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REFERENCE: 12/27

I write in relation to your email and its request for the release of the following information:

1) Lord Carlile carries out two roles in relation to the Northern Ireland Office. He was appointed in 2007 as the independent reviewer of the operation of national security arrangements in Northern Ireland. The appointment was extended for a further three years in 2011. This role is distinct from any other role which reviews counter terrorist legislation. He was also appointed as a part-time independent Chairman of the Northern Ireland Committee on Protection in 2009. Lord Carlile is but is paid a per diem rate for these roles.

2) Although there is no formal circulation/distribution list for the Annual Report the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland may choose to share copies of Lord Carlile's report with other Government departments and agencies. This would of course be in agreement with Lord Carlile.

3) The two roles are distinct. Lord Carlile fulfils a non-statutory role for the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland which reviews annually the operation of the arrangements for handling national security-related matters in Northern Ireland; the role of Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation is to review the operation of the UK's terrorism laws, and to write annual reports which are laid before Parliament by the Home Secretary. The Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation is a statutory appointment under Section 36 of the Terrorism Act 2006.

