



BC Mr Ingham

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## 10 DOWNING STREET

Principal  
From the *Private Secretary*

1 April, 1981

Liaison Committee

The Prime Minister has seen the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster's letter of 30 March to her about the revival of the Liaison Committee.

The Prime Minister is content with the draft letter attached to Mr Pym's letter, subject to one point. Since civil servants are to be included - rightly, in the Prime Minister's view - in the membership of the committee, she thinks that the terms of reference should be made slightly less party political by changing their last few words to read " ... to sustain public confidence in the Government".

With much the same thought in mind the Prime Minister has also suggested the omission of the reference to candidates. The opening words of the terms of reference would thus read "to give guidance to Members of Parliament and others ..."

If the Chancellor of the Duchy is content with these changes, a consequential amendment to the opening of paragraph 2 of the draft is needed. Perhaps something on the following lines would do "I therefore propose, with the Prime Minister's agreement to revive this committee, with the following terms of reference (which are very similar to the original terms of reference):"

VC A. WHITMORE

D Heyhoe, Esq  
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster's Office

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