

Part 1

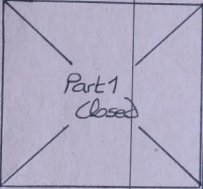
52

Cabinet Meetings

Location
Photographs
Seating plans

CABINET

PEI : May '79

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
	20/7/74						
 <p>Part 1 Closed</p>		<p>PREM 19/4583</p>					



PART

CLOSED



Ref: A094/2194

MR ALLAN ✓ file

Cabinet Seating Plan

--- I enclose a copy of the revised seating plan for Cabinet which Sir Robin Butler discussed with the Prime Minister earlier today.

2. I would be grateful if you would let me know whether the Prime Minister is content with the revised plan. If he is content, I would also be grateful if you would arrange for a copy of the seating plan to be displayed outside the Cabinet Room before Cabinet tomorrow and for name-cards (which I understand Committee Section have already sent over) to be set out on the table.

Stephanie Panting

STEPHANIE PANTING

✓ Ms Panting ✓ Carol Allen
Sue Goodchild

⁴
The Prime Minister has made
some changes - marked on the attached.

20 July 1994

Alex Allan

20/7.

Chief Whip
(Ryder)

Minister w/o Portfolio
(Hanley)

Chief Secretary
(Aitken)

Shephard
S/S Employment
(Portillo)

Lilley
S/S Health
(Bottomley)

Gummer
S/S Social Security
(Lilley)

Lord President
(Newton)

Prime Minister

Secretary of the
Cabinet

Hunt
M/Agriculture
(Waldegrave)

S/S Northern Ireland
(Mayhew)

Portillo
S/S Education
(Shephard)

S/S Nat Heritage
(Dorrell)

Lord Privy Seal
(Cranborne)

S/S Wales
(Redwood)

Ch Duchy *Waldegrave*
(~~Hunt~~)

S/S Defence
(Rifkind)

Home Secretary
(Howard)

Foreign Secretary
(Hurd)

Lord Chancellor
(Mackay)

Chancellor of the
Exchequer (Clarke)

President of the Board
of Trade (Heseltine)

Lang
S/S Environment
(~~Gummer~~)

Bottomley
S/S Scotland
(Lang)

S/S Transport
(Mawhinney)

Secretaries

Chief Whip
(Ryder)

Minister w/o Portfolio
(Hanley) (23)

This version
showing
precedent
numbers not to
be displayed
outside Cabinet
room.

SP 20/7/74

Chief Secretary
(Aitken)

22

21

Lord Privy Seal
(Cranborne)

Education
S/S Employment

(Portillo) (Shephard)

17 16

18

S/S Wales
(Redwood)

Social Security
S/S Health

(Bottomley) (Lilley)

15 11

12

10

Ch-Duchy M/Agriculture
(Hunt) (Waldegrave)

Environment
S/S Social Security

(Lilley) (Gummer)

11 9

7

S/S Defence
(Rifkind)

Lord President
(Newton)

8

5

Home Secretary
(Howard)

Prime Minister

3

Foreign Secretary
(Hurd)

2

Lord Chancellor
(Mackay)

Secretary of the
Cabinet

4

Chancellor of the
Exchequer (Clarke)

*Chancellor of Duchy
M/Agriculture*
(Waldegrave)
(Hunt)

10

12

6

President of the Board
of Trade (Heseltine)

S/S Northern Ireland
(Mayhew)

14

13

9

Scotland
S/S Environment
(Gummer) (Lang)

S/S Employment

S/S Education

(Shephard)

(Portillo)

16 17

15

13

Health
S/S Scotland
(Lang) (Bottomley)

S/S Nat Heritage
(Dorrell)

20

19

S/S Transport
(Mawhinney)

Secretaries



five

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

MR. HOGG

CABINET OFFICE

Cabinet Seating Plan

Thank you for your minute of 27 May. The Prime Minister was content with the revised seating plan, subject to one change: to switch the Secretary of State for Wales and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury (so that the Chief Secretary remains in his old seat and the Secretary of State for Wales occupies the seat formerly taken by Mrs. Bottomley).

ACSA

ALEX ALLAN

2 JUNE 1993

AK



Ref. A093/1808

MR ALLAN
✓

One or two
small changes.

f.i.b.

Prime Minister
Content? It looks
sensible to me.

Ally

Cabinet Seating Plan

--- Further to our conversation earlier today, I enclose a revised seating plan for Cabinet to take account of yesterday's Ministerial reshuffle. It has been approved by Sir Robin Butler.

2. I have tried to minimise the disruption to seating arrangements in the revised plan and have consequently suggested only four seating changes. I would be grateful if you could let me know whether the Prime Minister is content with the revised plan.

Kenneth Hogg

KENNETH HOGG

27 May 1993

Chief Whip
(Ryder)

Was

Portillo CST
(Portillo)

S/S Wales
(Redwood)

21

22

S/S Northern Ireland
(Mayhew)

17

Ch Duchy Lancaster
(Waldegrave)

15

Same
seat

S/S Environment
(Gummer)

11

Lord Privy Seal
(Wakeham)

9

Prime Minister

Secretary of the
Cabinet

S/S Nat Heritage
(Brooke)

12

S/S Social Security
(Lilley)

14

S/S Scotland
(Lang)

16

Same
seat

M/Agriculture
(Shephard)

22

20

Wally

Chief Secretary
(Portillo)

(Rusmond)

21

S/S Health
(Bottomley)

19

S/S Defence
(Rifkind)

8

S/S Transport
(MacGregor)

7

Home Secretary
(Howard)

5

Foreign Secretary
(Hurd)

3

Lord Chancellor
(Mackay)

2

Chancellor of the
Exchequer (Clarke)

4

President of the Board
of Trade (Heseltine)

6

Lord President
(Newton)

10

S/S Employment
(Hunt)

13

S/S Education
(Patten)

18

Was

Bottomley

Was

Howard

Was

Clarke

Was

Lamont

Same
seat

Secretaries





10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

28 September 1992

CABINET SEATING PLAN

Thank you for your minute of 25 September.
The Prime Minister is content with the revised
seating plan.

ALEX ALLAN

Ms Janet Grauberg
Cabinet Office

WB



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

Robin asked me
to commend ~~you~~ one
particular aspect of this
seating plan to you:
it puts Peter Brook next
to Robin and moves Peter
Lilley down. At present,
Robin always feels that
Peter Lilley reads the notes
he is writing for you!

Alan.



Ref. A092/2639

MR ALLEN

Cabinet Seating Plan

--- I enclose a revised seating plan for Cabinet to take account of Mr Brooke's appointment as Secretary of State for National Heritage. It has been approved by Sir Robin Butler.

2. I have tried to minimise the disruption caused by the change in the revised plan. I would be grateful if you could let me know whether the Prime Minister is content with the arrangement.

Joel Grauberg.

J C GRAUBERG

25 September 1992

Chief Whip
(Ryder)

Chief Secretary,
Treasury (Portillo)

21

20

S/S Health
(Bottomley)

S/S Northern Ireland
(Mayhew)

18

13

S/S Environment
(Howard)

Ch Duchy Lancaster
(Waldegrave)

16

8

S/S Defence
(Rifkind)

M/Agriculture
(Gummer)

11

7

S/S Transport
(MacGregor)

Lord Privy Seal
(Wakeham)

9

5

Home Secretary
(Clarke)

Prime Minister

3

Foreign Secretary
(Hurd)

Secretary of the
Cabinet

2

Lord Chancellor
(Mackay)

S/S Nat Heritage
(Brook)

12

4

Chancellor of the
Exchequer (Lamont)

S/S Social Security
(Lilley)

15

6

President of the Board
of Trade (Heseltine)

S/S Scotland
(Lang)

17

10

Lord President
(Newton)

S/S Employment
(Shephard)

22

14

S/S Wales
(Hunt)

S/S Education
(Patten)

The numbers refer to
Precedence order and will
not be on the version
displayed at Cabinet on
Thursday

Secretaries

2/2 12/10/12

(11/11/12)

2/2 12/10/12





Ref. A092/2266

MR ALLAN

cc Mr Gibbons - OD Secretariat

Minister
OK (I hope
Cabinet can be held in
No 10 on 18 October)
MS

Cabinet Seating Plan

--- This is to confirm our discussion earlier today. I enclose a revised Cabinet seating plan for the Cabinets to be held on 10 September, 1 October and possibly 15 October. These Cabinets will take place in the Cabinet Office Briefing Rooms (COBR).

2. As I mentioned, space within the immediate location of COBR is limited; you agreed that the Prime Minister would have no objections to Cabinet colleagues being seated before his arrival.

3. I will confirm final arrangements with you nearer the time.

Mike Sweet.

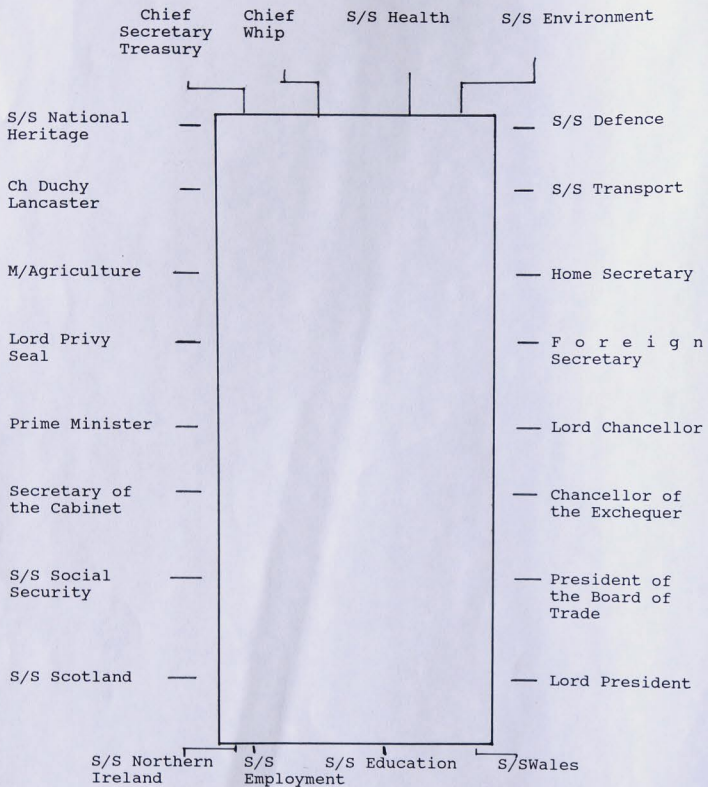
M J SWEET

30 July 1992

BF to me on 8 September

MS

No 10 Secretaries



Cabinet Office Secretaries

FRONT DOOR

PB:TAB



Prime Minister
Content?
HT
13/4

Ref. A092/1092

MR TURNBULL

Cabinet Seating Plan

--- Following our discussion earlier today, I enclose a revised Cabinet Seating Plan.

2. I understand that you will display a copy of the plan outside the Cabinet Room on Wednesday morning.
3. I should be grateful if you could let me know if the Prime Minister is content with the revised plan.

Janet Grauberg.

