

PRIME MINISTER

INTERVIEW WITH WOMAN'S OWN

You are to be interviewed on Wednesday morning by Douglas Keay for WOMAN'S OWN. You last gave him an interview for this magazine in September 1987. The article at that time was reprinted in magazines in Australia and Europe. It is expected that this interview will have a wide readership on top of the five million readers of Woman's Own.

The article will appear in Woman's Own about eight weeks after the interview.

The theme of the interview will be "Towards 2000". This will bring in a wide range of subjects ranging from changes in family life in the future to tackling environmental problems in the present. He will also want to talk to you about women's increasing involvement outside the home; Britain's place in Europe; and your unique position in international affairs.

The interview will be appearing some weeks after the international environmental conference in London but this would be a good opportunity for you to spell out what the Government is already doing to improve the situation and plans for the future. This could include the domestic scene as well as the international with the campaigns that are being run to improve the environment from the Tidy Britain Group to the regeneration of our inner cities. Between the interview being given and its publication Tony Newton will have reported on the first year of action for cities.

Douglas Keay will be willing to be guided during the interview and in general conversation you could also discuss with him the health of the nation, including the importance of a healthy lifestyle, the NHS review, and the Europe Against Cancer '89 which will no doubt be of great interest to the readers of Woman's Own.

Content for photographs to be taken in the White Room before the interview?

Content for the interview to take place in the study?

ENVIRONMENT

When talking to Douglas Keay about the environment you could make the following points:

1. The state of the environment, both national and international, is very much at the forefront of people's minds and that the Government has demonstrated its concern to protect the environment consistently over the last 10 years. There is a very large programme of environmental measures already in hand.

2. In June of last year we agreed a new European Community Directive establishing significant new standards to deal with acid rain emissions, entailing a 60 per cent cut in 1980 levels sulphur emissions from power stations by 2003. This will involve significant further effort over and above the existing CEEB £1 billion investment programme.

3. In September 1987 we signed the Montreal Protocol which calls for a 50 per cent cut in chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) by 2000 and other measures to protect the ozone layer. We are currently calling for an 85 per cent cut in CFCs world-wide to take effect as soon as possible.

4. We are actively encouraging the introduction and use of unleaded fuel. From October 1990 all new vehicles will have to be able to run on unleaded fuel.

5. We are implementing in full the major package of measures to protect the marine environment agreed at the 2nd North Sea Conference chaired by Nicholas Ridley in November 1987.

6. Protection of the water environment is also a task to which considerable resources are being devoted. Total investment by the water authorities, which has increased by over 40 per cent since 1980, now stands at an annual level of over £1 billion and is set to go on rising. Within this total, £70 million is being spent each year on improving the quality of coastal bathing waters.

7. The threat of global climate changes and its consequences give rise to perhaps the greatest environmental challenge of all and the UK is playing its full part in leading the international scientific effort to establish an adequate understanding of the problem.

TIDY BRITAIN GROUP

1. You launched this group almost a year ago and in December the Government announced that it would make a £3 million grant for 1989-90 to complete their 16 pilot projects.

2. The Government believes that the time is ripe to build on and intensify efforts to persuade everyone in the country that our environment is worth protecting from litter.

3. Since the launch of the campaign last March numerous groups around the country have come together in an effort to rid our towns, cities and countryside of litter.

4. We need to encourage all sections of the community to help so that being a litter lout will mean being unacceptable company to friends.

5. Litter attracts litter and clean places remain clean. People respect what is respectable. We can all help by making sure that the areas around where we live are kept litter free. The desire for clean and tidy public places already exists. What people want to know is how the majority who want the country to be clean can ensure that their wish prevails.

6. The task is not one which can be achieved easily or quickly but all of us have an important part to play. Cooperation is needed and I am pleased to say that a number of businesses and organisations throughout the country are playing an active part in trying to get the message across. But at the end of the day it is up to the individual to make sure we have a clean and tidy Britain.

