

pp's please
att.

PRIME MINISTER

You will remember when you met the trade unionists from Sunderland last month you told Bob Clay that you would be willing to consider another meeting with a larger delegation in London.

Bob Clay has now written in, backing a request from Sunderland Council, to seek such a meeting.

I think you will have to agree to this, and there are precedents. But we could ask Bob Clay and Sunderland to keep the size of the delegation reasonable, and arrange for the relevant Ministers (Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr. Peter Morrison) to be present too.

Agree that we should set up a meeting after the Recess?

Yes

Would you prefer this to be at the House?

no here me

DTI, DEmp, DAE contact with
15.30-17.00 on Tuesday 23/6.
Sunderland writ (Key's deputy, Hunter)
will come back & states it is correct.
I said more delegation, in writ, 12.
I need to try Bob Clay tomorrow.

Met 2/75

Mark Addison

MARK ADDISON

wrote to confirm re: Bob Clay
to the relevant...

22 May 1986



10 DOWNING STREET

29 May 1986

From the Private Secretary

This is to confirm that the Prime Minister will be meeting a delegation of MPs, local authority and trade union representatives, on 23 June at 1600 hours, to discuss the difficulties faced by Sunderland following the recent announcement of the redundancies by British Shipbuilders. I have allocated an hour for the meeting, as well as half an hour for a briefing meeting immediately beforehand, starting at 1530.

Mr. Bob Clay M.P. has agreed to act as the coordinating point for the delegation as a whole. I attach copies of the letter from Mr. Clay, and from Mr. Key, Chief Executive, Sunderland.

B.F. || I should be grateful if you would coordinate a brief for the meeting, in consultation with the other Departments involved.

I am copying this letter to Iain Mackinnon (Department of Employment), Brian Leonard (Department of Environment) and to Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

(MARK ADDISON)

Michael Gilbertson, Esq.,
Department of Trade and Industry.

6

MR. TAYLOR

COPIED FROM hle
HOME AFFAIRS
CRIME PREVENTION
SEMINAR
PT 2

EA

call Mr J Coe.

MONDAY 23 JUNE

We had a word today about the Crime Prevention Seminar, which runs from 1630 to 1900. The Home Office are making the arrangements for this, and the Seminar is to be chaired by the Home Secretary.

Also on that afternoon is a meeting with a delegation from Sunderland, consisting of Councillors, MPs and trade unionists to discuss shipbuilding closures. That meeting is scheduled for 1600-1700 hours. The Prime Minister has agreed it should be held in the Cabinet Room. The Sunderland delegation will consist of 13 people. The timings of the two meetings should avoid any mixing up of those coming and going to and from each. Jim Coe is trying to ensure that the press who will be around to cover the Seminar do not also bump into the Sunderland delegation.

MARK ADDISON

17 June 1986

ECL/26

27582 CABOFF G
21877 COMEU B
27582 CABOFF G
537037 CIVSUN G
IF 4/6
DATE 19.6.86

TO MR. M. ADDISON
P/S TO THE PRIME MINISTER
10, DOWNING STREET
LONDON

③ DUTY CLERK No 10.

① FILE

1) MGA
CC DEN

SUNDERLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL: MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER

I AM GRATEFUL TO THE PRIME MINISTER FOR AGREEING TO SEE THE
BOROUGH COUNCIL ON MONDAY NEXT AT 4.00PM.

THE COUNCIL WILL BE MEETING, BEFOREHAND, THE DELEGATION OF
MP S AND TRADES UNIONS WHO WILL ALSO ATTEND THE DISCUSSIONS.
IT IS OUR INTENTION THEN, BUT SUBJECT OF COURSE TO THE TIMETABLE
AND WISHES OF THE PRIME MINISTER, TO AGREE A STRUCTURE FOR
OUR LATER MEETING WITH HER, AS FOLLOWS:

- THE GENERAL SITUATION IN SUNDERLAND
- WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING ABOUT IT,
- IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE SHIPYARD REDUNDANCIES,
- PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE OF SHIPBUILDING, BOTH GENERALLY
AND ON THE WEAR,
- PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE AND DEVELOP THE TOWN'S ECONOMIC BASE

WE HOPE THAT THE COUNCIL'S IDEAS AND THOSE OF OUR FELLOW
DELEGATES WILL PROVIDE THE MAJOR FOCUS OF THE MEETING AND, AS
FAR AS POSSIBLE, SECURE THE PRIME MINISTER'S BACKING.

