



From the Minister

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
WHITEHALL PLACE, LONDON SW1A 2HH

PRIME MINISTER

*only
to inform*

[Handwritten signature]

LIQUID MILK PRICES

I have seen John Biffen's minute of 23 July to you about the procedure for considering liquid milk prices.

I would of course have no objection to a meeting between my officials and those of John Biffen and John Nott to consider the factual background to the note I sent to you on 18 July. My Officials have already circulated a paper to the Treasury, Department of Trade and Cabinet Office, and they will, as a matter of urgency, be arranging a meeting with those concerned. However, I would hope the question could then be considered either in Cabinet or in a Ministerial Committee. I do not see that a further meeting at official level in a Cabinet Office Committee would serve any useful purpose, and, as I indicated in my original note to you, the longer the delay, the greater the price change that becomes necessary in order to achieve any given effect. I hope therefore that we can proceed in the way I have indicated.

I am copying this minute to members of the Cabinet and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

[Large handwritten flourish]

[Handwritten signature]

PETER WALKER
25 July 1980