ACTION FOR CITIES PROGRESS

Action for Cities was launched in March 1988 and Tony Newton will be marking the first anniversary with a Press Conference on 9 March. You could talk to Douglas Keay about the progress so far with some of the following examples:

1. New investment in our cities - over £4 billion in London Docklands alone.

2. Unemployment is falling. In Manchester it fell by 20 per cent in 1988.

3. Crime is being tackled - on Merseyside it fell by 10 per cent in the year to September 1988.

4. Education is being improved by the introduction of City technology Colleges. And schools/industry Compacts are linking ~~schools with firms~~ so that school leavers who meet particular standards are guaranteed jobs. The original 12 Compacts have been expanded to 30 and people are kept for more.

5. Employment Training is helping people who are long term unemployed. In Yorks and Humberside nearly 17,000 people joined Employment Training in its first three months (Sept-Dec), three-quarters from inner city areas.

"EUROPE AGAINST CANCER '89"

You recently addressed the launch of "Europe Against Cancer '89" and below are some reminders of points you might make when talking to Douglas Keay about what is being done in the UK.

1. Within the European Community after heart disease, cancer is the major cause of suffering and death. It causes more than three quarters of a million deaths a year and if the present trend continues this will rise to one million by the year 2000, with a further two million suffering from the disease.

2. In the UK, nearly a quarter of a million people develop cancer every year and 159,000 die from it and the trend is upwards. Top cancer experts believe that the projected increase could be reduced by 15 per cent.

3. People who are 40 per cent overweight have a four times higher incidence of certain cancers. So it is very important to keep one's lifestyle healthy.

4. Remarkable progress has already been made in recent years in the detection and treatment of cancer; development in techniques for screening and diagnosis, for applying anti-cancer drugs, radio therapy and surgery.

5. Remarkable progress has also been made not only into new treatments, but also in fundamental scientific studies such as molecular structure.

6. Screening plays a major part in cancer prevention and in the UK we can be really proud that we were the first country in the Community to have launched a comprehensive cervical screening programme and the first in the world to set up a nationwide breast-screening programme. Women aged between 20 and 64 will be invited for cervical screening at least every five years. Women aged between 50 and 64 will be invited for breast cancer screening every three years.

7. Planning now well advanced for the establishment of the breast screen programme in all parts of the UK by 1991.

8. About 95 per cent of those who die from lung cancer are smokers and ~~for~~ most the habit is acquired before adulthood.

9. Among an average 1,000 young adults who smoked cigarettes regularly, about 6 will be killed on the road and about 250 before their time by tobacco.

10. Lung cancer deaths among women are increasing each year and teenage smoking by girls is still increasing - and both these trends we must try to reverse.

11. The Government has launched a £10 million campaign over the next four years aimed at halving the proportion of teenagers who smoke. It will be run jointly by the Department of Health and the Health Education Authority.

T. J. P.

Terry J Perks
6 February 1989

PM - SPEECH IN LONDON EUROPE AGAINST CANCER - 25 JAN 1989

FROM JAMES LEE FOR COI RADIO TECHNICAL SERVICES

"EUROPE AGAINST CANCER" 184

TRANSCRIPT OF SPEECH

GIVEN BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MRS. THATCHER,

AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II HALL, LONDON,

ON WEDNESDAY, 25 JANUARY 1989

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

As I have found from many years of experience of trying to bring about change, many people are worried about moving away from familiar things - even those which do not work well. It is human nature to be apprehensive about the unknown; it also very human to fear and to try to avoid pain, so throughout our history we have sought to protect people in a way by avoiding discussion or even information about those illnesses for which science has not found a complete cure.

In the last century, tuberculosis was such a taboo subject that its name was not even mentioned for many years and for many other diseases it was only the outspoken evangelism of the pioneers of public health which led to their control and prevention in the absence of a cure.

Today, in Western Europe, cancer remains one of the most feared of those diseases that we have not yet completely conquered.

-2-

PRIME MINISTER (CONTD):

There is a fear of contracting cancer; there is the fear of having to live with it; but with the proper knowledge, these fears can be greatly reduced, the risk of cancer lessened and coping with it made easier.

In 1985, at the Milan meeting of the Heads of Government of the European Community, we agreed to work together to combat cancer. This year marks the culmination of much effort and a start to a programme which will affect millions of people throughout the Community.

The challenge we are facing is formidable. After heart disease, cancer is the major cause of suffering and death in the Community. It causes more than three-quarters of a million deaths a year and if present trends continue, this will rise to one million a year by the year 2,000, with a further two million Community citizens suffering from the disease.

