

PRIME MINISTER

There are various miscellaneous points on which I would like to bring you up to date.

1. As you requested, I have talked to both the Chairman and Gordon Reece about Gordon's position at Central Office. Gordon believes he needs to be given some title, eg: "adviser" to clarify his position and stop speculation. I agree. And Gordon will talk to JSG about it during this coming week. The Chairman is having a lobby with the Sunday press next Friday just before the Conference when he will let them know Gordon's role. But it needs to be handled properly so Gordon does not continue to be the news himself.

Paragraph redacted on data protection grounds - relates to a minor staffing issue.
30 June 2014

3. The Chairman would like to see you to discuss the Party Conference. I think Gordon would as well. Next week is very difficult for all three of you but mainly you. Would you like to see them perhaps at Chequers next weekend? If so, I will make sure it is fitted in to the arrangements at Chequers for working on the Party Conference speech. Shall I proceed in this way?

Yes - but
I can't briefly.
—
not

Or perhaps Friday afternoon at No 10?

4. Lord Whitelaw is seeing Geoffrey Tucker next Tuesday with me present. As I understand it you do not want a working group set up and you do not want to pay Young and Rubicam £60,000 or anything like. Is this right?

We cannot afford anything at present. We must not allow ourselves into extra expenditure

The question remaining is:- Do you want Young and Rubicam to do further work for us, provided of course we think it is useful, if they will do it for free or cheaply?

I think he should be under an obligation if they did it "for free".

5. I saw Tim Bell this week. There are two points to report. First, although he is becoming detached from the mainstream of Saatchis, he wants you to know that he hopes you will always use him in a personal capacity or otherwise in whatever way you think he can help. Secondly, following an earlier discussion Tim and I had, he is undertaking some public opinion work which should be available soon. I understand this is for free.

6. I saw David Hart privately this week in his hotel. Nothing to report. I told him that he can always feed intelligence through me but that visits to No. 10 can create dangers. He will be at Brighton but I believe he really must keep his distance from you there because of the hot-house atmosphere of the Conference hotel. But I can easily meet him privately there. He knows that he must not act as a channel from you to Mr. MacGregor.

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7. The suggestion was made to me that Adam Ridley might make a very suitable Chef de Cabinet or deputy Chef to Lord Cockfield in Brussels. He has the languages, the knowledge of Westminster, Whitehall and the Party. At this stage it is only a thought but I wanted you to know about it.

Excellent idea

Regardless of what he does on leaving the Treasury, do you want to consider Adam for an honour?

Yes - *of course*
wrote to Robin
Butler 3/10/84

There is no copy of this note at all. Can you please return it to me in the attached envelope and I will shred it.

Stephen

STEPHEN SHERBOURNE

28.9.84