

NEXT YEAR'S LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME

QL are to meet on Tuesday to look for the first time at the legislative programme for 1981/82. You might like to look through the proposals as they stand at the moment.

QL(81)4 summarises the position and lists the recommended Bills

- QL(81)4 - (at Flag A) and those recommended for exclusion from the
QL(81)4. - programme (at Flag B). QL(81)3 gives the details of all the Bills.

I am afraid that I share the view expressed in paragraph 6 of the Chancellor of the Duchy's paper, that there is little in next year's programme which will generate any fresh enthusiasm. Almost all of the proposals are familiar ones, and many of them are dull. You should note, however, that the Bills proposed include legislation on young offenders, employers' statutory sick pay, data protection and some privatisation measures.

The list of rejected Bills does not include many of greater popular appeal. I should point out, though, that the Further and Higher Education Bill, which would implement the proposals for a national body for non-university higher education, is in the list of excluded Bills. The proposals are due to come to H again at the end of this month. If policy approval is agreed then (which is by no means certain) I suggest that we might press the Chancellor of the Duchy to bring that Bill forward next year. Mark Carlisle would very much like to get on with it, and I think he is right.

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