Lung cancer, as you know, is the main killer, accounting for some thirty percent of male cancer deaths in the Community. For women, it is breast cancer which accounts for seventeen percent of female cancer deaths.

In the United Kingdom alone, nearly a quarter of a million people develop cancer every year and 159,000 die from it, and I am afraid the trend is upwards.

PRIME MINISTER (CONTD):

But we can do something about it. Europe's top cancer experts believe that we can reduce the projected increase in cancer deaths by the year 2000 by 15 percent or in human terms, by 150,000 150,000 avoidable deaths a year in the Community as a whole, simply by applying and disseminating the information and knowledge we already have - and that is why we are here today.

Remarkable progress has already been made in recent years in the detection and treatment of cancer; development in techniques for screening and diagnosis, for applying anti-cancer drugs, radiotherapy and surgery, for the continuing care of patients have given hope and relief to many.

And may I say that the hospices for the terminal diseases have brought comfort to so many families and have eased the passing of so many patients. They are wonderful places. I would not believe they could have that marvellous atmosphere unless I had been to see a number of them.

The National Health Service has accumulated a tremendous fund of expertise and dedication to help make all the improvements which are widely available.

I also want to pay tribute to the marvellous work undertaken by the cancer charities who have invested so much in research and in pioneering new forms of care. Remarkable progress has been made not only into new treatments, but also in fundamental scientific studies such as molecular structure. These studies are having an important impact on our understanding of cancer.

-4-

PRIME MINISTER (CONTD):

This morning, I want to emphasise just two messages:

First, the critical importance of early diagnosis and treatment. Treatment is most likely to succeed if the disease is detected early. We know, too, that those who do contract cancer can still be helped to lead a full life.

I spoke a moment ago about the fear of cancer. People do fear cancer and this can stop them from speaking about their fears to their doctor or to their family. That means they do not get the help which is on offer or they do not get it early enough. This year is about breaking the silence and overcoming that fear.

In this country, we have a full programme of events to that end at both national and local level and to help maintain the effort throughout the year I am happy to be able to announce today that the Government is making an extra £1 million available to the Health Education Authority in 1989, to enable it to expand its cancer prevention and education activities.

As you know, screening also plays a major part in cancer prevention and in the United Kingdom we can be really rather proud that we were the first in the Community to have launched a comprehensive cervical screening programme and the first in the world to set up a nationwide breast-screening programme. Women aged between 20 and 64 60 in Scotland will be invited for cervical screening at least every five years. Women aged between 50 and 64 will be invited for breast cancer screening every three years.

PRIME MINISTER (CONTD):

Planning is now well advanced for the establishment of the breast screening programme in all parts of the United Kingdom by 1991.

My second point is that the way we live can often determine whether we put ourselves at greater risk of cancer and amongst other activities, the Health Education Authority will be expanding its advice against smoking and expanding its advice on healthy life-styles.

We also need to emphasise, particularly to young people, the message that smoking kills. About 95 percent of those who die from lung cancer are smokers and for most the habit is acquired before adulthood.

I refer you to a piece of research done earlier this decade whose conclusion was that among an average 1,000 young adults who smoked cigarettes regularly, about 6 will be killed on the road - that is bad enough - but about 250 will be killed before their time by tobacco.

Lung cancer deaths among women are increasing each year and teenage smoking by girls is still increasing - and both these trends we must strive to reverse.

-6-

PRIME MINISTER (CONTD):

I am pleased, therefore, also to announce a new £2 million a year campaign aimed at halving the proportion of teenagers who smoke over the next four years. It will be run jointly by the Department of Health and the Health Education Authority and I very much hope that these measures, together with all the other activities you will hear about today, will help achieve the substantial reduction in suffering and death from cancer which is at the heart of the "Europe Against Cancer" initiative.

Pooling together the findings of research into cancer across Europe and learning from each other which programmes and activities are best to prevent cancer, is an excellent example of Europe working together on those things we do better together than we could ever do alone and I know that the European Commission has undertaken a lot of hard work in drawing together a vast network of organisations and individuals into a common cause.