COUNCILLOR DONNELLY WILL BE THE PRINCIPAL SPOKESMAN FOR THE
DELEGATION.

G.P. KEY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

27582 CABOFF G
537037 CIVSUN G



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mark Addison
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
London SW1

17 June 1986

Dear Mr Addison,

MUSA

DEPUTATION FROM SUNDERLAND - 23 JUNE 1986

Further to my letter to you of 5 June 1986, giving names of those attending the meeting on 23 June, I write to inform you that, because of a meeting of the Federation of Shipbuilding Unions in Llandudno that day, Mr Tony Carty will be unable to come to London. He will be replaced by Mr Jim Baldwin, a member of Austin & Pickersgill Joint Shop Stewards Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Clay

BOB CLAY, MP

NAT INA Shipbuilding PTIO





10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

Ack/ 9 June 1986

BF || I attach for information a copy of a letter from Bob Clay MP, which provides details of the delegation who will be attending the meeting with the Prime Minister on 23 June.

I am copying this to Iain Mackinnon (Department of Employment), Brian Leonard (Department of the Environment) and Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

(Mark Addison)

Michael Gilbertson, Esq.,
Department of Trade and Industry.

BM



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

CF 113

Mark Addison
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
London SW1

5 June 1986

1. DW - rise
2. M&A to Jerrard (PDI)
M&A due
I suggest someone
from the Cabinet office
might also attend
this.

Dear Mr Addison,

BF 11

DEPUTATION FROM SUNDERLAND - 23 JUNE 1986

I understand that you have agreed to increase the delegation by one.

DRS
9/6

The names of those attending are as follows :-

BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND

- Cllr J Donnelly, JP
- Cllr J Connor
- Cllr J D S Brown
- Cllr F D Hall

the only Conservative attending

Mr G P Key (Chief Executive)

WEAR SIDE CONFEDERATION OF SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING UNIONS

- Mr John Spoors - Secretary
- Mr Nick Wales - Vice-Chairman

AUSTIN & PICKERSGILL JOINT SHOP STEWARDS COMMITTEE

- Mr Tony Carty - Chairman *Jim Baldwin - Member*
- * Mr Peter Callaghan - Secretary

SUNDERLAND SHIPBUILDERS JOINT SHOP STEWARDS COMMITTEE

- Mr Cedric Morse - Chairman
- * Mr David Stores - Secretary

MPs

- Mr Gordon Bagier, MP for Sunderland South
- * Mr Bob Clay, MP for Sunderland North

Yours sincerely,

Bob Clay

BOB CLAY, MP

NAT IND Shipbuilding P110



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON



df pps



Borough of Sunderland

G.P. Key, LL.B
P.O. Box No. 100,
Town Hall and Civic Centre
Sunderland SR2 7DN
Telephone 76161
Telex 537037

Geoffrey Key
Chief Executive

Our Ref: GPK/ABC
Your Ref:

Extension:
Date 4th June 1986

Dear Mr. Addison,

Further to my telephone conversation of today, I confirm that you agreed that Sunderland Council's delegation can be increased by one, thus increasing the overall number to 13. I am grateful for your accommodation.

Mr. Clay will respond formally to your letter giving you full details of the delegation.

Yours sincerely,

G. P. Key

1. DK Bsee
2. Ric.

Mr. M. Addison,
Private Secretary,
Prime Minister's office,
10 Downing Street,
London SW1



Borough of Sumbaland



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File

JAI/ASX
cc Mr Clay MP

10 DOWNING STREET

29 May 1986

From the Private Secretary

This is to confirm, following my telephone conversation with Mr. Hunter yesterday, that the Prime Minister has agreed to meet representatives of the Council as you requested in your letter of 21 May. The delegation will also comprise Members of Parliament and trade union representatives, as suggested by Mr. Bob Clay M.P. in his letter to the Prime Minister of the same date. The meeting will take place here at No.10 at 1600 hours on Monday 23 June.

I have asked Mr. Clay to let me have the names of all those in the delegation, which will need to be restricted to no more than 12 in total, and he will be in touch with you about this.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Bob Clay.

(MARK ADDISON)

Geoffrey Key, Esq.

GA



File

AIASW

cc Mr Key
✓

10 DOWNING STREET

29 May 1986

From the Private Secretary

This is to confirm that the Prime Minister has agreed to meet a delegation as you proposed in your letter of 21 May, and that we agreed the meeting would take place here at No.10 on Monday 23 June at 1600 hours. I explained that we should need to restrict the total number of the delegation to no more than 12, for reasons of space.

