



The Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP

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By email: David.Marshall@eoni.org.uk

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Our Reference: MC/25/217

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 15 April concerning your recommendation not to hold an Electoral Canvass in Northern Ireland in 2025.

Thank you for setting out your reasoning for this decision so clearly. I can confirm that I am content with your decision and agree with the reasoning in your letter. As you know, the Government is committed to reforming the canvass system in Northern Ireland prior to 2030, the year in which the next canvass must take place under current legislation.

I want to thank you in advance for the close cooperation I know you will have with my officials as we develop the reformed canvass system.

Yours sincerely,

**THE RT HON HILARY BENN MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND**