



The  
**Executive Office**

[www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk](http://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk)

Stormont Castle

BELFAST

BT4 3TT

Tel: **I&S**

Email: [ps.ministers@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk](mailto:ps.ministers@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk)

Micheál Martin T.D.  
An Taoiseach  
Department of the Taoiseach  
Government Buildings  
Merrion Street Upper  
Dublin 2  
D02 R583

27 July 2020

Dear Micheál

## **COVID-19 AND THE COMMON TRAVEL AREA**

We have had the opportunity to speak to some colleagues about the need to have an early discussion within the British-Irish Council forum about travel and quarantine within the Common Travel Area. We are now writing to all members to propose formally that a BIC Summit be convened to discuss this issue in greater depth.

As restrictions are relaxed, and the public expectation of greater mobility between our countries increases over the summer, it seems to us critical that we should now share knowledge and information about our respective approaches to enable us to develop measures which are informed by full information about all our approaches to restrictions, risks, use of quarantine and future predictions.

We are therefore proposing that an extraordinary BIC Summit be arranged, on a virtual basis, in early August and we hope that we would have your support for this.

We are writing in similar terms to the other Heads of Administration.

A copy of this letter has been sent to the Joint Secretaries.

**Personal Data**

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**THE RT. HON. ARLENE FOSTER MLA  
FIRST MINISTER**

**MICHELLE O'NEILL MLA  
DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER**