



HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

21 January 1982

Dear Mike,

Prime Minister

PENLEE LIFEBOAT DISASTER FUND

Content?

Yes

MA 22/1

In your letter of 13 January, you told me that the Prime Minister would be content for the conclusions of the Home Secretary's minute of 12 January to be published by means of an arranged Question.

The Home Secretary proposes to answer a question as in the attached draft on Wednesday, 27 January. It has been cleared with the Law Officers' Department.

I am sending a copy of this letter and enclosure to John Kerr (HM Treasury), Jim Nursaw (Law Officers' Department), David Heyhoe (Lord President's office), Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's office), Christine Duncan (Lord Advocate's office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever,

J F HALLIDAY

M A Pattison, Esq.

DRAFT QUESTION:

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he will issue guidance to the organisers of disaster appeals.

DRAFT REPLY

The Government are concerned that the organisers of disaster appeals should be able to obtain sound legal advice at the earliest possible opportunity. To this end my Rt Hon Friend the Attorney General has put in hand the preparation, and publication to the legal profession, banks and other bodies, of two formulae which could be used by those organising appeal funds. Depending on which formula was used the public would be in no doubt as to the charitable or non-charitable status of the fund. So far as the establishment of charitable trusts is concerned, the Charity Commissioners have given guidance in their annual reports to Parliament, most recently in their report for 1980, and are always prepared to give advice to appeals organisers as a matter of urgency. Subsequent difficulties may be avoided if the Commissioners are consulted before firm decisions are taken about the purposes of the appeal.

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cc: Hunt
HAD
LPO
CWO

Home
Affairs

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

25 January 1982

LADv.D

CO

Penlee Lifeboat Disaster Fund

Thank you for your letter of 21 January to Mike Pattison. The Prime Minister is content for the Home Secretary to answer an arranged Question on Wednesday, 27 January as in the draft attached to your letter.

I am copying this to the recipients of your letter.

W. F. S. RICKETT

John Halliday, Esq.,
Home Office

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