

Prime Minister

MEETING WITH 1922 EXECUTIVE - TUESDAY,
3RD JULY 1984 - 6.00 P.M.

The Executive are coming to see you tomorrow, and I attach a copy of the letter which I sent Edward du Cann on your behalf, setting out points for discussion.

As there will be 20 of us in all, this meeting will take place in one of the State Drawing Rooms.

MICHAEL ALISON

2.7.84



Box

10 DOWNING STREET

2nd July 1984

Dear Edward,

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to tell you how grateful she is that the 1922 Executive have agreed to meet her rather earlier than the normal cycle of her regular meetings with you would have entailed.

She is particularly looking forward to this meeting, since it will enable her to prepare for her meeting with the 1922 Committee itself later this month in good time.

The Prime Minister wondered whether she could indicate in advance two or three of the questions on which she would like to take the mind of your colleagues and yourself? The first is how the Executive advise her and other members of the Government to counteract the effect of the huge propaganda effort made by Ken Livingstone and the GLC to discredit the Government's programme of local government reform. You will know that the GLC are spending up to £7 million of ratepayers' money on their propaganda efforts.

Secondly, the Prime Minister would be glad to have the views of your colleagues and yourself on more general questions of presenting the Government's programme of policy for this Parliament. Looking back on the first Parliament, the single idea of "the battle against inflation" was, perhaps, the basic theme of our record. How would colleagues seek to characterise in a similar shorthand way the highly variegated programme of desirable objectives which we are pursuing in the present Parliament?

Thirdly, matters concerned with agriculture and the countryside are assuming increasing importance; but there is an implicit conflict in some of the objectives

which the farming community are pursuing in the normal course of their business, and the other objectives which the growing adherents of a "green" lobby are beginning to formulate. The Prime Minister will be glad to have the advice of colleagues on how to steer a constructive and balanced course between these two important areas of interest.

I enclose some copies of this letter in case this is of help to you in letting members of the Executive know the questions which the Prime Minister would like to discuss.

*Yours ever
Michael*

MICHAEL ALISON

The Rt Hon Edward du Cann MP