



# Central Office of Information

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29 June 1987

*For - 1 copy to News  
and*

Mr Bernard Ingham  
Press Secretary  
Prime Minister's Office  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1A 2AA

*DM to see*

*pa*

*Dear General*

The COI Regional Directors were in London last week and I took the opportunity to discuss with them their involvement in various inner city schemes. The number of agencies involved is, as you know, large and our Regional Directors are concerned that, given the increased interest in the subject, the range and variety of activities and sponsors should be presented as a strength and not become a weakness.

In each of our regional offices individual information officers are allocated to serve particular departments. While COI provides the infrastructure, the officers work to the instruction and policy guidance of their departments. In most cases the closest link is with the regional office of the parent department. This ensures that officers have a good on-the-spot knowledge but it may make it more difficult to ensure their actions fit within an overall strategy.

It is important, therefore, that we have good sound links between London and our local staff.

I do not know what plans there may be for co-ordinating information efforts on inner city activities but I am sure that our regional staff must be involved and am ready to discuss how we do this if you agree. I am copying this to Brian Mower, Romola Christopherson, Adrian Moorey, David McDonald, Barry Sutcliffe, Liz Drummond and Geoff Roberts.

*Yours sincerely  
Mike*

Mike Devereau