MS J C GRAUBERG

13 April 1992

Chief Whip
(Ryder)

Chief Secretary,
Treasury (Portillo)

S/S Nat Heritage
(Mellor)

Ch Duchy Lancaster
(Waldegrave)

M/Agriculture
(Gummer)

Lord Privy Seal
(Wakeham)

Prime Minister

Secretary of the
Cabinet

S/S Social Security
(Lilley)

S/S Scotland
(Lang)

S/S Northern Ireland
(Mayhew)

S/S Employment
(Shephard)

S/S Health
(Bottomley)

S/S Environment
(Howard)

S/S Defence
(Rifkind)

S/S Transport
(MacGregor)

Home Secretary
(Clarke)

Foreign Secretary
(Hurd)

Lord Chancellor
(Mackay)

Chancellor of the
Exchequer (Lamont)

President of the Board
of Trade (Heseltine)

Lord President
(Newton)

S/S Wales
(Hunt)

S/S Education
(Patten)

Secretaries

→ H [Signature] PFO

c. as before

Mr Owen

From: P F Owen
17 May 1991

P 03849

Thank you. This is a good idea. On X1, I suggest that we should all aim to leave one or two seats empty at the table for late comers.



SIR ROBIN BUTLER

SEATS AT THE CABINET TABLE

cc Mrs Hogg
Mr Appleyard
Mr Hadley
Mr Turnbull
Mr Russell

1. I have been considering ways of ensuring that we do not repeat the problems at the last-but-one meeting of EA(LG), when some of the Ministers present had to sit behind the pillars.
2. This is in practice a difficulty which only arises for EA(LG). There are 25 seats at the Cabinet table, excluding the two behind the pillars, and I think that no other committee that meets in the Cabinet room has a combined membership and secretariat that is close to that number. The total complement for EA(LG), however, amounts to 22. With two No. 10 representatives and one ministerial invitee all seats are filled and any further Ministers could not be accommodated.
3. There is no sure-fire way of knowing in advance how many Ministers will attend. Although we have a procedure for listing expected attendance there are often last-minute boarders. The simplest and most straightforward approach for ensuring that all Ministers have a seat is therefore for the secretariat at meetings of EA(LG) to remain standing until all Ministers have arrived, and be prepared if necessary to move behind the pillars. It would be helpful if private secretaries and members of the policy unit could follow the same procedure, as they did at the last meeting of EA(LG).
- x 4. Of course, if Ministers turn up after the meeting has started they may still be inappropriately seated; but I do not think that they would object in these circumstances.
5. Other secretariat heads may like to check that their committees are small enough to avoid this problem.

[Signature]

P F OWEN

B. R.

Andrew

Sorry - I take the point.

I had no idea EA(LG) was
so large.

R

MR. POTTER

cc. Mrs. Hogg
Mr. Wall

MEETINGS IN CABINET ROOM

There was a very large attendance at EA(LG) which resulted in some Ministers having to sit at the Secretariat table while you and Sarah sat at one side of the Prime Minister, and a large team from the Cabinet Office on the other. This happened, I think, from the best of motives. Ministers were showing their usual reluctance to take their places, and so the Cabinet Secretariat dutifully took theirs, without realising just how large the gathering was going to be.

There are advantages in the Private Office/Policy Unit sitting next to the Prime Minister, but we should not do this if the result is to force Ministers to sit in the one and ninepennies. The problem will only arise with the largest meetings, but where there is a potential problem, we should hold back until Ministers have claimed their seats. Cabinet Office will be adopting the same practice.

AT

AT

18 April 1991

jd c:\wpdocs\pps\meetings



Silva

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

5 November 1990

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

CABINET SEATING PLAN

The Prime Minister has seen and approved the proposed seating plan attached to your minute of 2 November.

AT

5 November 1990

5

W/UB



Ref. AO90/2555

MR TURNBULL

Inne Minister
Content?

W 2/4

I attach a revised Seating Plan for Cabinet.

2. When you spoke to Sir Robin Butler this morning you discussed a Plan which would involve moving Messrs Parkinson, Newton, Brooke and Lamont one place each to their right, and placing Mr Waldegrave on the Prime Minister's extreme left. On reflection, however, Sir Robin prefers the attached Plan, which places the Lord Chancellor on the Prime Minister's immediate left, reflecting his position as the most senior Member of Cabinet after the Prime Minister, moves Messrs Major, King, Clarke, Rifkind and Wakeham each one place to their left and places Mr Waldegrave on the far side of the table at the Prime Minister's extreme left. Other Members of the Cabinet retain their existing seats.

3. I should be grateful if would let me know whether the Prime Minister is content with this suggestion.

Yes mb

N C Davidson

N C DAVIDSON

2 November 1990

Chief Secretary
Treasury (Lamont)

18

22

S/S Health
(Waldegrave)

S/S Northern Ireland
(Brooke)

16

12

S/S Energy
(Wakeham)

S/S Social Security
(Newton)

14

10

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

S/S Transport
(Parkinson)

11

8

S/S Education
(Clarke)

Lord Chancellor
(Mackay)

2

6

S/S Defence
(King)

Prime Minister

4

Ch/Exchequer
(Major)

Secretary of the
Cabinet

3

Foreign Secretary
(Hurd)

S/S Environment
(Patten)

15

7

Home Secretary
(Waddington)

M/Agriculture
(Gummer)

17

9

Ch/Duchy of Lancaster
(Baker)

S/S Employment
(Howard)

19

13

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

S/S Wales
(Hunt)

20

21

S/S Trade and
Industry (Lilley)

Secretaries





file KW

cc Cabinet folder
Back up folder

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

MR DAVIDSON

CABINET OFFICE

The Prime Minister has seen your minute of 16 July and has approved the revised Seating Plan for Cabinet.

AT

ANDREW TURNBULL

17 July 1990

MEM



Ref. A090/1688

MR TURNBULL

Prime Minister
Content? (The only other
change would be for Lambert and
Lilley to swap but this does not
seem work it)

BT
16/7

Yes mb

--- I attach a revised Seating Plan for Cabinet which has been approved by Sir Robin Butler.

2. The Plan places Mr Lilley facing the Prime Minister on her extreme right, with Messrs Baker and MacGregor and Lord Belstead each moving one place to their right. Other members of the Cabinet retain their existing seats. Sir Robin Butler's view is that the minimum disruption to existing positions is desirable: a bigger upheaval would be required strictly to reflect Ministers' seniority.

3. I should be grateful if you would let me know whether the Prime Minister is content with this suggestion.

N C Davidson

N C DAVIDSON

16 July 1990

Chief Secretary
Treasury (Lamont)

19

13

S/S Energy
(Wakeham)

S/S Northern Ireland
(Brooke)

17

11

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

S/S Social Security
(Newton)

15

9

S/S Health
(Clarke)

S/S Transport
(Parkinson)

12

7

S/S Defence
(King)

Lord President of
the Council (Howe)

2

5

Ch/Exchequer
(Major)

Prime Minister

3

Lord Chancellor
(MacKay)

Secretary of the
Cabinet

4

Foreign Secretary
(Hurd)

S/S Environment
(Patten)

16

8

Ch/Duchy
(Baker)

M/Agriculture
(Gummer)

18

10

S/S Education
(MacGregor)

S/S Employment
(Howard)

20

14

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

S/S Wales
(Hunt)

21

22

S/S Trade and
Industry (Lilley)

Secretaries



Prime Minister
Content? (The alternative
would be to move Mr Baker to Mr
Walker's old slots and put
Mr Hunt and to end on the
side. (After F&B's solution)

BT 4/5

Ref. AO90/1064

MR TURNBULL

--- I attach a revised seating plan for Cabinet which has been approved by Sir Robin Butler.

2. The plan places Mr Hunt to the Prime Minister's extreme right, with Messrs Patten, Gummer and Howard each moving one place to the left. Other members of the Cabinet retain their existing seats. Sir Robin Butler's view is that the minimum disruption to existing positions is desirable: a bigger upheaval would be required strictly to reflect Ministers' seniority.

3. I should be grateful if you could let me know whether the Prime Minister is content with this suggestion.

Yes

N C Davidson

N C DAVIDSON

4 May 1990



*File 20
c: seating*

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

8 May 1990

Mr. Davidson

The Prime Minister has approved the revised seating plan for Cabinet which was attached to your minute to me of 4 May. I will catch those involved on the way into Cabinet to point them to their new places.

AT

8 May 1990

88

Chief Secretary
Treasury (Lamont)

20

14

S/S Energy
(Wakeham)

S/S Northern Ireland
(Brooke)

18

12

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

S/S Social Security
(Newton)

16

10

S/S Health
(Clarke)

S/S Transport
(Parkinson)

13

7

S/S Defence
(King)

Lord President of
the Council (Howe)

2

5

Chancellor of the
Exchequer (Major)

Prime Minister

3

Lord Chancellor
(MacKay)

Secretary of the
Cabinet

4

Foreign Secretary
(Hurd)

S/S Environment
(Patten)

17

6

Home Secretary
(Waddington)

M/Agriculture
(Gummer)

20

8

S/S Trade and Industry
(Ridley)

S/S Employment
(Howard)

21

9

Chancellor of the
Duchy (Baker)

S/S Wales
(Hunt)

22

11

S/S Education
(MacGregor)

15

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

Secretaries



me pm
c:/pps/cabinet

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

CABINET SEATING PLAN

The Prime Minister has seen your minute of 5 January and has agreed the proposed changes in the seating plan following the departure of Mr. Fowler. I will be on hand at the start of Thursday's Cabinet meeting to point those affected to their new seats.

ANDREW TURNBULL

8 January 1990

21



Prime Minister's
content?
AT s/1

Ref. AO90/21

MR TURNBULL

Yes

I attach a revised seating plan for Cabinet which has been approved by Sir Robin Butler.

2. The plan places Mr Howard, as the most junior member of the Cabinet, to the Prime Minister's extreme right, with Messrs Patten and Gummer each moving one place to the left. Other members of the Cabinet retain their existing seats.

3. I should be grateful to know if the Prime Minister is content with this suggestion.

Agreed

N Davidson

N C DAVIDSON

5 January 1990

Chief Secretary
Treasury (Lamont)

21

S/S Northern Ireland
(Brooke)

19

S/S Social Security
(Newton)

17

S/S Transport
(Parkinson)

14

Lord President of
the Council (Howe)

2

Prime Minister

Secretary of the
Cabinet

S/S Wales
(Walker)

7

S/S Environment
(Patten)

18

M/Agriculture
(Gummer)

20

S/S Employment
(Howard)

22

15

S/S Energy
(Wakeham)

13

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

11

S/S Health
(Clarke)

8

S/S Defence
(King)

5

Chancellor of the
Exchequer (Major)

3

Lord Chancellor
(MacKay)

4

Foreign Secretary
(Hurd)

6

Home Secretary
(Waddington)

9

S/S Trade and Industry
(Ridley)

10

Chancellor of the
Duchy (Baker)

12

S/S Education
(MacGregor)

16

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

Secretaries





10 DOWNING STREET

Andrew

FORB's office suggest that
Mr. Howard take Mr. Gummer's
place and then Mr. Patten and
Mr. Gummer swiftly move up
to fill the space.

They will be in touch in the
morning.

