PRIME MINISTER

GOVERNMENT STRATEGY

Phi hankester

As you know, we now have laundry lists in from the Departments. I am working through these with Sir Kenneth Berrill and Norman Strauss.

My aim, obviously, is to reduce these lists to something more concrete, so that we can:

- 1. Start design work on measures which may be difficult (administratively, legally, politically, etc) or which have long lead times, but which nevertheless promise a high pay-off.
- Prepare for early implementation of the simpler measures which 2. promise benefits.
- 3. Drop those which don't look worth the trouble.
- Get a rough timetable so that we know who is to start doing what, when, for 1. and 2. above.

Could we set up a 2-hour meeting (same colleagues as before) towards the end of this month or early August, before people disappear to their constituencies? This would allow us (Departments, CPRS, Policy Unit) to get moving during the summer lull.

I would prepare an "Action Programme" for consideration at that meeting, to be circulated in advance.

This note, attached to a minute from you, could be used to explain the purpose of the meeting.

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This is the note which with John Hoshyai agreement,

JOHN HOSKYNS 4 July 1979

PRIME MINISTER GOVERNMENT STRATEGY With reference to my note of today's date, suggesting a second Strategy Meeting towards the end of this month, I wonder if Angus Maude should attend it. JOHN HOSKYNS 4 July 1979

No B

MR. HOSKYNS

We are suggesting in the Business Note to the Prime Minister tonight that your paper on the "Action Programme" should be taken in E Committee on 24 July. You suggested that Angus Maude be invited to the meeting. We will take that up with the Prime Minister nearer the time.

I have shown the note which you had planned to put to the Prime Minister to Sir John Hunt so that he knows what you are planning for this meeting.

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MR LANKESTER

I note the "Action Programme" will be taken at E Committee on 24 July. I would like Norman Strauss to sit in at that meeting as it is important that he has a feel for the way its members are thinking. This would simply be to continue on the same basis that we followed in Opposition, where he and I sat in at all meetings on Stepping Stones strategy.

(A)

CF M BF

0 20 July

JOHN HOSKYNS 9 July 1979 R

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