



*cabinet 288*  
*cc: B. Ingham*

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

MR. WRIGHT

CABINET OFFICE

Thank you for your minute of 22 February, with which you enclosed a draft revision of paragraph 105(d) of Questions of Procedure for Ministers.

I have consulted the Prime Minister about this revised draft. She has approved the draft, subject to the deletion of "or to correct a misunderstanding" at the end of the first sentence; and of "overall" in the last line of the paragraph. I should be grateful if you would in due course circulate a corrigendum to Questions of Procedure for Ministers to take account of this change.

I am sending a copy of this minute to Bernard Ingham.

M. C. SCHOLAR

*CS*

26 February 1982



Prime Minister

(i)

Ref. A07578

MR SCHOLAR

✓

CF  
PP<sup>2</sup> PL  
as amended M/S  
of 24/2

Bernard is content  
with these revised paragraphs  
and thinks them sufficiently  
encouraging.

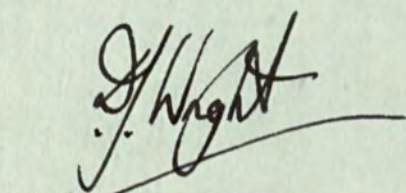
Content for Questions of Procedure

Presentation of Economic Policy: Questions of Procedure <sup>to be amended</sup>

accordingly?  
M/S 24/2

Your minute of 17th February, contained a draft revision of paragraph 105(d) of Questions of Procedure for Ministers. This was to meet the Prime Minister's wish to give more encouragement to Ministers to take every opportunity to present the Government's economic policy through radio and television programmes.

I have consulted Sir Robert Armstrong about this revised draft. He has said that he is content for the paragraph in question to be amended to meet the Prime Minister's wishes but has made a number of changes to the draft contained in your minute. I attach a copy of this revised draft and should be grateful if you could let me know whether you are content with it. We can then in due course circulate a corrigendum to Questions of Procedure for Ministers to take account of this.

  
D J WRIGHT

22nd February 1982



## REVISED DRAFT

"When Ministers are invited by the broadcasting authorities to give interviews or otherwise take part in radio and television programmes (whether news bulletins or magazine or feature programmes) they should as a rule respond positively, subject to their being satisfied that they will be given an adequate opportunity to explain Government policy and measures ~~(or to correct a misunderstanding.)~~ In the interests of effective co-ordination of the presentation of Government policies, Ministers should ensure that No 10 Press Office is informed of their intentions. This will enable them to use broadcasting opportunities to best advantage and to avoid duplication with colleagues. The Chief Press Secretary at No 10 is available to advise and help Ministers in securing their ~~overall~~ objective of propounding Government policies."