Ratcliffe

4 January 1990.

Chief Secretary,
Treasury (Lamont)

22

S/S Northern Ireland
(Brooke)

20

S/S Social Security
(Newton)

18

S/S Transport
(Parkinson)

15

Lord President of
the Council (Howe)

2

Prime Minister

Secretary of the
Cabinet

S/S Wales
(Walker)

7

S/S Employment
(Fowler)

6

S/S Environment
(Patten)

19

M/Agriculture
(Gummer)

21

S/S Employment
(Howard)

S/S Energy
(Wakeham)

16

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

14

S/S Health
(Clarke)

12

S/S Defence
(King)

9

Chancellor of the
Home Secretary
(Hard) Exchange (Major)

5

Ch/Exchequer Lord Chancellor
(Eaton) (Mackay)

3

Lord Chancellor Foreign Secretary
(Mackay) (Hard)

4

Home
Foreign Secretary
(Major) (Waddington)

6

S/S Trade and Industry
(Ridley)

10

Chancellor of the DUC
(Baker)

11

S/S Education
(MacGregor)

13

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

17

Secretaries

October 1989. *Cabinet*

H. Turnbull

Chief Secretary,
(Treasury) Lamont

S/S Northern Ireland
(Brooke)

S/S Social Security
(Newton)

S/S Transport
(Parkinson)

Lord President of
the Council (Howe)

Prime Minister

Secretary of the
Cabinet

S/S wales
(Walker)

S/S Employment
(Fowler)

S/S Environment
(Patten)

M/Agriculture
(Gummer)

S/S Energy
(Wakeham)

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

S/S Health
(Clarke)

S/S Defence
(King)

Chancellor of the
Exchequer (Major)

Lord Chancellor
(Mackay)

Foreign Secretary
(Hurd)

Home Secretary
(Waddington)

S/S Trade and Industry
(Ridley)

Chancellor of the Duchy
(Baker)

S/S Education
(MacGregor)

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

CABINET PRECEDENCE AND SEATING PLAN

The Prime Minister has seen your minute of 27 October and agrees that the top of the order for Ministerial precedence should be:

Prime Minister
Lord President of the Council
Lord Chancellor
Secretary of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs
Chancellor of the Exchequer
Secretary of State for the Home Office

The remaining placings are unchanged. The seating plan should follow automatically from this.

(ANDREW TURNBULL)

30 October 1989

FILE
BA

JB

20



Prime Minister
Su Robin recommends that
after deleting Mr Lawson, the
present order stays unchanged,
with Mr Hurd staying one above
Mr Major. I too favour this as
it avoids a conscious step
to highlight Mr Major's promotion
which I think would be helpful.
Agree!

Ref. A089/2749

MR TURNBULL

AT 2/110

Cabinet Precedence and Seating Plan

The Ministerial appointments require some adjustments to the order of Ministerial precedence and a new ~~Cabinet~~ seating plan.

--- I indicate my suggestions for both on the attachments.

- A

2. As regards the precedence, Mr Lawson obviously drops out and the most natural course would be to leave other members of the Cabinet in the same order of seniority, apart from inserting Mr Waddington. The normal pattern is that the holders of the "big 3" departmental jobs rank before other Ministers however long they have been in the Cabinet. With this in mind, I have suggested inserting Mr Waddington after Mr Major.

- B

3. The seating plan follows from this. Lord Mackay, Mr Hurd, Mr Major and Mr Waddington should occupy the four places most directly facing the Prime Minister. This is reflected in the attached plan. If the Prime Minister is content with it, I will have a clean copy made before next Thursday's Cabinet, and perhaps you would arrange for your office to put out place names.

R.R.B.

ROBIN BUTLER

27 October 1989

LIST OF MINISTERS

MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

(24 JULY 1989)

Prime Minister	The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP
Lord President of the Council	The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer	The Rt Hon Nigel Lawson MP
Lord Chancellor	The Rt Hon Lord Mackay of Clashfern
Secretary of State for the Home Department Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs	The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer	The Rt Hon John Major MP
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs	The Rt Hon David Waddington
Secretary of State for Wales	The Rt Hon Peter Walker MP
Secretary of State for Employment	The Rt Hon Norman Fowler MP
Secretary of State for Defence	The Rt Hon Tom King MP
Secretary of State for Trade and Industry	The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster	The Rt Hon Kenneth Baker MP
Secretary of State for Health	The Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke QC MP
Secretary of State for Education and Science	The Rt Hon John MacGregor MP
Secretary of State for Scotland	The Rt Hon Malcolm Rifkind QC MP
Secretary of State for Transport	The Rt Hon Cecil Parkinson MP
Secretary of State for Energy	The Rt Hon John Wakeham MP
Lord Privy Seal	The Rt Hon Lord Belstead
Secretary of State for Social Security	The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP
Secretary of State for the Environment	The Rt Hon Christopher Patten MP

Secretary of State for Northern
Ireland

The Rt Hon Peter Brooke MP

Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries
and Food

The Rt Hon John Gummer MP

Chief Secretary, Treasury

The Rt Hon Norman Lamont MP

LAW OFFICERS

Attorney General

The Rt Hon Sir Patrick Mayhew QC MP

Lord Advocate

The Rt Hon Lord Fraser of Carmyllie QC

Solicitor General

Sir Nicholas Lyell QC MP

Solicitor General for Scotland

Mr Alan Rodger QC

MINISTERS NOT IN THE CABINET

Parliamentary Secretary, Treasury

The Rt Hon Timothy Renton MP
The Rt Hon David Waddington QC MP

Minister of State
Privy Council Office
(Minister for the Arts)

The Rt Hon Richard Luce MP

Paymaster General, Treasury

Earl of Caithness

Financial Secretary, Treasury

Mr Peter Lilley MP

Minister of State, Home Office

The Rt Hon Earl Ferrers

Minister of State, Home Office

Mr John Patten MP

Minister of State, Home Office

David Mellor
Mr ~~Timothy Renton~~ MP

Minister of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Minister for Overseas Development

The Rt Hon Lynda Chalker MP

Minister of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

The Hon William Waldegrave MP

Minister of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Lord Brabazon of Tara

Minister of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

The Hon Francis Maude MP

Minister of State, Welsh Office

Mr Wyn Roberts MP

Minister of State
Department of Employment

Mr Timothy Eggar MP

Minister of State for Defence
Procurement, Ministry of Defence

The Hon Alan Clark MP

Minister of State for the Armed
Forces, Ministry of Defence

The Hon Archibald Hamilton MP

Minister of State Department of Trade and Industry (Minister for Trade)	The Rt Hon Lord Trefgarne
Minister of State Department of Trade and Industry (Minister for Industry and Enterprise)	The Hon Douglas Hogg MP
Minister of State Department of Health (Minister for Health)	<i>Mrs Virginia Roberts MP</i> Mr David Mellor MP
Minister of State Department of Health	Lord Trafford
Minister of State Department of Education and Science	Mrs Angela Rumbold MP
Minister of State, Scottish Office	Mr Ian Lang MP
Minister of State, Scottish Office	Lord Sanderson of Bowden
Minister of State Department of Transport (Minister for Public Transport)	Mr Michael Portillo MP
Minister of State Department of Energy	The Rt Hon Peter Morrison MP
Minister of State Department of Social Security (Minister for Social Security)	<i>Rt Hon</i> Mr Nicholas Scott MP
Minister of State Department of the Environment (Minister for Housing and Planning)	Mr Michael Howard QC MP
Minister of State Department of the Environment (Minister for the Environment and Countryside)	Mr David Trippier MP
Minister of State Department of the Environment (Minister for Local Government)	Mr David Hunt MP
Minister of State Northern Ireland Office	The Rt Hon John Cope MP

JUNIOR MINISTERS

AGRICULTURE FISHERIES AND FOOD
MINISTRY OF

Parliamentary Secretaries

Baroness Trumpington
Mr David Maclean MP
Mr David Curry MP

DEFENCE, MINISTRY OF

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State for Defence Procurement

Mr Michael Neubert MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State for the Armed Forces

Earl of Arran

EDUCATION AND SCIENCE, DEPARTMENT OF

Parliamentary Under-Secretaries
of State

Mr Robert Jackson MP
Mr Alan Howarth MP

EMPLOYMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

Parliamentary Under-Secretaries
of State

Mr Patrick Nicholls MP
Lord Strathclyde

ENERGY, DEPARTMENT OF

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State

Mr Michael Spicer MP

ENVIRONMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

Parliamentary Under-Secretaries
of State

Mr Christopher Chope MP
Mrs Virginia Bottomley MP *110*
Lord Hesketh

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State (Minister for Sport)

The Hon Colin Moynihan MP

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State

The Hon Timothy Sainsbury MP

HEALTH, DEPARTMENT OF

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State

Mr Roger Freeman MP

HOME OFFICE

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State

Mr Peter Lloyd MP

NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE

Parliamentary Under-Secretaries
of State

Mr Richard Needham MP
Mr Peter Bottomley MP
Dr Brian Mawhinney MP
Lord Skelmersdale

SCOTTISH OFFICE

Parliamentary Under-Secretaries
of State

Lord James Douglas-Hamilton MP
Mr Michael Forsyth MP

SOCIAL SECURITY, DEPARTMENT OF

Parliamentary Under-Secretaries
of State

Lord Henley
Mrs Gillian Shephard MP

TRADE AND INDUSTRY, DEPARTMENT OF

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State for Industry and Consumer
Affairs

Mr Eric Forth MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State for Corporate Affairs

Mr John Redwood MP

TRANSPORT, DEPARTMENT OF

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State (Minister for Roads
and Traffic)

Mr Robert Atkins MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State (Minister for Aviation
and Shipping)

Mr Patrick McLoughlin MP

WELSH OFFICE

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State

Mr Ian Grist MP

TREASURY

Parliamentary Secretary
(Economic Secretary)

Mr Richard Ryder MP

Treasurer of the Household
(Deputy Chief Whip)

Mr Tristan Garel-Jones MP

Comptroller of the Household

Mr Alastair Goodlad MP

Vice Chamberlain of the Household

Mr Tony Durant MP

Lords Commissioners of the Treasury

Mr David Lightbown MP
Mr Kenneth Carlisle MP
Mr Stephen Dorrell MP
Mr John Taylor MP
Mr ~~David Heathcoat-Amory~~ *Valant* MP

Assistant Government Whips

The Hon Tom Sackville MP
Mr Michael Fallon MP
Mr Sydney Chapman MP
Mr Gregory Knight MP
Mr Irvine Patnick MP

GOVERNMENT WHIPS, HOUSE OF LORDS

Captain of the Gentlemen-at-Arms

The Rt Hon Lord Denham

Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard
(Deputy Chief Whip, House of Lords)

Viscount Davidson

Lords in Waiting

Viscount Long

Viscount Ullswater

Lord Reay

Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne

August 1989

Sped

Chief Secretary,
Treasury (Lamont)

22

16

S/S Energy
(Wakenam)

S/S Northern Ireland
(Brooke)

20

14

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

S/S Social Security
(Newton)

18

12

S/S Health
(Clarke)

S/S Transport
(Parkinson)

15

9

S/S Defence
(King)

Lord President of
the Council (Howe)

2

5

Chancellor of the
~~Home Secretary~~
(Hurd) Exchange (Mayor)

Prime Minister

3

Ch/Switzerland
(Isaacs) Chancellor
(Mackay)

Secretary of the
Cabinet

4

Lord Chancellor Foreign Secretary
(Maclean) (Hurd)

S/S Wales
(Walker)

7

6

Home
Foreign Secretary
(Major) (Waddington)

S/S Employment
(Fowler)

8

10

S/S Trade and Industry
(Ridley)

S/S Environment
(Patten)

19

11

Chancellor of the Exchequer
(Baker)

M/Agriculture
(Gummer)

21

13

S/S Education
(MacGregor)

17

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

189



27.13.

