

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

D.15

FROM: ADAM RIDLEY
8 February 1983

MEETING AT NO 11 DOWNING STREET
FORWARD LOOK ETC.

Present:

Chancellor
Chancellor of the Duchy
Ian Gow MP (for part of the meeting)
Mr Mount
Mr Cropper
Mr Ridley

The following conclusions were reached.

- (1) Messrs Mount, Cropper and Ridley would prepare their comments on the Forward Look exercise for discussion in the week of February 21st. Mr Mount would also prepare for that occasion a more general note on themes and a framework for policy presentation. A note on opinion research lessons would also be helpful.
- (2) Messrs Tebbit, Lawson and Howell should be invited to attend as well as those present. Mr Ridley would make arrangements.
- (3) The Chancellor would write to Cabinet colleagues to solicit compact proposals for their Departments' policies by February 28th.
- (4) Given these initiatives it would be possible to prepare a considered draft during March.
- (5) The Chancellor would arrange a long meeting on the weekend of April 9th/10th to consider the draft alongside the Policy Group reports, which were due by the end of March, to which the same cast would be invited.
- (6) The Chancellor and the Chairman would submit proposals to the Prime Minister in the light of the April 9th/10th discussions.
- (7) It would then be desirable to arrange collective discussions in the latter half of April which would ensure that a near-final draft would be available, preferably in galley form, by May 7th/8th at the latest.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

- (8) The Chairman and CRD would explore arrangements for printing and design.
- (9) The Chancellor and Chairman would encourage Messrs Younger and Edwards to come forward with ideas for regional drafts at an early stage, preferably in their response to (3) above.
- (10) Care would have to be taken to allow regional and other groups of MPs proper opportunities to express their views, but in a manner which was not disruptive. The Chairman undertook to pursue further the interests of the group of West Midlands MPs, who were already active.

AR

A N RIDLEY

Circulation: Those present.

18 / 1

63 / 3