

PRIME MINISTER

Mr. Turnbull

Mr. Jenkin raised the point of (i) below. The PM was sympathetic on the promise that this sum was not large. X) was not mentioned.

Mr. Jenkin said that he and Sir K. Joseph were going to come back with the proposal for an elected ILEA. The PM said that she was worried about it but it must "go through the mill". Mr.

Jenkin said that the right of authorities to opt out would be retained without need for further legislation.

ABOLITION OF THE GLC AND MCCS

When Mr. Jenkin comes to see you about the PSA, he may raise a number of points on the abolition of the GLC and MCCs.

FEB

29.3.

(i) He will argue that he needs a less small-minded approach from the Treasury, particularly on the arts package put forward by Lord Gowrie.

Mr. Jenkin believes that for a small sum, £7 m. extra, a major improvement in the acceptability of the abolition proposals can be achieved.

(ii) He needs to have the full support of colleagues, not just on the principle (there is now much less doubt about this), but also about the particular components. Colleagues have put forward a number of solutions in their areas of responsibility which are inconsistent with the overall design. For example, DOE wish to break up the West Midlands police and devolve responsibility to boroughs and districts, but the Home Office are opposing it. Department of Transport want a joint arrangement for urban traffic control and the Home Office want to retain Probation Boards.

(iii) He needs support from the Business Managers in the allocation of Parliamentary time.

MISC 95 is nearing the completion of its work. You could ask Mr. Jenkin whether he thinks it necessary to hold the meeting of London members of the Government which was suggested earlier. The purpose of such a meeting was to ensure that they were fully

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enlisted in support of the policy. You and he may feel that sufficient progress on this has been made to make such a meeting unnecessary.

AT

28 March 1984