✓



Prime Minister

Content

Yes (i) with point of Lord Ples
 Yes (ii) with point of Mr Parkinson
 Yes (iii) and with Mr Rifkind. Although
 Yes he is only one seat
 end, he is on the
 better side, able to catch
 your eye. The two worst
 seats are on either a
 your side

HT 25/11

Ref. AO89/2042

Thank you.

Very grateful
plan.

mt

MR TURNBULL

--- I attach a revised seating plan for Cabinet which has been approved by Sir Robin Butler.

2. The plan is designed to leave members of the Cabinet in their current seats where possible, and is otherwise based on the principle that the seats to the extreme right and left on the Prime Minister's side should go to those lowest in the order of precedence. It also accommodates the need to give Mr Parkinson a 'better seat', as well as meeting Mr Rifkind's wish, expressed after the last reshuffle and recorded in Nigel Wicks' minute of

--- 27 July 1988 to Paul Cuthbert-Brown (copy attached), for an improved position.

3. I should be grateful to know if the Prime Minister is content.

Pauline Turner

P H TURNER

25 July 1989

Chief Secretary,
Treasury (Lamont)

22

16

S/S Energy
(Wakeham)

S/S Northern Ireland
(Brooke)

20

14

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

S/S Social Security
(Newton)

18

12

S/S Health
(Clarke)

S/S Transport
(Parkinson)

15

9

S/S Defence
(King)

S/S Trade and
Industry (Ridley)

10

5

Home Secretary
(Hurd)

Prime Minister

3

Ch/Exchequer
(Lawson)

Secretary of the
Cabinet

2

Lord President
(Howe)

S/S Wales
(Walker)

7

4

Lord Chancellor
(MacKay)

S/S Employment
(Fowler)

8

6

Foreign Secretary
(Major)

S/S Environment
(Patten)

19

11

Chancellor of the Duchy
(Baker)

M/Agriculture
(Gummer)

21

13

S/S Education
(MacGregor)

17

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

Secretaries



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

MR CUTHBERT-BROWN *JS*

CABINET SEATING PLAN

You should be aware that Mr Rifkind's office have telephone me twice today about his dissatisfaction with his place at the Cabinet table.

I explained to Mr Rifkind's office that Mr Rifkind's precedence had not been altered by Mr Newton's entry to the Cabinet. To that extent, there was no reason to change his place at the table. The Prime Minister had agreed a revised seating plan on the basis of minimum disruption to existing seating arrangements. His office accepted the point, but it was nevertheless clear that Mr Rifkind is unhappy with his present place.

I believe that he has a point here. His Cabinet precedence could well justify his occupying the place now occupied by Mr Channon who is one below him in terms of precedence and he might think that Mr Channon's place at the table was to be preferred.

I should be grateful if you could bear in mind Mr Rifkind's representations for the next time that we come to revise the seating plan.

N.L.W.

N.L. Wicks

27 July 1988



MJ200W

file

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

MR CUTHBERT-BROWN

CABINET SEATING PLAN

You should be aware that Mr Rifkind's office have telephone me twice today about his dissatisfaction with his place at the Cabinet table.

I explained to Mr Rifkind's office that Mr Rifkind's precedence had not been altered by Mr Newton's entry to the Cabinet. To that extent, there was no reason to change his place at the table. The Prime Minister had agreed a revised seating plan on the basis of minimum disruption to existing seating arrangements. His office accepted the point, but it was nevertheless clear that Mr Rifkind is unhappy with his present place.

I believe that he has a point here. His Cabinet precedence could well justify his occupying the place now occupied by Mr Channon who is one below him in terms of precedence and he might think that Mr Channon's place at the table was to be preferred.

I should be grateful if you could bear in mind Mr Rifkind's representations for the next time that we come to revise the seating plan.

N.L. Wicks

27 July 1988



FILE KIC

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

MR. PAUL CUTHBERT-BROWN

CABINET SEATING PLAN

I have shown the Prime Minister your minute of 26 July to which was attached a revised seating plan for Cabinet.

The Prime Minister is content with this revised seating plan.

We will make the normal arrangements so that Ministers are aware of where they sit tomorrow.

N. L. WICKS

27 July 1988

AD

Pa



Prime Minister
This brings Mr Ridley
next to you with Mr
King moving across the
table.

Ref. A088/2336

MR WICKS

Yes Mr

I attach a revised seating plan for Cabinet which has been approved by Sir Robin Butler.

Content? N.C.W
26.7

2. The changes aim to cause minimum disruption to the present order. Mr King (number 9 in precedence) moves across the table, from immediately on the Prime Minister's left, to slot in between Mr Hurd (5) and Lord Young (11), "mirroring" Mr Younger (7) on that side of the table. The extra place is created by Lord Young (and those to his right) moving half a place to the right, and Mr Hurd (and those to his left) moving half a place in the opposite direction. This means that the Foreign Secretary and Chancellor of the Exchequer now sit one slightly to each side of and opposite the Prime Minister, rather than the Foreign Secretary being directly opposite and the Chancellor to his right. Those immediately to the Prime Minister's left on her side of the table move towards her into the space left by Mr King, allowing space for Mr Newton in the "junior" position, furthest from the Prime Minister on her left.

3. I should be grateful to know if the Prime Minister is content.

P.C.B.

PAUL CUTHBERT-BROWN

26 July 1988

Chief Whip

Chairman

Chancellor of the
Duchy (Newton)

22

Chief Sec., Tsy
(Major)

21

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

19

S/S Social Security
(Moore)

17

S/S Environment
(Ridley)

10

Prime Minister

Secretary of the
Cabinet

S/S Wales
(Walker)

6

S/S Employment
(Fowler)

8

M/Agriculture
(MacGregor)

14

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

15

18 — Lord President
(Wakeham)

13 — S/S Health
(Clarke)

11 — S/S Trade and Industry
(Young)

9 — S/S Northern Ireland
(King)

5 — Home Secretary
(Hurd)

3 — Ch/Exchequer
(Lawson)

2 — Foreign Secretary
(Howe)

4 — Lord Chancellor
(MacKay)

7 — S/S Defence
(Younger)

12 — S/S Education
(Baker)

16 — S/S Transport
(Channon)

20 — S/S Energy
(Parkinson)

Secretaries

Chief Whip *Chairman*

*Pre-reshuffle
Seating plan.*

Chief Secretary
(Major)

21

18

Lord President
(Wakeham)

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

19

13

Ch/Duchy of Lancaster
(Clarke)

S/S Social Services
(Moore)

17

11

S/S Trade and Industr
(Young)

S/S Environment
(Ridley)

10

5

Home Secretary
(Hurd)

S/S Northern Ireland
(King)

9

3

Ch/Exchequer
(Lawson)

Prime Minister

2

Foreign & C'th Sec
(Howe)

Secretary of the
Cabinet

4

Lord Chancellor
(MacKay)

S/S Wales
(Walker)

6

7

S/S Defence
(Younger)

S/S Employment
(Fowler)

8

12

S/S Education
(Baker)

M/Agriculture
(MacGregor)

14

16

S/S Transport
(Channon)

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

15

20

S/S Energy
(Parkinson)

Chairman



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

CABINET SEATING PLAN

Thank you for your minute of 12 January suggesting various seating plans for Cabinet.

I have discussed this with the Prime Minister and she agrees with you that option B is the best course.

I will arrange for Cabinet Ministers to be guided accordingly tomorrow.

N.L. WICKS

13 January 1988

W



Ref. A088/82

MR WICKS

Prime Minister
Option B looks
the best all things
considered. Agree
Option B?

Cabinet Seating Plan

N.L.U. 12.1
12.1
12.1
12.1

--- I attach three seating plans for Cabinet, representing possible options (A, B and C) for arrangements in the light of the resignation of Lord Whitelaw.

2. Option A observes strict order of precedence but involves the greatest disruption. All those down to and including Mr Wakeham move 'up' one place, Lord Belstead taking his predecessor's at number 19.

3. Option B reduces the disruption by rearranging the plan only to the Prime Minister's left; and approximately observes the order of precedence.

4. Option C places Mr Wakeham as Lord President of the Council in his predecessor's seat to the Prime Minister's left (and his successor taking his); but puts Mr Wakeham well above his place in the order of precedence.

5. Of these option B would be least disruptive of the present pattern; perhaps you could let me know which of these options the Prime Minister favours.

Option 'C' i.e.

we keep all the offices w

the same position

F.R.B.

ROBIN BUTLER

Discussed
with P.M.
She agreed "B"
NW

12 January 1988

13.1

Chief Whip *CHAIRMAN*

Chief Secretary
(Major)

21

19

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

Lord President
(Wakeham)

18

14

M/Agriculture
(MacGregor)

S/S Trade & Industry
(Young)

11

12

S/S Education
(Baker)

S/S Environment
(Ridley)

10

6

S/S Wales
(Walker)

Foreign & C'th Sec
(Howe)

2

4

Lord Chancellor
(MacKay)

Prime Minister

3

Ch/Exchequer
(Lawson)

Secretary of the
Cabinet

5

Home Secretary
(Hurd)

S/S Defence
(Younger)

7

8

S/S Employment
(Fowler)

S/S Northern Ireland
(King)

9

13

Ch/Duchy of Lancaster
(Clarke)

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

15

17

S/S Social Services
(Moore)

S/S Transport
(Channon)

16

20

S/S Energy
(Parkinson)

Chairman

CHAIRMAN

Chief Whip ~~SECRET~~

Chief Secretary
(Major)

21

18

Lord President
(Wakeham)

Lord Privy Seal
(Belstead)

19

13

Ch/Duchy of Lancaster
(Clarke)

S/S Social Services
(Moore)

17

11

S/S Trade and Industry
(Young)

S/S Environment
(Ridley)

10

5

Home Secretary
(Hurd)

S/S Northern Ireland
(King)

9

3

Ch/Exchequer
(Lawson)

Prime Minister

2

Foreign & C'th Sec
(Howe)

Secretary of the
Cabinet

4

Lord Chancellor
(MacKay)

S/S Wales
(Walker)

6

7

S/S Defence
(Younger)

S/S Employment
(Fowler)

8

12

S/S Education
(Baker)

M/Agriculture
(MacGregor)

14

16

S/S Transport
(Channon)

S/S Scotland
(Rifkind)

15

20

S/S Energy
(Parkinson)

Chairman

CHAIRMAN

Chief Whip

Chief Secretary (Major)	21	19	Lord Privy Seal (Belstead)
S/S Social Services (Moore)	17	13	Ch/Duchy of Lancaster (Clarke)
S/S Environment (Ridley)	10	11	S/S Trade & Industry (Young)
S/S Northern Ireland (King)	9	5	Home Secretary (Hurd)
Lord President (Wakeham)	18	3	Ch/Exchequer (Lawson)
Prime Minister		2	Foreign & C'th Sec (Howe)
Secretary of the Cabinet		4	Lord Chancellor (MacKay)
S/S Wales (Walker)	6	7	S/S Defence (Younger)
S/S Employment (Fowler)	8	12	S/S Education (Baker)
M/Agriculture (MacGregor)	14	16	S/S Transport (Channon)
S/S Scotland (Rifkind)	15	20	S/S Energy (Parkinson)

Chairman



FILE
DA



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

**MR. CLOKE
CABINET OFFICE**

CABINET SEATING PLAN

Thank you for your minute of 16 June which sought the Prime Minister's approval of the new Cabinet seating plan.

