



December 6, 1984

As you will know, the 1922 Executive has been anxious, for some time, about the general effectiveness of our backbench Committees, and you will remember that we discussed this on more than one occasion in the last Session.

The Executive has now asked me to write to you, as Chairman of one of these Committees, inviting you to let me know by the end of the Christmas Recess what steps you and your officers will be taking to sharpen your Committee's cutting edge over the coming year.

If you have specific proposals to increase attendance and to make a more positive contribution to the formulation of Party policy, these will be of particular interest - as will your ideas on greater involvement with colleagues on the House's Select Committees, and with Conservative MEPs.

I need hardly add that, if there are any areas in which you would welcome the support of the Executive, I hope you will let me know. You may also like to know that the acting Chief Whip will be writing to Ministers, to ask for their full co-operation in this exercise.

Cranley Onslow.

To all Chairmen of Backbench Committees.