I am also deeply grateful to Sir David Innis-Williams and his Steering Group for the efforts they have put into coordinating all of the events in the United Kingdom. The activities of this European Year are important to all of us. I am proud to be associated with it and wish it every success.

PRIME MINISTER (CONTD):

May I say that I would like to stay for the whole of the morning. You will understand that there is rather a lot to do back at No. 10 and I am therefore only able to stay for the first Paper, but they have promised to let me have all the Papers so that I can read them, because it is not merely a duty for me to read everything on scientific work and prevention, it also happens to be a very great pleasure and dare I say, sometimes almost a relaxation, to get back to the scientific work from the other kind of work which I do.

Thank you very much! (applause)

(END OF TRANSCRIPT) *******

● People who are 40% overweight have ^a four times higher incidence of certain cancers

So it is very important to keep one's lifestyle healthy.



Mr Perks
No 10 Press Office

ACTION FOR CITIES PROGRESS

Action for Cities launched March 1988. Much more to do but signs of success are:

- New investment in our cities. For example over £4 billion in London Docklands alone
- Unemployment is coming down. For example unemployment in Manchester fell by over 20 per cent in 1988
- Crime is being tackled - for example on Merseyside it fell by 10 per cent in the year to September 1988
- Education is being improved by the introduction of City Technology Colleges. And schools/industry Compacts are linking schools with firms so that school leavers who meet particular standards are guaranteed jobs. The original 12 Compacts have been expanded to thirty and people are keen for more
- Employment Training is helping people who are long term unemployed. For example in Yorks and Humberside nearly 17,000 people joined Employment Training in its first three months (Sept-Dec), three-quarters from inner city areas

John Bretherton

JOHN BRETHERTON
Cabinet Office
270 0362

6 February 1988



Mr Perks
No 10 Press Office

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS 9 MARCH

You asked for a list of announcements departments intended to make to mark the anniversary of Action for Cities on Thursday 9 March.

We expect the Chancellor of the Duchy to launch the anniversary publication at a press conference at the QE II Centre, Westminster, at 0900. We have provisionally booked the Henry Moore room. Junior ministers from departments with inner city announcements to make will be involved with the launch but it is still to be decided whether on a national or regional basis.

Possible announcements to date are:

- DES ⁵ four City Technology Colleges in Derby, Liverpool, Black Country and Manchester *Accrington & Huddersfield*
- Home Office two Safer Cities
- DE may be able to announce 10 further schools/industry Compacts (including Newcastle) if sums can be found within existing resources in discussion with the Treasury
- DTI announcement of three inner-city task force openings
- DE launch of the Training and Enterprise prospectus

Mr Loveman has also asked the Chancellor of the Duchy's PS to write round to private secretaries formally drawing their attention to the trawl for announcements agreed at E(UP) and



asking for responses by 17 February. This will give Departments some time to think about what they can produce and allow the Unit adequate time to make any consequent arrangements.

John Bretherton.

JOHN BRETHERTON
Cabinet Office
6 February 1989
270 0362

MR. TURNBULL
MR. WHITTINGDALE
MR. PERKS
MR. FOUNTAIN
SUPERINTENDENT BUTLER

SECURITY MEETING: MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY 1989

Those present were the addressees of this minute.

Mr. Turnbull said that he had written to the Treasury Solicitor about the security improvements to Downing Street to explore whether proceeding with the gates but not the blocker would ease the difficulties over the need for legislation. It was likely that the Prime Minister would have a meeting shortly with the Home Secretary, Lord President and possibly the Secretary of State for Transport, to discuss legislation.

Mr. Fountain reported that the Chief Whip had now agreed to the use of the side of No. 12 as the prime delivery point for goods. Final approval was needed from English Heritage for the bricks for the new wall. But subject to that it could proceed fairly quickly.

The review of security at the Prime Minister's Dulwich home was about to start. Scotland Yard would be in the lead.

Mr. Fountain had checked the possibility of planting trees but had concluded that because of the conduits and pipes under Downing Street this would be impractical. He would be informing Westminster Council of this and would then let Mr. Morris know so that he could go back to the property developers who had made the original offer of help.

(Action Mr. Fountain).