The Prime Minister agrees with the plan.

(N.L. WICKS)

17 June 1987

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'N.L. Wicks'.

pa.



Prime Minister

Are you content
with this plan?

Ref. A087/1675

MR WICKS

Yes and

N.L.W

16.6

Cabinet Seating Plan

--- I attach for approval a suggested
Cabinet Seating Plan which Sir Robert
Armstrong has seen and approved.

Christopher Cloke

C G CLOKE

16 June 1987

CABINET SEATING PLAN: 16 June 1987

Chief Whip

Chief Secretary (Major)	21	19	Lord Privy Seal (Wakeham)
S/S Social Services (Moore)	18	14	Ch/Duchy Lancaster (Clarke)
S/S Environment (Ridley)	11	12	S/S Trade & Industry (Young)
S/S Nthn Ireland (King)	10	6	Home Secretary (Hurd)
Lord President (Whitelaw)	2	4	Ch/Exchequer (Lawson)
Prime Minister		3	Foreign & C'th Sec (Howe)
Secretary of the Cabinet		5	Lord Chancellor (Havers)
S/S Wales (Walker)	7	8	S/S Defence (Younger)
S/S Employment (Fowler)	9	13	S/S Education (Baker)
M/Agriculture (MacGregor)	15	17	S/S Transport (Channon)
S/S Scotland (Rifkind)	16	20	S/S Energy (Parkinson)

The Cabinet

- | | | |
|-----|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury and Minister for the Civil Service | The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP |
| 2. | Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Lords | The Rt Hon William Whitelaw CH MC M |
| 3. | Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs | The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP |
| 4. | Chancellor of the Exchequer | The Rt Hon Nigel Lawson MP |
| 5. | Lord Chancellor | The Rt Hon Sir Michael Havers QC |
| 6. | Secretary of State for the Home Department | The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd CBE MP |
| 7. | Secretary of State for Wales | The Rt Hon Peter Walker MBE MP |
| 8. | Secretary of State for Defence | The Rt Hon George Younger TD MP |
| 9. | Secretary of State for Employment | The Rt Hon Norman Fowler MP |
| 10. | Secretary of State for Northern Ireland | The Rt Hon Tom King MP |
| 11. | Secretary of State for the Environment | The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP |
| 12. | Secretary of State for Trade and Industry | The Rt Hon The Lord Young of Graffh. |
| 13. | Secretary of State for Education and Science | The Rt Hon Kenneth Baker MP |
| 14. | Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster | The Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke QC MP |
| 15. | Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food | The Rt Hon John MacGregor OBE MP |
| 16. | Secretary of State for Scotland | The Rt Hon Malcolm Rifkind QC MP |
| 17. | Secretary of State for Transport | The Rt Hon Paul Channon MP |
| 18. | Secretary of State for Social Services | The Rt Hon John Moore MP |
| 19. | Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Commons | The Rt Hon John Wakeham MP |
| 20. | Secretary of State for Energy | The Rt Hon Cecil Parkinson MP |
| 21. | Chief Secretary to the Treasury | John Major Esq MP |





Note
PA agreed.
Told Stark.

Ref. A086/1511

MR WICKS

NLU

Cabinet Precedence

— I attach a revised draft of the Cabinet precedence list and a Cabinet seating plan for the Prime Minister's approval.

MS

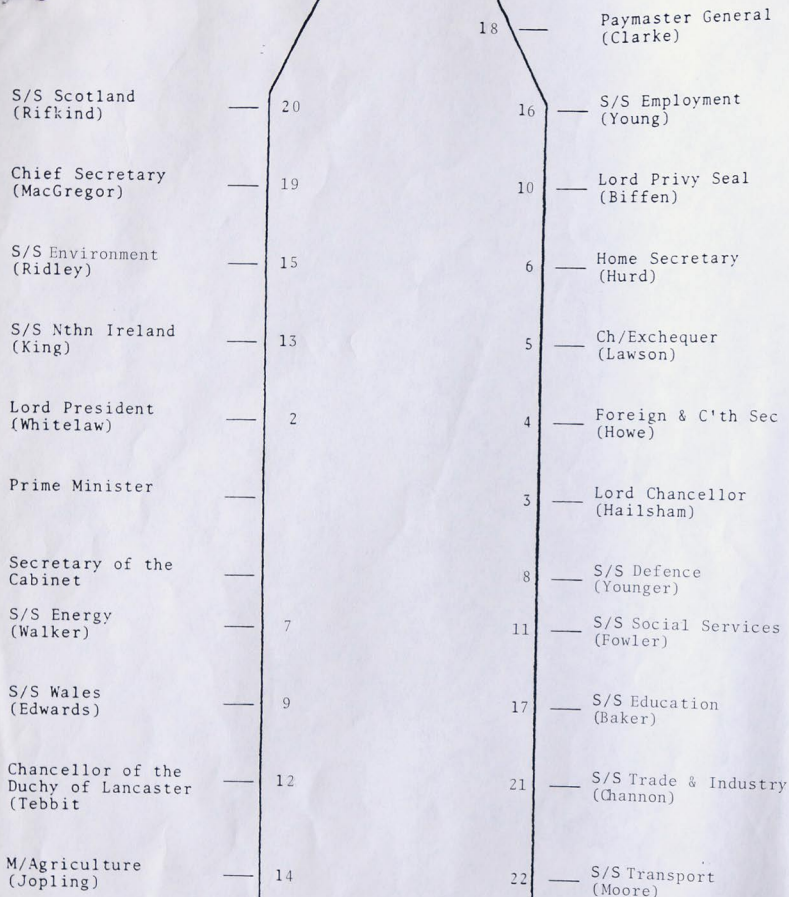
M C STARK

21 May 1986

Price

CABINET SEATING PLAN - 21 MAY 1986

Chief Whip



LIST OF MINISTERS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Prime Minister | The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP |
| 2. Lord President of the Council | The Rt Hon Viscount Whitelaw |
| 3. Lord Chancellor | The Rt Hon Lord Hailsham of
St Marylebone |
| 4. Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs | The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP |
| 5. Chancellor of the Exchequer | The Rt Hon Nigel Lawson MP |
| 6. Secretary of State for the Home
Department | The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP |
| 7. Secretary of State for Energy | The Rt Hon Peter Walker MP |
| 8. Secretary of State for Defence | The Rt Hon George Younger MP |
| 9. Secretary of State for Wales | The Rt Hon Nicholas Edwards MP |
| 10. Lord Privy Seal | The Rt Hon John Biffen MP |
| 11. Secretary of State for Social
Services | The Rt Hon Norman Fowler MP |
| 12. Chancellor of the Duchy of
Lancaster | The Rt Hon Norman Tebbit MP |
| 13. Secretary of State for Northern
Ireland | The Rt Hon Tom King MP |
| 14. Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food | The Rt Hon Michael Jopling MP |
| 15. Secretary of State for the
Environment | The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP |
| 16. Secretary of State for Employment | The Rt Hon Lord Young of Graffham |
| 17. Secretary of State for Education
and Science | The Rt Hon Kenneth Baker MP |
| 18. Paymaster General | The Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke QC MP |
| 19. Chief Secretary, Treasury | The Rt Hon John MacGregor MP |
| 20. Secretary of State for Scotland | The Rt Hon Malcolm Rifkind MP |
| 21. Secretary of State for Trade
and Industry | The Rt Hon Paul Channon MP |
| 22. Secretary of State for Transport | The Rt Hon John Moore MP |



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

Mr. Stark

CABINET PRECEDENCE

The Prime Minister has approved the precedence list of the Cabinet seating plan attached to your minute of 28 January.

CDP

29 January, 1986.



Prime Minister

Mr Channon is
at the end of
list. Content?

Ref. A086/277

MR WICKS

Yes no

N.L.W.

28.1

Cabinet Precedence

I attach a revised draft of the Cabinet
precedence list and a Cabinet seating plan for
the Prime Minister's approval.

MS

M C STARK

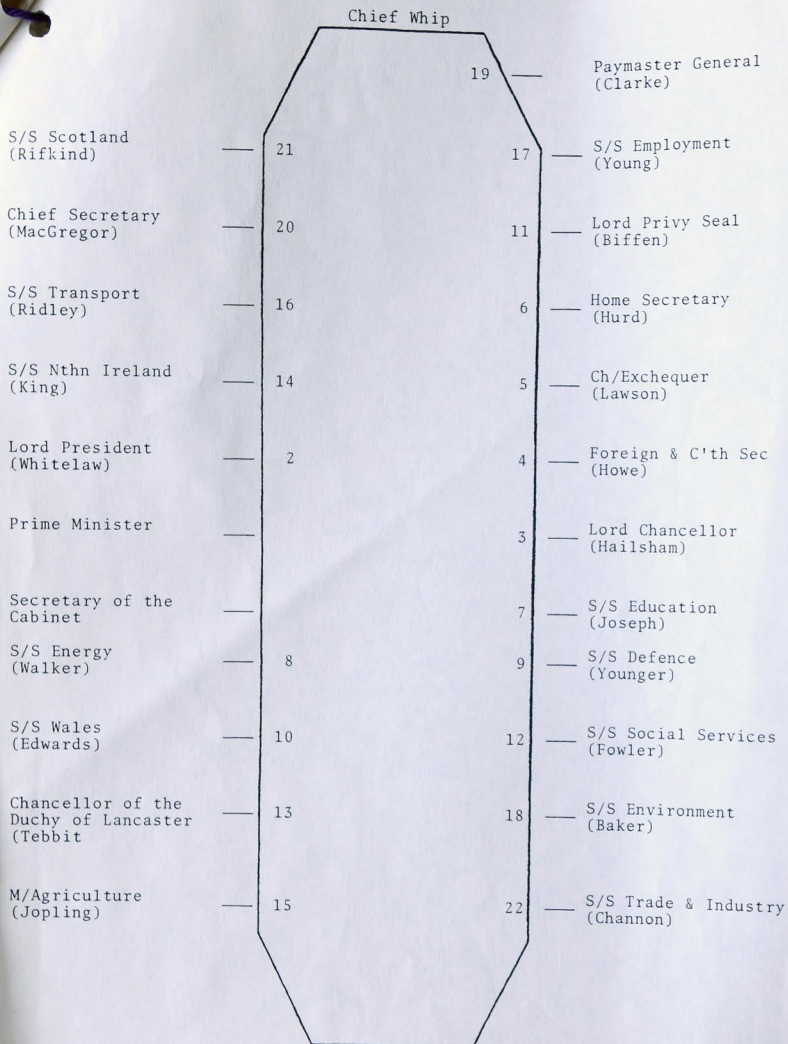
28 January 1986

ccc

LIST OF MINISTERS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Prime Minister | The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP |
| 2. Lord President of the Council | The Rt Hon Viscount Whitelaw |
| 3. Lord Chancellor | The Rt Hon Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone |
| 4. Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs | The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP |
| 5. Chancellor of the Exchequer | The Rt Hon Nigel Lawson MP |
| 6. Secretary of State for the Home Department | The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP |
| 7. Secretary of State for Education and Science | The Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph MP |
| 8. Secretary of State for Energy | The Rt Hon Peter Walker MP |
| 9. Secretary of State for Defence | The Rt Hon George Younger MP |
| 10. Secretary of State for Wales | The Rt Hon Nicholas Edwards MP |
| 11. Lord Privy Seal | The Rt Hon John Biffen MP |
| 12. Secretary of State for Social Services | The Rt Hon Norman Fowler MP |
| 13. Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster | The Rt Hon Norman Tebbit MP |
| 14. Secretary of State for Northern Ireland | The Rt Hon Tom King MP |
| 15. Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food | The Rt Hon Michael Jopling MP |
| 16. Secretary of State for Transport | The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP |
| 17. Secretary of State for Employment | The Rt Hon Lord Young of Graffham |
| 18. Secretary of State for the Environment | The Rt Hon Kenneth Baker MP |
| 19. Paymaster General | The Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke QC MP |
| 20. Chief Secretary, Treasury | The Rt Hon John MacGregor MP |
| 21. Secretary of State for Scotland | The Rt Hon Malcolm Rifkind MP |
| 22. Secretary of State for Trade and Industry | The Rt Hon Paul Channon MP |

CABINET SEATING PLAN - 28 JANUARY 1986







6
a/MisPre

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

MR STARK

CABINET OFFICE

CABINET PRECEDENCE

The Prime Minister is content with the Cabinet precedence list and Cabinet seating plan attached to your note of 10 January.

N.L. Wicks

14 January 1986

Ref. A085/103

MR WICKS



Prime Minister 2/1
Content ?

N.L.W

10.1

Cabinet Precedence

I attach a revised draft of the Cabinet precedence list and a Cabinet seating plan for the Prime Minister's approval.

MS

M C STARK

10 January 1986

Prime Minister

You did not
initial ?
Content ?

Yes no

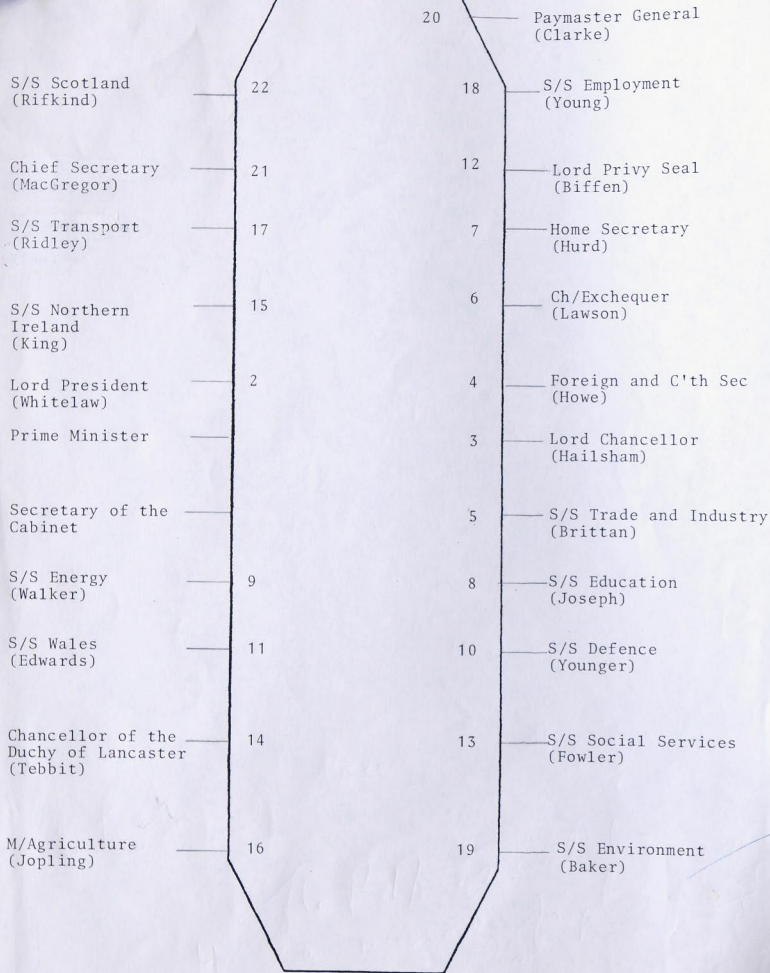
N.L.W
13.1

LIST OF MINISTERS

Prime Minister	The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP
✓ Lord President of the Council	The Rt Hon Viscount Whitelaw
✓ Lord Chancellor	The Rt Hon Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone
✓ Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs	The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP
✓ Secretary of State Trade and Industry	The Rt Hon Leon Brittan QC MP
✓ Chancellor of the Exchequer	The Rt Hon Nigel Lawson MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department	The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP
✓ Secretary of State for Education and Science	The Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph MP
✓ Secretary of State for Energy	The Rt Hon Peter Walker MP
✓ Secretary of State for Defence	The Rt Hon George Younger MP
Secretary of State for Wales	The Rt Hon Nicholas Edwards MP
Lord Privy Seal	The Rt Hon John Biffen MP
Secretary of State for Social Services	The Rt Hon Norman Fowler MP
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster	The Rt Hon Norman Tebbit MP
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland	The Rt Hon Tom King MP
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food	The Rt Hon Michael Jopling MP
Secretary of State for Transport	The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP
Secretary of State for Employment	The Rt Hon Lord Young of Graffham
Secretary of State for the Environment	The Rt Hon Kenneth Baker MP
Paymaster General	The Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke QC MP
Chief Secretary, Treasury	The Rt Hon John MacGregor MP
Secretary of State for Scotland	Mr Malcolm Rifkind MP

CABINET SEATING PLAN - JANUARY 1986

Chief Whip





10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MR. HATFIELD
Cabinet Office

CABINET SEATING PLAN

The Prime Minister has agreed the revised Cabinet seating plan, submitted under cover of Sir Robert Armstrong's minute to Mr. Wicks of 5 September.

MARK ADDISON

10 September 1985

✓

270



Prime Minister, ①

A copy of the old seating plan is also attached for information.

Ref. A085/2254

MR WICKS

Speed

Content with the new plan?
MEA 6/9

Cabinet Seating Plan

with New?

Following your minute of 2 September to
--- Richard Hatfield I attach a seating plan for
Cabinet.

2. It is based on the new order of precedence but I have also tried wherever possible to leave people in or very close to the places they occupied before the changes.

3. I should be grateful for the Prime Minister's approval of the revised plan.

4. We will provide the nameplates for the Cabinet meetings on 12 September, and on 3 October as some members may be absent at the first meeting.

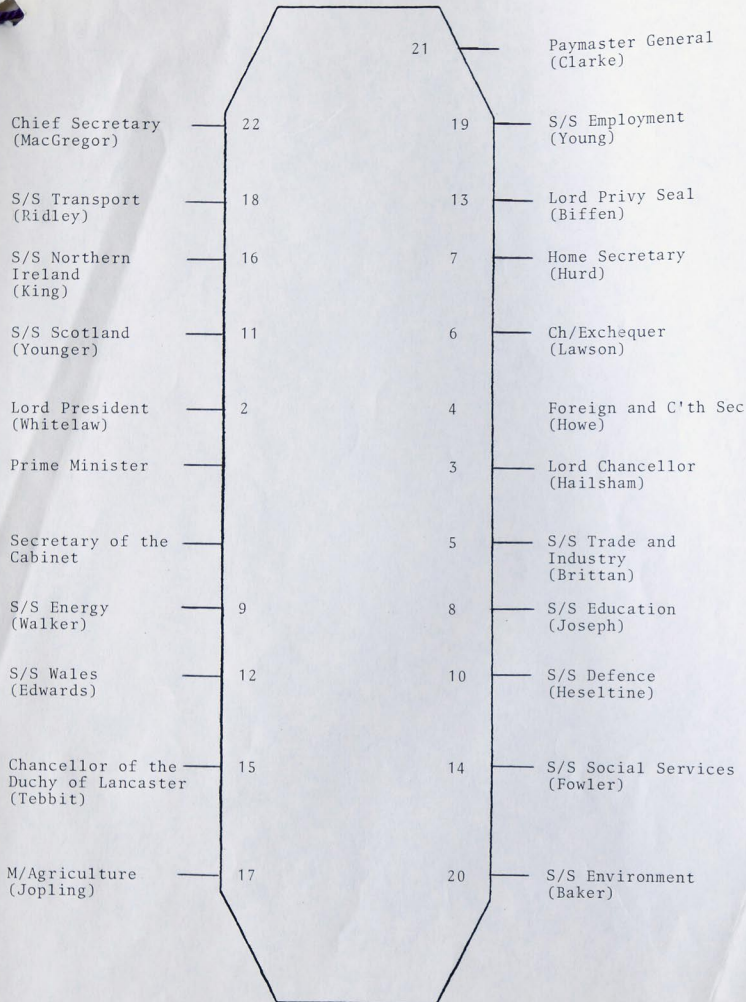
RA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

5 September 1985

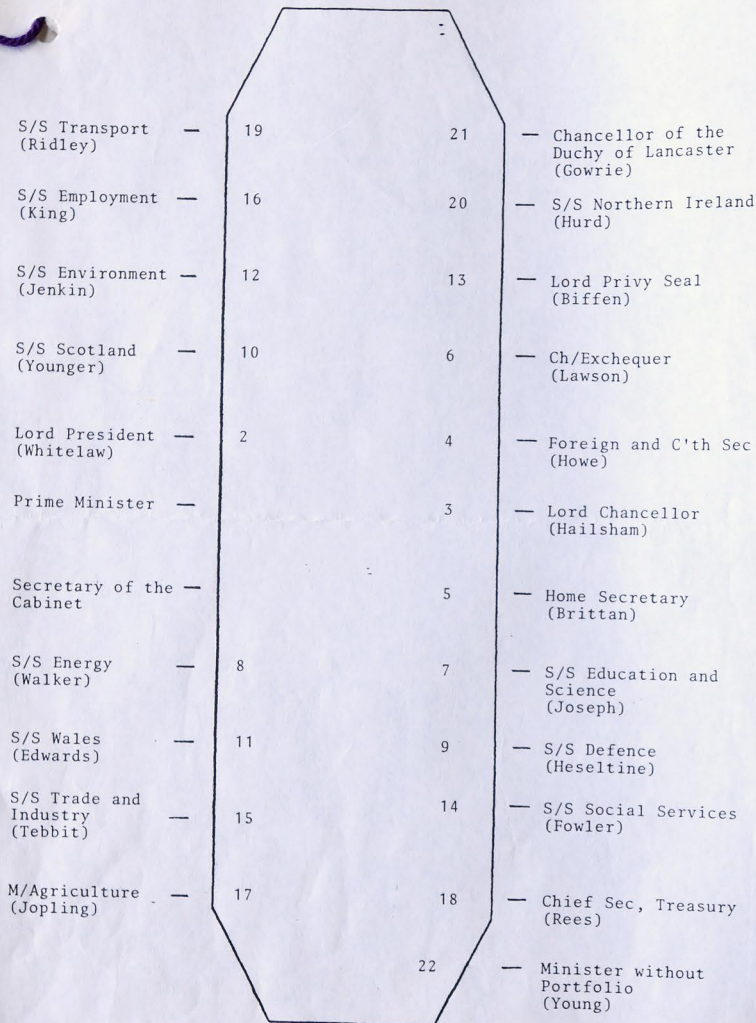
CABINET SEATING PLAN - SEPTEMBER 1985

Chief Whip



CABINET SEATING PLAN - SEPTEMBER 1984

Chief Whip





FILE

107

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

CABINET SEATING PLAN

Thank you for your minute of 18 October (A083/2929). The Prime Minister is content with the revised seating plan which you propose and has noted that you will provide nameplates for the Cabinet meetings on Thursday, 20 October and (if necessary) Thursday, 27 October.

