

# Centre for Policy Studies

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KJ/SMC

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Alternative studies

10th February 1976

Dear Ralph,

Would you kindly let me have the six ideas - or fewer if there are fewer - for "Option" publications which you, Arthur and John think might be suitable? Secondly, before I approach Keswick do you think I should discuss ideas with Patrick Cosgrove?

Poverty policy -

Government expenditure

Education

Taxation

Housing

Nationalisation

Law,

Kevin

Changing for local government

Hayfield

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To secure fuller understanding of the methods available to improve the standard of living, the quality of life and the freedom of choice of the British people, with particular attention to social market policies.

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2000 → CPS / KJ file

AS/2804 See KJ's request + add elaborations/alternatives from

Suggestions for studies in "Radical" series "Alternative Policy" studies (three authors to present contrasting approaches)

Cutting the

- 1 Coping with nationalised industries
  - a) remove monopoly protection and require economic pricing ✓
  - b) break up into competing regional enterprises ✓
  - c) denationalise/give to workers/ cooperatives ✓

Dealing with

- 2 Demunicipalising council houses
  - a) Give 'em away ✓
  - b) Sell 'em off ✓
  - c) Economic rents plus housing allowances ✓

Choice in education

- 3 Choice in education
  - a) various forms of voucher ✓
  - b) phased charging towards full costs ✓
  - c) denationalise schools ✓

2 3 4 Getting government spending down

- a) Little by little...? ✓
- b) At a stroke...? ✓
- c) Across the board...? ✓

(central services can be privatised as well as local) H

Local government finance

- 3 4 5 Local government finance
  - a) switch to central finance? ✓
  - b) local income tax/sales tax? ✓
  - c) charging for local services? ✓

Way ahead for welfare

- 6 Poverty policy
  - a) reverse income tax to replace benefits in cash and kind
  - b) tax credit scheme in place of income tax allowances
  - c) contracting out of "universal" services

National Health Service

- 1. Decentralise
- 2. Privatise
- 3. marketise

Other unfinished business:

- Tax reform
- Regional policy/mobility
- Roads, transport
- National/international currency
- Land planning
- Incomes policy
- Trade unions
- Primary commodities/foreign aid

Notes: my order of priority as above. But I agree that these 6 are better than any other, except perhaps union.