CONFIDENTIAL

There were no outstanding points on the forward diary. Mr. Morris mentioned that the Prime Minister had agreed to open Torness Power Station in Scotland on Saturday 13 May after the Party Conference. It was for consideration whether the Prime Minister should be advised to stay at a different location away from Perth on the night of 12/13 May. (Action Mr. Whittingdale).

The next meeting will be on 20 February.



DOMINIC MORRIS

6 February 1989

KK1AKB

CONFIDENTIAL

ENVIRONMENT

NEWS RELEASE

FOR Sahra Sharman

710

15 December 1988

GOVERNMENT INCREASES SUPPORT FOR LITTER CAMPAIGN

Environment Minister, Lord Caithness today announced that the Government is to make a £3 million grant to the Tidy Britain Group. It will be used to complete their pilot projects launched by the Prime Minister earlier this year.

Lord Caithness made the announcement in Nelson, Lancashire at the launch of one of the Tidy Britain Groups sixteen anti-litter pilot projects. His speech was the tenth in the series of major environmental policy statements by DOE Ministers announced by Environment Secretary, Nicholas Ridley on 14 November.

Stressing the importance of persuading all citizens to prevent litter pollution, Lord Caithness said there are two basic approaches to the solution - the stick and the carrot.

"As far as sticks are concerned we in Government will certainly be looking at the legislation to see if it can be beefed up in any way - in particular we are watching the City of Westminster experiment with a fixed penalty system for littering to see if it is worth developing into a national scheme.

"But we see the greater advantage being gained from the carrot - to persuade people that our environment is something each and everyone of us should take care of and where we all can make a positive contribution to protecting our natural heritage."

"The Government believes that the time is ripe to build on and intensify efforts to persuade everyone in the country that our environment is worth protecting from litter."

Lord Caithness added:

"The Department has nearly doubled its grant to the Tidy Britain Group this year so that the Group could develop pilot projects - such as this one in Nelson - to establish the best way to go about clearing up the area in the first place and getting all local sectors of society involved in keeping it that way.

"I am pleased to be able to announce that the Department will be making £3 million available to the Group in 1989/90 to complete the projects and disseminate the lessons from the projects so that other areas may benefit."

Lord Caithness said that an important aspect of the litter campaign was securing sponsorship for the Tidy Britain Group from businesses.

"We all have a lot to gain from a cleaner environment and I hope that businesses in general will respond to approaches for support of litter abatement schemes as part of the campaign."

Endorsing the community approach to the Nelson scheme, Lord Caithness said:

"I hope that this is a chance for the local Chamber of Commerce, voluntary organisations, community groups and neighbours to get together to keep their street clean and to instill a sense of civic pride. It is just this sort of co-operation that the Government sees as the core of the solution."

NOTES TO EDITORS

A full copy of Lord Caithness's speech is available on request.

The Tidy Britain Group's pilot projects programme was launched by the Prime Minister on 22 March 1988. The Group is to determine the best ways to solve the country's litter problem.

There are 16 pilot projects in 5 key areas:

Tourism
Special Events
Local Government
Industry & Commerce
Transport

The Nelson project is centred on the High Street and is one of 5 local authority projects and is fully backed by Pendle Borough Council.

The Tidy Britain Group is the government's recognised agency for litter abatement. It was formed in 1953 as a result of a resolution at the National Federation of Womens' Institutes and changes its name from the Keep Britain Tidy Group on 1 January 1988.

Press Enquiries: 01 276 0900
(Out of Hours: 01 276 4120)
Public Enquiries: 01 276 3000
(Ask for Public Enquiries Unit)

TEXT OF SPEECH MADE BY PRIME MINISTER AT LAUNCH OF "A NEW LOOK FOR LONDON"
BOOK, ROYAL FINE ART COMMISSION, WEDNESDAY, 18 JANUARY 1989

My Lord Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I was very pleased to read this report, which doesn't mean that I endorse everything in it, but it means that we share the same aims and objectives and very many of the same methods.

