



**The Rt Hon Sir Chris Bryant
MP**

**Secretary of State for
Northern Ireland**

**Baroness Anderson of
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**Parliamentary
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By email: JCHR@parliament.uk

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Dear Lord Alton,

Thank you for your time last week, when we met to discuss the Northern Ireland Troubles Bill and the Remedial Order.

We are grateful for the significant consideration and scrutiny your Committee has given to both pieces of legislation. The reflections you have shared have been especially important in informing our thinking since we came into office as new ministers in July.

When the three of us met last week, we discussed the Remedial Order and the potential ways forward. We are writing to confirm that following careful consideration

we will move the provisions contained in the Remedial Order into the Bill when the Bill returns to the House of Commons.

As you know, the Remedial Order removes the Legacy Act 2023 provisions relating to immunity and the bar on Troubles-related civil claims from the statute book after they were found to be legally incompatible by UK courts. These provisions were also, in this Government's view, morally wrong, providing immunity to terrorists and denying UK citizens their historic right to seek civil redress. We believe that they must be removed from our statute book.

My predecessor laid the draft Remedial Order before Parliament in October 2025. In your report of December 2025, your Committee agreed that the Government had sufficiently compelling reasons to proceed in this way, not least because of the need for urgency as the Government judged that the Order would be able to pass quicker than the Troubles Bill. In consequence, you recommended approval of the Order, and the House of Commons approved it in January 2026.

I note, however, that concern has been expressed in the House of Lords since then about the appropriateness of this vehicle sitting alongside the Troubles Bill rather than within it. Your Committee had agreed with the basis on which the Government wished to proceed, recognising it was unusual but justified given the context and the urgent need to restore confidence in legacy processes. It is still the Government's position that these repeals are needed urgently, but we now assess that the quickest and most appropriate way of delivering this is through the Troubles Bill, which I expect to make swift progress through Parliament.

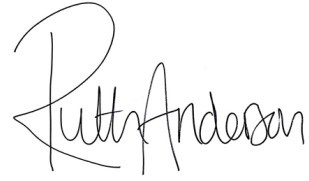
As a result, I (Secretary of State) will table amendments to the Troubles Bill at Commons Committee stage to include the provisions of the Remedial Order in the Bill. This will allow for full scrutiny of the overall package alongside a wider group of amendments that I intend to bring forward. I will write again to your Committee ahead of tabling to provide full details of those amendments alongside a supplementary ECHR memorandum.

Thank you for the exceptional work you and the wider Committee have done in scrutinising the Bill. This has been invaluable, especially as we have taken a fresh look at the issue. We look forward to your continued scrutiny of the Bill and would be glad to appear before your Committee to discuss it at a suitable time.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chris Bryant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chris" and the last name "Bryant" clearly distinguishable.

**THE RT HON SIR CHRIS BRYANT MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
NORTHERN IRELAND**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ruth Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ruth" and the last name "Anderson" clearly distinguishable.

**BARONESS ANDERSON OF
STOKE-ON-TRENT
PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY
OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND**