office
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Rt Hon Nick Thomas-Symonds MP
Minister for the Cabinet Office
His Majesty's Paymaster General
Cabinet Office,
70 Whitehall
London SW1A 2AS

4 March 2026

Dear Ministers,

Government response to Northern Ireland after Brexit: Strengthening Northern Ireland's voice in the context of the Windsor Framework

Thank you for your response of 6 February 2026 to the Northern Ireland Scrutiny Committee's Report, *Northern Ireland After Brexit: Strengthening Northern Ireland's Voice in the Context of the Windsor Framework*.

The Committee considered this response at its meeting of 11 February and is launching a short Follow-up inquiry to examine some of the recent announcements made in the Government's responses to the Committee and to Lord Murphy's Independent Review of the Windsor Framework.

The Committee heard evidence from business stakeholders on the One Stop Shop, the new Northern Ireland Business Stakeholder Group, as well as general issues in relation to business experience and engagement with the Windsor Framework on 4 March and will hear further evidence on 11 March.

In the meantime, as part of our investigation of these issues, we would be grateful if you could provide a short update by 16 March on the Government's progress in establishing the One Stop Shop, including detail of its proposed implementation framework and any engagement with businesses which has taken place as part of this work.

I am copying this letter to Tonia Antoniazzi MP, Chair of the Commons Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and Ciara Ferguson MLA, Chair of the Northern Ireland Assembly Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee.



HOUSE OF LORDS

Northern Ireland Scrutiny Committee

House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

Tel: 020 7219 5864

hlniscrutiny@parliament.uk

www.parliament.uk/lords

Yours sincerely,

Lord Carlile of Berriew CBE KC

Chair, Northern Ireland Scrutiny Committee