## The Lord Alderdice, Initial Presiding Officer

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Rt Hon Dr Marjorie Mowlam MP Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Castle Buildings Stormont BELFAST

per 1 13/1/99 08 January 1999

has The.

Thank you for your letter of 22 December in which you provide a helpful update on your plans for the Stormont Estate, and also ask the Commission for a view on the proposals to stage a second major pop concert.

Firstly, I am very pleased to hear that there are plans, in place, to improve the attractiveness of the Estate the aim of which I am sure the Commission will want to support. I must also report that my staff have had a number of useful meetings with your officials to discuss how DOE can best consult with the Commission on a regular basis. The timing of your letter was opportune as I have just received an approach from an organisation wanting to hold an art exhibition in Parliament Buildings, and I would propose to put the request on hold until the Commission has had the opportunity to consider your proposals for sculptured exhibitions.

Coming back to your specific proposition, I will table the proposal, to stage a Mick Hucknall concert in the Estate, at the next meeting of the Commission. It

would then be useful, as you suggest, to meet to discuss the matter in more detail.

I will arrange for my staff to contact your Private Office to set up a meeting.

Iver,