I should be grateful if you would let me know in due course, and after consultation with Sunderland Council, the names of those who will be in the delegation.

I am also sending a copy of this letter to Geoffrey Key, Chief Executive of Sunderland.

(MARK ADDISON)

Bob Clay, Esq., M.P.

OA

MARK
—

John E note of res.
2 DN u u
3. MEX

Michael Gilbertson is checking to see whether any request has been received from Sunderland Borough.

He said that Bob Clay and other fellow MPs had met Mr. Channon on Monday of this week. Some Labour MPs met Philip Hares of British Shipbuilders on Tuesday night. The S/S has not met any union leaders or local council members.

The S/S has left today for a visit to the North East and could well meet some representatives from Smiths Dock. But there are no plans to meet Wearside representatives.

Mr. Gilbertson will come back re Sunderland Borough.

JR

22 5 86



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

21 May 1986

Am
R22

Dear Prime Minister,

I understand that the Borough of Sunderland have requested that you receive a delegation from the Borough to discuss the serious situation facing the town consequent upon the recent announcement of further redundancies in Wearside shipyards and the continuing absence of orders.

You will remember that when we met at Newcastle Airport you did say that you would meet such a delegation, providing that that commitment was not publicised. ||

I hope you will now be able to suggest a time when you could receive a delegation of MPs, local authority leaders and trades unions. We have already held meetings with Paul Channon and with Phillip Hares of British Shipbuilders.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Clay

BOB CLAY, MP

[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

PRINTED BY THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS



from the office of the Chief Executive



Geoffrey Key

G. P. Key, LL.B.
Town Hall & Civic Centre
Sunderland
SR2 7DN
Telephone 76161
Telex 537037

21st May 1986 R22

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing on behalf of my Council to express grave concern for the future of our Town in the wake of the redundancies recently announced by British Shipbuilders. Added to an already critical unemployment situation, the very real prospect of the ultimate cessation of shipbuilding on the Wear brings fears of irretrievable local economic decline.

At this crucial juncture in Sunderland's history, the Council's first priority has got to be to help Wearside shipbuilding survive until there is an upturn in demand.

You know from your own recent visit just what a superb, and highly competitive product our yards can deliver when they are given the chance. The 'Stena Seawell' must be at the forefront of innovative marine engineering technology and design. That is where Wearside's shipbuilding future lies.

We acknowledge, however, that even if this vital objective can be achieved, Sunderland's past maritime glories cannot be recreated. That is why the Council is trying so hard to diversify and modernise the Town's economic base; why, with others, it worked so single-mindedly to secure the Nissan development; and why, often in partnership with private capital, it is doing everything possible to create the conditions for self-sustained economic growth.

In matters affecting the local economy, there are no party politics in Sunderland. The Council recognises, as you do in your Government's regional assistance policies, that investment and enterprise in depressed areas like Sunderland frequently need the stimulus of prior public expenditure to realise their full potential. There may be disagreement on the required level of such expenditure, but not on the principle.

/2...

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher MP,
Prime Minister's Office,
10 Downing Street,
London SW1

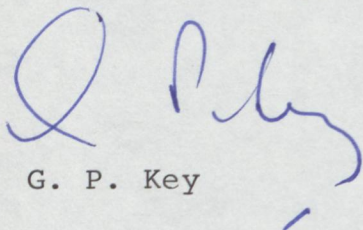
However, at this critical time, the Council is convinced that Sunderland has a just case for a greater input of Government financial resources. This need not imply additional public expenditure. It could be achieved simply by redistribution of existing funds, such as the Urban Programme, to reflect more accurately the incidence of the problems which these funds are designed to redress.

We do not ask for this simply to prop up an ailing economy. It will help us to retain and develop the best of the present - including our shipyards and the huge investment in men and facilities they represent - and to build for the Town's future. Confidence in Sunderland, despite Nissan, has been badly shaken by recent events. In partnership, and with adequate resources, Government, Council and local enterprise can restore the situation.

I cannot do justice in this letter to the range of positive measures which are being or could be pursued jointly with the Town's industrial, commercial and academic interests, to try to achieve the economic prosperity which Sunderland merits as the North East's largest centre of population.

I could do so, however, if you would agree to meet representatives of the Council. I therefore ask only that you give my Council's request for an early meeting your most urgent and serious consideration.

Yours sincerely,



G. P. Key

Mr. Hunter.