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**The Lord Caine**

16 July 2025

Dear Lord Caine,

**The Justice and Security (Northern Ireland) Act 2007 (Extension of Duration of Non-jury Trial Provisions) Order 2025**

Thank you for your contribution to the debate on the draft Justice and Security (Northern Ireland) Act 2007 (Extension of Duration of Non-jury Trial Provisions) Order 2025 held on 1 July.

During the debate, you asked if the Secretary of State continues to regularly meet the Northern Ireland Minister of Justice to discuss national security matters. You will recall from your time with the Northern Ireland Office that the Security Interface Meeting (SIM) was a quarterly meeting that allowed the Secretary of State and the Justice Minister to exchange information about national security related issues and to address any interface issues involving the UK Government and Executive in relation to these matters.

The Secretary of State and the Justice Minister continue to meet quarterly but SIM is now referred to as the Ministerial Meeting on Safety and Harm Reduction. This meeting continues to allow the exchange of information about national security but also wider cross-cutting harm related issues. The Ministerial Meeting on Safety and Harm Reduction most recently took place on 18 June 2025.

In addition to the regular Ministerial Meeting on Safety and Harm Reduction, the Secretary of State will, of course, speak to the Justice Minister on an ad-hoc basis as required.

I trust you will find this information helpful. I will place a copy of this letter in the House library.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Ruth Anderson'. The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name 'Ruth' and the surname 'Anderson' clearly legible.

**BARONESS ANDERSON OF STOKE-ON-TRENT  
NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE LORDS SPOKESPERSON**