



10 DOWNING STREET

5th November 1985

*Dear David,*

You will remember mentioning to me last week your impressions from a deputation of Conservative backbench MPs who came to see you about the prospects for a Shops Bill and its effect on Sunday Trading.

I naturally reported to the Prime Minister what you told me and I also passed to her some impressions which Graham Bright had reported to me about general backbench misgivings about the prospective Sunday trading legislation, not so much in relation to the merits of the proposed changes as in relation to the internecine strife within the Party which the legislation might stir up. I also mentioned to the Prime Minister in my Minute to her some of the compromise options which are being discussed amongst backbenchers and others, including the possibility of providing for local options in the Bill rather on the lines of the Sex Shops. I understand that you and Douglas Hurd and John Wakeham are discussing all these matters.

*Yours ever  
Michael*

MICHAEL ALISON

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