We should feel immensely proud in our capital city. It is a marvellous capital, it's a living capital. It's not one of those artificial capitals which just has government and diplomacy. It grew up with thriving commerce, finance, industry, new ideas, very discriminating people who built some of our most marvellous buildings - lovely Georgian squares, wonderful development. I should also say that although I am in the presence of many developers we owe quite a lot to people who withheld their land to development so that we may now enjoy very beautiful parks. But of course that is something which we do profit from. I don't think we fully appreciate how fortunate we are with the number of open spaces that we enjoy in London, because of the mixture of the supreme development and those who said no we will withhold this in order to get our marvellous parks. Fortunate again, because the people who over the centuries built this city didn't start with houses, commerce, finance and industry. They used the profits from those things also to set up marvellous museums and art galleries. This was fortunate. Wonderful orchestras, theatres and music. We really have every single thing in London that makes a city. And now of course it is constantly having new ideas, whether it be in the commerce, whether it be in industry, whether it be in artistic . Its alive, it is still growing. We are fortunate too that quite a long time ago people had the wisdom to stop urban sprawl and said we will have a green belt policy - that has served us very well indeed. So here we are with a capital of which we should be immensely proud and which is steadily revivifying its whole life.

Now let me tell you of two incidents to illustrate the point I wish to make. Opposite the end of Downing Street, No. 10 Downing Street, the other side of Whitehall, are a number

of buildings and for a very long time after I had come to No. 10 Downing Street , opposite this, there is a building now known as Richmond Terrace. It was encased in polythene and I had assumed that a lot of work was going on under that polythene. I came back from a European Council one day, from the Hague. I looked at the beauties of that city, the splendour, the distinction and grandeur of the buildings; how marvelously they were maintained. But as we came back we swung into No. 10 Downing Street and I thought I wonder when that building is going to be complete. I called in the Secretary of the State for the Environment and very gently said - [laughter] very gently, tell me when is Richmond Terrace going to be completed. It's had its jacket on for about three years. You must have nearly completed everything going on. He said nothings going on, nothing's going on, it's just put in mothballs in its polythene jacket . I said that simply will not do for the centre of a capital city. Now just get on with it straight away. As first Lord of Treasury I simply cannot have that. Well now you know yourselves we really have a lovely building which is a blend of the original Georgian and of architecture which fits in with it. And I said one about it, look down the whole of the other side of Whitehall between here and Parliament Square because that too is a disgrace. And I did that because I felt it wasn't right for our capital city, with so many visitors, to have that kind of shabby badly maintained building without doing something about it. The work still continues, but we have steadily completed Richmond Terrace and cleaned up the front and decided to keep the old tradition going down to Parliament Square and rebuild more modern facilities behind it. Now that was the outward and visible sign of something when we had to give attention to the buildings and where I felt that other people were being prouder of their capital than we were, and maintaining it better than we were,

The other thing which I wanted to draw to your attention is so relevant of so much that comes out in this particular booklet "The New Look for London". I went to inaugurate the new international flower exhibitions, and the first one we had was in Liverpool. And it was in Liverpool because we felt that Liverpool needed a lift - it needed a morale booster. And so we would have the first international flower festival there. And as you know, we have them because we put them on land which has had to be recovered, its had to have all the services and before we go to development we say, right we'll have a flower festival and then we'll retain half of the open space and the rest will be developed. As I visited there, I wondered what I would find. The buildings were absolutely marvellous, it was full of people, the flower beds were lovely, the design was superb. The thing which struck me - I looked around and said it's marvellously clean. There's not a single piece of litter. Of course coming from London you notice things. Now how have you done it. Now what they told me was extremely interesting. They said that we have a lot of people going to clear up the litter. I said if its cleared up don't people just throw it down because it's going to be cleared up. No, they said. We cleared up the litter and any graffiti, and we went on clearing and we went on clearing the graffiti. And we found that very soon, because it was clean, no more were throwing out their litter and there wasn't any more graffiti. Now that in a way was the opposite to what I had expected. But it just shows you this psychology that when we do make tremendous efforts to get things clean and well presented everyone feels an innate pride and they start themselves to keep it well because they don't want to let the side down.

