

1 December 1980

Policy Unit

PRIME MINISTER

GREEN PAPER ON TRADE UNION IMMUNITIES

I note that you would like me to draft a minute and send it myself to Jim Prior and then discuss our comments on the Green Paper draft with him and/or his officials.

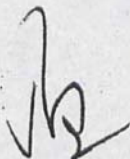
I want to make sure that our comments do not run into the sand at that point. I therefore propose, if you are agreeable, to send Jim a covering letter which makes two points:

1. That we prepared our comments on the Green Paper draft for you and that you asked me to copy them to Jim.
2. That I have also copied them to Geoffrey and Keith as I know that they have already made suggestions to Jim about the contents of the Green Paper.

If I don't do this, there is a risk that we will have discussions with Jim and his officials; that he will say that he is not persuaded by our recommendations; and that it will then be impossible for me to copy our comments to Geoffrey and Keith so that they themselves can raise them before or at E.

Would you be agreeable to my taking this line?

Or would you prefer me to communicate with Jim only and not send copies to Geoffrey or Keith?



JOHN HOSKYNS

*It would be best to
take them up with Jim first.*

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