

CONFIDENTIAL



FILE

RW

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

QUEEN'S SPEECHES AND FUTURE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
(QL) MEMBERSHIP

The Prime Minister has seen your minute of 3 January (Reference A084/8) and is content that the Lord Advocate should be added to the membership of QL Committee.

(T. Flesher)

5 January, 1984

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SK

Prime Minister: /



Yes Mr

Agree that the
 Lord Advocate should
 be added to the membership
 of QL?
 JF 3/1

Ref. A084/8

MR BUTLER

Queen's Speeches and Future Legislation Committee (QL) Membership

This Committee is about to start its annual task of preparing proposals for the Government's legislative programme for the 1984-85 Session for consideration by the Cabinet.

2. The Committee is chaired by the Lord President and, in addition, has as members the other business managers (the Lord Privy Seal and the two Chief Whips), a law officer (the Attorney General) and three senior Ministers (the Lord Chancellor, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Home Secretary).

3. I propose that we should add the Lord Advocate, who is the senior law officer in Scotland where the Attorney General's responsibilities do not extend, to advise the Committee on the implications for Scotland of legislative proposals. He is also the Minister responsible for the Scottish Parliamentary Draftsmen, who draft both the purely Scottish legislation and the Scottish aspects of United Kingdom legislation. Both the Attorney General and the Lord Advocate are members of Legislation Committee, and the Lord Advocate's addition to QL would not materially change the balance of the Committee between business managers and others. I understand that the Lord President is in favour of adding the Lord Advocate to the membership, and I seek the Prime Minister's agreement to make this change.

4. If the Prime Minister is content, I will advise the Lord President and issue the necessary notice.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

3 January 1984