

CENTRE FOR POLICY STUDIES

MINUTES of a meeting in the House of Commons at 3.00pm on 12 June 1974.

Present: Sir Keith Joseph MP  
Nigel Vinson  
Alfred Sherman  
Simon Webley  
Julian Bower

1. Themes: Questions

The meeting concentrated on further refinement of Themes into Questions, particularly bearing in mind that KJ's remit referred to international comparisons.

(a) Distribution of Wealth and Income.

Questions to be answered included:-

"Is there greater or less (i) inequality (ii) poverty internationally than in the UK?"

KJ would arrange for Norman Lamont MP to contact SW for involvement in this subject.

(b) Profits etc. (The 'Sextet').

SW should contact the ~~Finance Directors~~ of ICI and Unilever; KJ would arrange an introduction to BAT and also handed SW a draft reply to Reckitt & Colman for comment. (2)

SW would ascertain Brian Griffith's capacity to contribute on the question of Protection of Savings. ↑ 10

KJ would arrange a dinner in July to explore which Sextet questions were most relevant. An example might be:-

"What ~~is the~~ overall relationship of profits to GNP, taxation and growth?"

(c) Money Supply: Unemployment: Bankruptcies.

SW would talk to Alan Walters to assess how he could best contribute to:-

"What correlation is there between Money Supply: Unemployment: Bankruptcies?"

KJ would arrange for Nick Edwards MP and Bill Shelton MP to contact SW for involvement in this subject.

(d) Socialist Market Economics.

It was agreed that, rather than concentrate on defining specific questions, this would be a fruitful area for provision of anecdotal material as soon as possible. Examples could be under the general heading:- (3) X

"Lack of consumer satisfaction"

AS and SW would liaise to find an appropriate journalist to investigate this.

2. Staff

It was reported that Mr. Martin Wassell would be likely to join the Centre on 7 August on secondment from the CBI

3. KJ's Speeches.

KJ would make his first speech on Saturday 22 June. He would delay circulation of fund-raising letters until after then.

KJ asked for ideas on the precise definition of productivity and its role.

4. Next Meeting.

The next meeting would be at 11.45am on Wednesday 26 June in Interview Room G.

JB 14 June 1974

JB