Now, my Lord Chairman you have said there have been times when I blew my top about the state of our streets and I still do. And I wonder how much further we can get by exhortation. Because in some areas it plainly isn't working. I went recently — local authorities, businesses and ordinary people and said you're doing so much for the community with business in the

community, , would it be too much to ask that all commercial buildings, whether offices, shops or industry, took over the obligation to keep the front of their building clean and the pavement outside their building clean. And they certainly don't want those ghastly black polythene bags full of rubbish outside, for them to be kicked over . Because really its no good talking about building new buildings, building new social facilities, talking either about the greenhouse effect, about the ozone layer, about the problems of the environment up there if we ignore the environment down here. And there is so much that we can do. This is what . Yes of course we have to create our own characteristic architecture, and I believe we are beginning to do that, of this period. Because I said previously, just as we had architecture from a different period, characteristic of the period handed down, so we have to create the best architecture of our period to hand down to other people. And we also have the very ordinaryd things of life to attend to. I've been delighted with the extra attention given to design, whether its design of lamp-posts, design of drains, design of - every single thing matters in design. We must have the best and it makes so much difference to the streets. We still have to tackle this problem of litter. To some places that don't get it at all, the pride is there. In others we do. And we still have to make certain that they're going to get rid of it. And I do ask business to take a view, because sometimes we have so much packaging that people will come out of shops or restuarants or take-aways and just throw the stuff down. It doesn't matter how many notices we put in park, it's astonishing how they throw the stuff down. Now we again have to clear it up and clear the graffiti, and hope that the magic recipe will work with us that when it's clean people will keep it clean, so that we too can once again be very very proud of our city. We haven't sold London pride, do remember it war time days . London pride has been handed down to us, London pride is . We have a very thriving, , enterprising, artistic, musical, marvellous city. We have a people who are passionately interested

in the environment, whether it be the global environment, whether it be the trees, whether it be the birds, whether it be the ecological chain - animals, flora, and fauna. We have this one other thing to tackle, we must all tackle it together. I hope voluntarily, if not we shall have to bring in some further legislation because people haven't a conscience.

Ladies and Gentleman we have a marvellous city and I hope that at the end of our leasehold of life we shall be able to pass on at least to the next generation in better condition than we received it in our .



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

30 December 1988

file DASH

*C. Hill
Dob*

Dear Mr. Ashdown,

Thank you for your letter of 23 November on environmental matters including your proposals for an action programme.

The Government is well seized of the need to integrate environmental considerations into policy making. May I refer you to the United Kingdom Government's response to the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development - a copy of which I enclose for ease of reference. It deals extensively with this issue.

The state of the environment, both national and international, is very much at the forefront of people's perception now. Yet it is not something to which the Government has only just turned its attention. We have demonstrated our concern to protect the environment consistently during our time in office.

We have a very large programme of environmental measures already in hand, most of which do not require primary legislation.

- In June this year we agreed a new European Community Directive establishing significant new standards to deal with acid rain emissions, entailing a 60 per cent cut in 1980 levels sulphur emissions from power stations by

2003. This will involve significant further effort over and above the existing CEEB £1 billion investment programme.

- In September 1987 we signed the Montreal Protocol which calls for a 50 per cent cut in chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) by 2000 and other measures to protect the ozone layer. We are currently calling for an 85 per cent cut in CFCs world-wide to take effect as soon as possible, following evidence from our scientific advisers. We are convening an international Ministerial conference next March to give further impetus to this.

- We are actively encouraging the introduction and use of unleaded fuel. Over 2500 petrol stations now sell it, and more than 10 per cent of all cars can use the fuel, with signs of further significant growth. From October 1990 all new vehicles will have to be able to run on unleaded fuel.

- We are implementing in full the major package of measures to protect the marine environment agreed at the 2nd North Sea Conference which Nicholas Ridley chaired in November last year.

Despite the scale and pace of this activity, there are other problems to be tackled. I have mentioned our commitment to spending over £1 billion on reducing atmospheric emissions of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides from our power stations. Protection of the water environment is also a task to which considerable resources are being devoted. Total investment by the water authorities, which has increased by over 40 per cent since 1980, now stands at an annual level of over £1 billion and is set to go on rising. Within this total, £70 million is being spent each year on improving the quality of coastal bathing waters.

The threat of global climate change and its consequences give rise to perhaps the greatest environmental challenge of

all and the United Kingdom is playing its full part in leading the international scientific effort to establish an adequate understanding of the problem.

Stewardship of the environment carries a burden of responsibilities. Our record shows that we are committed to meeting these responsibilities in full.

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Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

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