

CONFIDENTIAL

MR. ALEXANDER

Community Budget: Prime Minister's Meeting
on 21st December

I attach for consideration at the meeting to be chaired by the Prime Minister on 21st December two Notes by Officials, entitled respectively -

A Community Budget: Supplementary Measures to increase
United Kingdom Receipts.

B Restructuring the Community Budget.

2. The Prime Minister has already seen the first paper, and approved a note based upon it to be given informally to the Commission. I also attach a copy of that note in the form in which it has been given to the Secretary General of the Commission. Some of the figures in the paper have been revised. The second is a companion piece dealing with the contribution which might be made to alleviating our Budget problem by a shift in Community expenditure away from agriculture. Both have been prepared by the Official Steering Committee on European Questions.

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3. I am sending copies of this minute and the attachments to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Lord Privy Seal, the Minister of Agriculture and the Secretary of State for Energy.

M. J. Vile

(M. J. Vile)

19th December, 1979