



H M Treasury

Parliament Street London SW1P 3AG

Switchboard 01-233 3000

Direct Dialling 01-2335618

A N Ridley
Special Adviser

S Sherbourne Esq.
No 10 Downing Street
London SW1

9 July 1984

Dear Steven,

Just a quick comment on your letter of July 5th about costing Labour pledges. I am raising this explicitly with Treasury Ministers to make sure they endorse the exercise, as I am sure they will. I am asking officials straightaway to cost the allegation made by John Patten in his press release of (I think) July 6th to the effect that Michael Meacher has committed the Labour Party to the nationalisation of all private medicine. In the meantime, I suspect it might be sensible to convey the gist of your message to all social advisers round and about, since many of them will see things which the Research Department does not do.

Yours ever

Alan

A N RIDLEY

*PJ we must have a word
when you are back!*

Conservative Research Department

32 Smith Square Westminster SW1P 3HH Telephone 01-222 9511

Director: PETER CROPPER

✓ Ack'd 17/7

PJC/CR

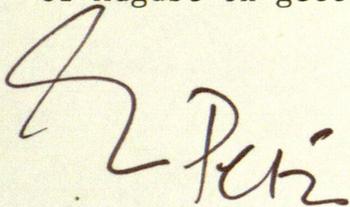
16th July 1984

Dear Peter

LABOUR COMMITMENTS

I note your letter of 5th July and am discussing with Nigel Clarke how we should proceed.

We have at last won the battle to secure a computer for the political quotes exercise and the commitments exercise should clearly go alongside it. Nigel Clarke is taking over the Political Section on August 3rd and will be spending the whole of August on getting himself computerised.



PETER CROPPER

Stephen Sherbourne Esq
Political Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

habbaw



10 DOWNING STREET

5th July, 1984

Dear Peter

As you know I am very anxious that Central Office keeps an up-to-date list of all commitments entered into by Labour spokesmen since June 1983. I know that John Whittingdale is aware of this but I thought it worth re-emphasising this now the Research Department has a number of new desk officers.

From my experience what is required is an instruction to all desk officers that they must keep any such commitments made by Labour spokesmen in their own field and copy them to the Political Section who will keep the central record.

From time to time we should then get the Treasury to cost these proposals. And at the time of the General Election we should be able to use this to maximum effect.

Indeed it might be helpful if twice a year everybody with an interest in this exercise was sent a list of these commitments and Treasury costings where possible.

Tom
Steve

STEPHEN SHERBOURNE

Peter Cropper, Esq

cc. Adam Ridley
Michael Portillo
Rodney Lord
John Whittingdale
Nigel Clarke