

Local govt
letter



Prime Minister
Agree?

AT 21/12

Lee BI

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

21 December 1983

Dear Andrew

Yes MB

My Secretary of State has been asked, in a Parliamentary Question for written answer, how much this Department is spending on publicising its plans to abolish the GLC

He proposes to give the attached answer tomorrow but, before doing so, would be grateful for confirmation that the Prime Minister is content with the terms of the draft.

Yours sincerely

L. Robinson

LUCY ROBINSON
Private Secretary

left message
to this effect

PE
22/12

File

Andrew Turnbull Esq

Q. Mr Harry Greenway (Con - Ealing North):

To ask the Secretary of State for the Environment, how much his Department is spending on publicising its plans to abolish the Greater London Council; and if he will make a statement.

A. My Department has no special budget for publicising the proposal to abolish the GLC. In view of the complexity and importance of the Government's local government policies, however, I have increased the capacity within my Department's local government command, (within the Department's overall manpower resources) to ensure that the general public are properly and factually informed about the reasons for, and nature of, the Government's policies affecting local government, including the abolition of the GLC. Four officials have been transferred to this work from other duties.

By contrast, I understand the GLC has spent over £¾ million of ratepayer's money so far this financial year on political propaganda against the Government's policy. I understand too that proposals are now before the Council for a further £1 million to be spent on the publicity campaign by the end of the current financial year.

21 DEC 1987



COMMISSION