

# Conservative Research Department

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ANR/srg

22nd June 1978

MRS. THATCHER

## Meeting 26th June 1978

You may find it helpful to glance at the summary of matters for decision which now follows, which is based on the paper I sent you for discussion when we meet on Monday. The numbering corresponds to the paragraphs of the report.

### Section A: The Structure of the Administration

- Paragraph 17 (i) No. 10 Private Office, and Principal Private Secretary.
- 18 Measures to restrict the flow of paper
- 20 The future of the political office, and the method of payment and recruitment of its staff.
- 21 Future of the Donoughue unit.
- 23 The CPRS and the Donoughue unit.
- 25,26 Senior appointments in the CPRS; junior appointments in the CPRS; problems of labour sympathisers.
- 27 CPRS and independent economic advisers.
- 29 No. 10 Press Officer
- 33 Decisions about posts for advisers and candidates for those posts; questions of vetting standards; the problem of advance preparation.
- 35 The role of political advisers, and the need to scrutinise current practice.



Section B: Action Before Coming into Power

- Paragraph 38 Informal contacts with officials, particularly in key policy areas.
- 41 The case for policy briefing going beyond the Manifesto.
- 42 Asiding legislative priorities
- 43 A limit on Parliamentary activity; and an assessment of the legislative burden of our policy proposals.
- 47 Making Shadow spending plans binding on Ministers after an election.
- 48, 49 Ministerial appointments and precedence.
- 50 Guidance for new Ministers.
- 51 Reforms in machinery of Government and Parliament.
- 53 Need for more thought about CSD, Treasury, DPCP, etc.
- 54 A tighter definition of departmental responsibility for expenditure control; and more vigorous Parliamentary machinery for the same purpose.
- 56 Political developments in the Civil Service.
- 57 Official secrecy.

Section C: Action After Coming into Power

- Paragraph 59 Early broadcasts.
- 60 Early popular actions.
- 61 Ministerial and Prime Ministerial guidance.
- 64 New appointments.
- 65 Contacts with other countries, major interest groups, etc; in particular the union and Irish questions.
- 67 Handling awkward approaches.
- 68 Business in hand.
- 69 Other issues.

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