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Prime Minister

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FROM THE PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE
AND THE CHIEF WHIP

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28 April 1983

Dear Willie

This morning the Lord Privy Seal spoke to the Prime Minister about the fact that 36 Conservative Peers had voted against the Government in the division on Clause 2 of the Housing and Building Control Bill last Tuesday. The Prime Minister asked the Lord Privy Seal for a copy of the list of those voting. The attached division list has been marked up so as to show at a glance the Party allegiances of all who voted, and I hope that this will meet the Prime Minister's needs. In addition, I am enclosing a list of the names of the 36 Conservative Peers who voted against the Government.

It is known that a number of Conservative Peers who might have been expected to support the Government (including some who were ennobled only recently) failed to vote at all in the division. We are still looking into the reasons for this, but in some cases there appear to have been very understandable reasons. For example, Baroness Cox was not present because her husband was very ill following a heart attack.

Yours ever

Dave Beamish.

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