

Meeting with the Chancellor
Wednesday 27 March, 1730

The subjects on the agenda are:-

1. MISC 111

The Chancellor is depressed at the way it is going. Despite the majority view at Monday's meeting, he would like to make savings on child benefit. If he cannot make savings there or on the uprating of the unpledged benefits, he thinks that the Committee will have to go back to housing. He also thinks that Mr Fowler is unnecessarily rushing the timetable.

2. Gas prices

The Chief Secretary wrote to you on 22 February (copy below) about the remit of October 1983. The Chancellor thinks that the discussion with Mr Walker about privatisation makes it more important to get gas prices on to a proper basis.

3. Civil Service Pay

The Chancellor will want to clear with you the terms of an offer.

4. NEDC Dinner

The Chancellor is now thinking of suggesting that, instead of the Dinner, you chair a meeting later this year; or that (alternatively or additionally) you might mark NEDC's Silver Jubilee in 1986 in some way.

5. Covenants to charities by close companies

You want to raise with the Chancellor Emmanuel Kaye's point about the Inland Revenue's apportionment to close companies' charitable donations among their shareholders (papers below).

6. Chequer seminar on local government finance
Chancellor, rather than the Chief Secretary, F.R.B.
to attend?

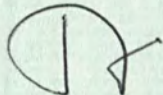
MR BUTLER

Tim
Mary Hanker.

PERB

For the Chancellor's bilateral on Wednesday you might be aware that he proposes to suggest to the Prime Minister rather than holding a dinner for NEDC, as was originally envisaged, she might like to consider chairing a meeting later this year. Alternatively, or additionally, she might like to consider marking NEDC's Silver Jubilee in 1986. He would not however press either of these ideas.

In reaching a view on the Chancellor's suggestion it might be worth getting the views of the Employment Secretary on whether something along these lines might help to assist in the process of re-establishing business-like relations with the TUC following the coal strike.



22 March 1985