E. R. BUTLER

19 October, 1983



Prime Minister
Content?

Ref. A083/2929

MR BUTLER ✓

Yes not

F.R.B.

18.10.

Cabinet Seating Plan

We need a new seating plan, to take account of the changes in the Cabinet.

2. I attach a plan herewith (and the previous plan for comparison).
3. It is based on the order of precedence in the new Cabinet list and I have sought to minimise dislocations. All those who continue to be members of the Cabinet will be sitting in or very close to the places where they are used to sitting.
4. I should be grateful for approval of the revised plan.
5. We will provide the nameplates for the Cabinet meetings on Thursday 20 October and Thursday 27 October, as some members may be absent at the first meeting.

RTA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

18 October 1983

SUGGESTED CABINET SEATING PLAN - OCTOBER 1983

Chief Whip

<u>S/S Transport</u> (Ridley)	-	21	13	-	S/S Environment (Jenkin)
S/S Employment (King)	-	18	14	-	Lord Privy Seal (Biffen)
Ch/Duchy of Lancaster (Cockfield)	-	17	8	-	S/S Northern Ireland (Prior)
S/S Scotland (Younger)	-	11	6	-	Ch/Exchequer (Lawson)
Lord President (Whitelaw)	-	2	4	-	Foreign and C'th Sec (Howe)
Prime Minister	-		3	-	Lord Chancellor (Hailsham)
Secretary of the Cabinet	-		5	-	Home Secretary (Brittan)
S/S Energy (Walker)	-	9	7	-	S/S Education and Sci (Joseph)
S/S Wales (Edwards)	-	12	10	-	S/S Defence (Heseltine)
S/S Trade and Industry (Tebbit)	-	16	15	-	S/S Social Services (Fowler)
M/Agriculture (Jopling)	-	19	20	-	Chief Sec, Treasury (Rees)

CABINET SEATING PLAN - JUNE 1983

Chief Whip

S/S Transport (King)	-	19	13	-	S/S Environment (Jenkin)
Ch/Duchy of Lancaster (Cockfield)	-	18	14	-	Lord Privy Seal (Biffen)
S/S Trade and Industry (Parkinson)	-	17	8	-	S/S Northern Ireland (Prior)
S/S Scotland (Younger)	-	11	6	-	Ch/Exchequer (Lawson)
Lord President (Whitelaw)	-	2	4	-	Foreign and C'th Sec (Howe)
Prime Minister	-		3	-	Lord Chancellor (Hailsham)
Secretary of the Cabinet	-		5	-	Home Secretary (Brittan)
S/S Energy (Walker)	-	9	7	-	S/S Education and Scien (Joseph)
S/S Wales (Edwards)	-	12	10	-	S/S Defence (Heseltine)
S/S Employment (Tebbit)	-	16	15	-	S/S Social Services (Fowler)
M/Agriculture (Jopling)	-	20	21	-	Chief Sec, Treasury (Rees)



file No

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

CABINET SEATING PLAN

I have shown the Prime Minister your minute of 14 June (A083/1689). She is content with the Cabinet Seating Plan, subject to two amendments:-

- (i) She would like the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster transposed;
- (ii) She would like the Lord Privy Seal and the Secretary of State for the Environment transposed.

E. E. R. BUTLER

15 June 1983



Prime Minister

Agree?

FERB

14.6.

Ref. A083/1689

MR BUTLER

As amended

Cabinet Seating Plan

We need a new seating plan, to take account of changes in the Cabinet.

2. I attach a plan herewith.
3. It is based on the order of precedence in the new Cabinet list. On this basis the Lord President, as Deputy Prime Minister, will sit next to the Prime Minister, and the Lord Chancellor, Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, Home Secretary and Chancellor of the Exchequer will all be close to the Prime Minister across the table. The other Cabinet Ministers will be seated in precedence order; but I have tried as far as possible to leave members of the former Cabinet in or very close to the places where they are used to sitting.
4. I should be grateful for approval of the revised plan.
5. We will provide the nameplates for the Cabinet meeting this Thursday 16 June.

RA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

14 June 1983

CABINET SEATING PLAN - JUNE 1983

SC Middle work box

Chief Whip

S/S Transport (King)	-	19	13	-	S/S Environment (Jenkin)
Ch/Duchy of Lancaster (Cockfield)	-	18	14	-	Lord Privy Seal (Biffen)
S/S Trade and Industry (Parkinson)	-	17	8	-	S/S Northern Ireland (Prior)
S/S Scotland (Younger)	-	11	6	-	Ch/Exchequer (Lawson)
Lord President (Whitelaw)	-	2	4	-	Foreign and C'th Sec (Howe)
Prime Minister	-		3	-	Lord Chancellor (Hailsham)
Secretary of the Cabinet	-		5	-	Home Secretary (Brittan)
S/S Energy (Walker)	-	9	7	-	S/S Education and Science (Joseph)
S/S Wales (Edwards)	-	12	10	-	S/S Defence (Heseltine)
S/S Employment (Tebbit)	-	16	15	-	S/S Social Services (Fowler)
M/Agriculture (Jopling)	-	20	21	-	Chief Sec, Treasury (Rees)



File AH

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

Mr. Yandle
Informed

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Thank you for your minute of 11 January (A083/0081) about the Cabinet seating plan following the changes in the membership of the Cabinet.

The Prime Minister is content with what you propose.

F.R.B.

14 January 1983

AA



Prime Minister
Content?

Ref. AO83/0081

FEB

MR BUTLER

13-1-

The changes in the Cabinet announced on 6th January will entail a small change in the Cabinet seating plan.

2. I suggest that the simplest change, following the departure of Mr Nott, would be for all those Ministers who sat on the left of Mr Nott to move one place to the right, and to bring Mr King to the end of the table next to Mr Parkinson (see plan --- attached). This would put the new Secretary of State for Defence next to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, just as the old one was.

RA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

11th January 1983

Amend mb

CABINET SEATING PLAN

January 1985

Chief Whip

S/S Trade (Cockfield)	-	21	17	-	Lord Privy Seal (Lady Young)
S/S Energy (Lawson)	-	18	13	-	Lord President (Biffen)
S/S Transport (Howell)	-	14	7	-	S/S Nthn. Ireland (Prior)
S/S Scotland (Younger)	-	10	6	-	S/S Education and Science (Joseph)
Home Secretary (Whitelaw)	-	2	4	-	Chancellor of Exchequer (Howe)
Prime Minister	-		3	-	Lord Chancellor (Hailsham)
Secretary of the Cabinet	-		5	-	Foreign and C'With Secretary (Pym)
Minister of Agriculture (Walker)	-	8	9	-	S/S Defence (Heseltine)
S/S Wales (Edwards)	-	11	15	-	S/S Social Services (Fowler)
S/S Industry (Jenkins)	-	12	16	-	Chief Secretary, Treasury (Brittan)
S/S Employment (Tebbit)	-	19	20	-	Chancellor of Duchy and Paymaster General (Parkinson)
			22	-	S/S Environment (King)



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

MINISTERIAL CHANGES

I have shown the Prime Minister your minute A08090 of 8 April 1982.

As regards the Cabinet seating plan, she thinks that now that Mr. Pym is senior to Sir Keith Joseph in the precedence list, he ought to sit on the Lord Chancellor's left and Sir Keith Joseph on the Chancellor of the Exchequer's right.

The Prime Minister is content with what you propose in paragraph 2 of your minute for the precedence of Ministers of State and Junior Ministers.

She wants Mr. Rees to take precedence over Dr. Vaughan in the Department of Trade.

In the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr. Hurd should remain the senior Minister of State, and after him the order should be Mr. Marten, Lord Belstead and Mr. Onslow.

C. A. WHITMORE

11 April 1982

ls

Ref: A08090

1.



Prime Minister.

Continue with the Cabinet seating plan?
Agree the procedure in paragraph 2?
Agree :-

1. Mr Hurd
2. Lord Belstead
3. Mr Onslow
4. Mr Marten?

That 8 is 12.

MR. WHITMORE

MW

Ministerial Changes

Thank you for sending me a copy of the new precedence list for the Cabinet. In the light of this, I have revised the Cabinet seating plan. I attach this revision for the Prime Minister's approval. I have kept changes to a minimum.

2. As for the precedence of Ministers of State and junior Ministers, I will, if the Prime Minister agrees, adopt the same practice as hitherto. That is to say, the Ministers of State are listed by Department in the same order as the Departmental precedence in Cabinet. Where there is more than one Minister of State in a Department, the precedence will be on the basis of seniority in the Department. Junior Ministers are listed by Department in alphabetical order but again within Departments the precedence is on the basis of seniority.

3. There are two points about seniority on which I shall be grateful for the Prime Minister's views. First, since there is no longer a Cabinet Minister responsible for trade in the House of Commons, it will be important to establish which of the two Ministers of State (Dr. Vaughan and Mr. Rees) takes precedence in the Department of Trade. Mr. Rees has of course been in the Department of Trade several months longer than Dr. Vaughan. Secondly, the Ministerial changes have brought two new Ministers of State to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. I take it that Mr. Hurd will remain the senior Minister of State, but I should be grateful to know whether Lord Belstead should precede Mr. Onslow and whether they in turn should precede, as hitherto, the Minister of State responsible for overseas development, Mr. Marten.

Yes

Neil is so senior I think he will have to come second.

