

cc Paymaster General

Mr Whitmore

PRIME MINISTER


The Chief Secretary, Treasury, will take the lead in the presentation of the Public Expenditure White Paper tomorrow (Thursday 1 November). In addition to his statement in the House, he will hold a press conference, with the Financial Secretary (and give any consequential radio/TV news interviews). The Chancellor of the Exchequer is due to appear during the evening in the Thames "TV Eye" programme.

2. Other activities include:

- i Press conferences by the Secretaries of State for the Environment, Education and Social Services;
- ii Press notices from MAFF, FCO and the Overseas Development Administration;
- iii Ministry of Transport will be issuing the departmental response to the Select Committee report on rural bus services and new bus grants;
- iv The Secretary of State for Wales hopes to hold an informal Lobby and to give regional radio/TV interviews;
- v The Scottish Office intend to issue a note drawing attention to the proposed publication of cash limits on RSG on 16 November;
- vi All other Departments are briefed to handle questions from the press;
- vii A Ministerial speaking note will be circulated by the PMG's office before the weekend;
- viii FCO/COI have made all necessary arrangements to brief Posts abroad.

3. I also understand that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will be issuing a statement through Conservative Central Office.

4. I shall be discussing with the PMG this evening the necessary follow-up activity, including regional and local radio/TV current affairs programmes and the national weekend media.


NEVILLE GAFFIN

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