RA

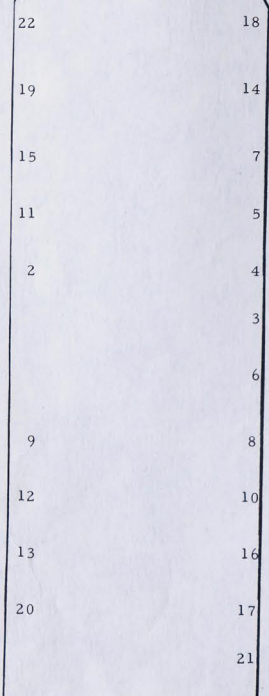
Robert Armstrong

8th April 1982

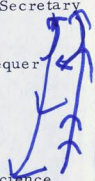
CABINET SEATING PLAN

April 1982

Chief Whip



S/S Trade (Cockfield)	-	22	18	-	Lord Privy Seal (Lady Young)
S/S Energy (Lawson)	-	19	14	-	Lord President (Biffen)
S/S Transport (Howell)	-	15	7	-	S/S Nthn. Ireland (Prior)
S/S Scotland (Younger)	-	11	5	-	Foreign and C'wth Secretary (Pym)
Home Secretary (Whitelaw)	-	2	4	-	Chancellor of Exchequer (Howe)
Prime Minister	-		3	-	Lord Chancellor (Hailsham)
Secretary of the Cabinet	-		6	-	S/S Education and Science (Joseph)
Minister of Agriculture (Walker)	-	9	8	-	S/S Defence (Nott)
S/S Wales (Edwards)	-	12	10	-	S/S Environment (Heseltine)
S/S Industry (Jenkins)	-	13	16	-	S/S Social Services (Fowler)
S/S Employment (Tebbit)	-	20	17	-	Chief Secretary, Treasury (Brittan)
			21	-	Chancellor of Duchy and Paymaster General (Parkinson)



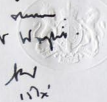
CABINET SEATING PLAN
SEPTEMBER 1981

Cabinet

Chief Whip

S/S Energy (Lawson)	- 21	20 -	Chancellor Duchy Lancas (Lady Young)
S/S Transport (Howell)	- 17	16 -	S/S Trade (Biffen)
Lord Privy Seal (Atkins)	- 14	8 -	S/S Northern Ireland (Prior)
S/S Scotland (Younger)	- 12	7 -	Lord President (Pym)
Home Secretary (Whitelaw)	- 2	5 -	Chancellor of Exchequer (Howe)
Prime Minister	-	4 -	Foreign and C'wealth Sec (Carrington)
Secretary of the Cabinet	-	3 -	Lord Chancellor (Hailsham)
Minister of Agriculture (Walker)	- 10	6 -	S/S Education and Science (Joseph)
S/S Industry (Jenkin)	- 13	9 -	S/S Defence (Nott)
S/S Wales (Edwards)	- 15	11 -	S/S Environment (Heseltine)
S/S Employment (Tebbit)	- 22	18 -	S/S Social Services (Fowler)
Paymaster General (Parkinson)	-	19 -	Chief Secretary, Treasur (Brittan)

Approved by the Prime Minister, with
the change shown
T.M. Mr. Higgins



Prime Minister.

I have advised the Paymaster -
General.
Contract? M.W. 14/9

Ref. A05513

MR. WHITMORE

We need a new seating plan, to take account of today's Cabinet changes.

2. I attach a plan herewith.
3. It is based on the order of precedence in the new Cabinet list, but I have sought to make as few displacements as possible. A view from the chair across to the other side of the table will be very little changed (Mr. Fowler in Mr. Carlisle's old place, and Lady Young in Mr. Howell's). There are more changes on the other side: on the Prime Minister's left, Mr. Younger and Mr. Atkins move one place towards her, and on her right the Minister of Agriculture moves one place up and Mr. Edwards moves the other side of Mr. Jenkin.
4. I should be grateful for approval of the revised plan.
5. We will have nameplates in place for tomorrow's Cabinet.

RA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

14th September, 1981

CABINET SEATING PLAN
SEPTEMBER 1981

Chief Whip

S/S Energy (Lawson)	- 21	20 -	Chancellor Duchy Lancaster (Lady Young)
S/S Transport (Howell)	- 17	16 -	S/S Trade (Biffen)
Lord Privy Seal (Atkins)	- 14	8 -	S/S Northern Ireland (Prior)
S/S Scotland (Younger)	- 12	7 -	Lord President (Pym)
Home Secretary (Whitelaw)	- 2	5 -	Chancellor of Exchequer (Howe)
Prime Minister	-	4 -	Foreign and C'wealth Secretar (Carrington)
Secretary of the Cabinet	-	3 -	Lord Chancellor (Hailsham)
Minister of Agriculture (Walker)	- 10	6 -	S/S Education and Science (Joseph)
S/S Wales (Edwards)	- 13	9 -	S/S Defence (Nott)
S/S Industry (Jenkin)	- 15	11 -	S/S Environment (Heseltine)
S/S Employment (Tebbit)	- 22	18 -	S/S Social Services (Fowler)
<i>Paymaster - General</i>	- 23	19 -	Chief Secretary, Treasury (Brittan)



Told Cabinet
Office

MAP 7/1

1.
Prime Minister's Cabinet
Agree the revised
seating plan?
MKS
6.5.81

Ref. A03906

PRIME MINISTER

Your Cabinet changes will necessitate some changes in the Cabinet seating plan.

2. I suggest that, instead of twelve a side (as until now), you have eleven Ministers on your side of the table (five each side of you) and twelve on the opposite side.

3. Mr. Pym can stay put.

Agreed

4. I suggest switching Mr. Nott and Mr. Heseltine.

- This will cause trouble leave them as now

5. Mr. Biffen could take Mr. Stevas's place; and Mr. Brittan Mr. Biffen's old place.

Agreed

6. Mr. Fowler could move round to Mr. Maude's place.

Agreed

7. A revised seating plan based on these suggestions is annexed. If you are content with it, we will place cards accordingly for Cabinet on 8th January.

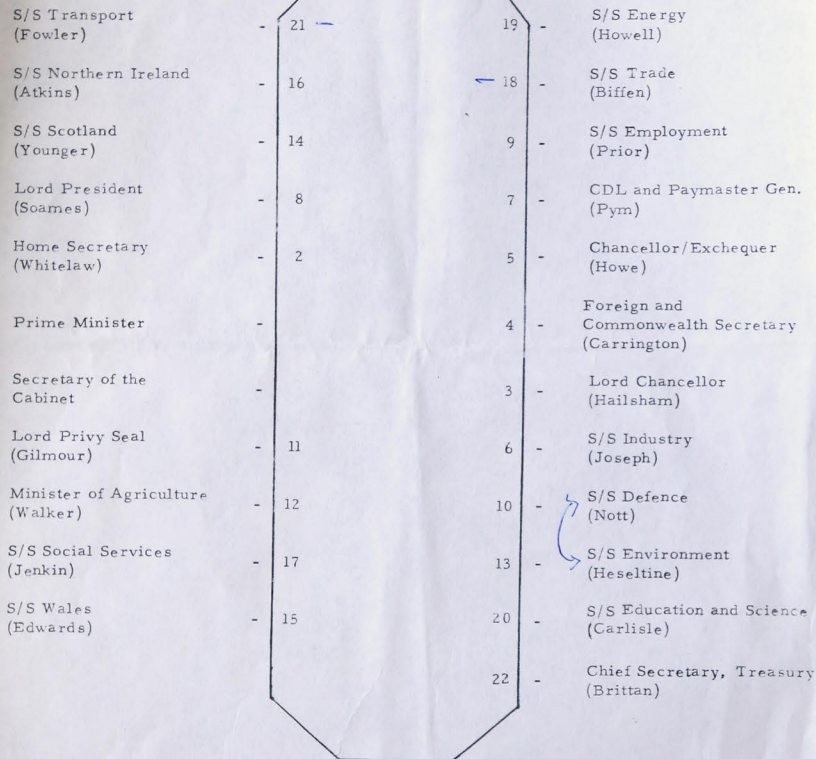
RA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

6th January, 1981

CABINET SEATING PLANJANUARY 1981

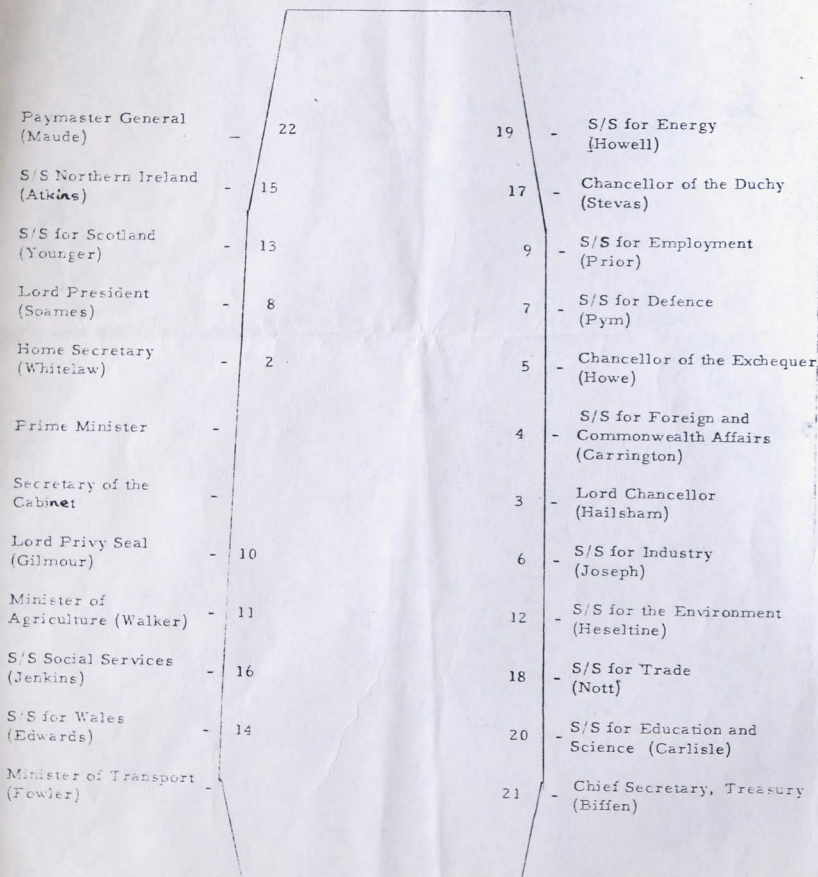
Chief Whip



CABINET SEATING PLAN

MAY 1979

Chief Whip
1



CABINET



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

7 May 1979

The Prime Minister has seen Sir John Hunt's minute of 6 May, in which he makes proposals for the Cabinet seating plan. She is content with these proposals.

I will ensure that the necessary arrangements are put in hand in No. 10.

M. A. PATTISON

M.J. Vile, Esq.,
Cabinet Office.

KRB

Ref: A09486



1.

gc Peter Taylor

PRIME MINISTER

Cabinet Seating Plan

I think it would be desirable to settle the seating plan before Tuesday. Although that will be an informal occasion some Ministers take a great interest in where they sit and if people occupy the wrong chairs on Tuesday it could be a little embarrassing to seat them differently at the first formal meeting of the Cabinet on Thursday.

I attach a draft seating plan for your consideration. The numbers against each name show the individual's position in the order of precedence. As you will see, the seating largely reflects seniority but also takes account of some personal considerations. One point you will especially want to consider is where Mr. Whitelaw should sit. I have placed him next to you (and this has advantages if you are ever called out of Cabinet and he has to take the chair): but a case could also be made for putting him opposite you with Lord Carrington sitting next to you.

John Hunt

Agreed and.

6th May 1979

CABINET SEATING PLAN

MAY 1979

Chief Whip
1

Paymaster General (Maude)	-	22	19	-	S/S for Energy (Howell)
S/S Northern Ireland (Atkins)	-	15	17	-	Chancellor of the Duchy (Stevas)
S/S for Scotland (Younger)	-	13	9	-	S/S for Employment (Prior)
Lord President (Soames)	-	8	7	-	S/S for Defence (Pym)
Home Secretary (Whitelaw) ✓	-	2	5	-	Chancellor of the Exchequer (Howe)
Prime Minister	-		4	-	S/S for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Carrington)
Secretary of the Cabinet	-		3	-	Lord Chancellor (Hailsham)
Lord Privy Seal (Gilmour)	-	10	6	-	S/S for Industry (Joseph)
Minister of Agriculture (Walker)	-	11	12	-	S/S for the Environment (Heseltine)
S/S Social Services (Jenkins)	-	16	18	-	S/S for Trade (Nott)
S/S for Wales (Edwards)	-	14	20	-	S/S for Education and Science (Carlisle)
Minister of Transport (Fowler)	-		21	-	Chief Secretary, Treasury (Biffen)