

Prime Minister.

This suggestion for a meeting
will need to be considered at
a diary meeting, September
31 July 1987
is going to be a very busy
week. MEX 7/8

PRIME MINISTER

Inner Cities: Business in the Community

A few weeks ago I asked Stephen O'Brien if BIC would be kind enough to write a paper giving their views on the way ahead on Inner City Policy.

Within a short time, they have produced an excellent report: thoughtful, positive and supportive. It deserves careful study and discussion. The letter by O'Brien is also very interesting.

I think it would be useful if you could meet him in say early September for half an hour or so for him to give you personally the substance and flavour of his ideas.

Brian Griffiths

BRIAN GRIFFITHS

This is
excellent ✓

✓ How the
backway
forward

✓ Brian is in. I will have
a word with him on Monday
in view of para 78
(p. 20) ✓

PAS

MR ADDISON

4 September 1987

Might I suggest the Prime Minister sends a letter to Stephen O'Brien of Business in the Community in connection with the paper which he sent us:

- expressing general support for the role of the business community described by BIC;
- thanking him for the suggestions for Government policy, which are being considered;
- expressing interest in taking part in the Dragon awards ceremony;
- raising the idea of BIC publishing their ideas in a form directed at the business community, perhaps with a foreword from herself.

Bh

BRIAN GRIFFITHS

EC

BIC Board
28/8



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

17 August 1987

~~Downing back~~
1/9

In typing. Shd
have by end
of week.

The enclosed paper on business in the inner cities was prepared by Stephen O'Brien of BIC at the Policy Unit's request. Para 78 on page 20 suggests that the Prime Minister might wish to launch the programme with the BIC Board in September. I should be grateful for your advice on whether this is the sort of thing the Prime Minister should try to fit in. It would be helpful if this could reach me by the end of the month.

P.A. BEARPARK

Paul Steeples, Esq.,
Department of Trade and Industry.

Robert Atkins

DTI : 215 5186

EC

file 40

PROFESSOR GRIFFITHS (on return)

The Prime Minister's weekend box contained a number of papers submitted by the Policy Unit.

It may be helpful if I list these.

Inner Cities

- A Policy Unit paper
- A paper on Business in the Community
- A paper on the Dean Clough Industrial Park, Halifax

Housing

- Housing in Glasgow
- Housing Policy Successful Implementation

Enterprise

- Enterprise on Council Estates
- Community Enterprise in Scotland

Welfare

- Rolling Back Welfare Dependency

Privatisation

- Water Privatisation

The Prime Minister has commented that, interesting as these papers are, there is a good deal of overlap between them. If Ministers are to consider the points they raise, the discussion will need to be focussed and based on a document which distills the key issues and proposals. She would therefore be grateful if you would provide such a composite note for consideration in September.

You may like to know that the Prime Minister was impressed with the paper by Stephen O'Brien. She has noted the invitation on page 20 of the paper to launch the programme Mr. O'Brien describes. The Prime Minister will need to consider this at a diary meeting early in September and we will approach DTI for advice accordingly.

The Prime Minister has expressed an interest in visiting the Dean Clough Industrial Park, though we shall need to look at this in the light of her programme of Regional Tours, of course. She has asked if there is anything like the Halifax Park in other parts of the country, for instance in the North East. I should be grateful for a note.

Confidential Filing hold the copies of the papers submitted, if you want to see the Prime Minister's annotations on them.

MARK ADDISON

10 August 1987

File K16
L06A Ju

MR. SHERBOURNE

cc: Professor Griffiths

Thank you for your recent minute about Hector Laing's suggestion that the Prime Minister should see Stephen O'Brien on inner cities. You reported Lord Young's view that O'Brien would not tell the Prime Minister anything she does not know already; and you asked whether we could find a way for the Prime Minister not to see him.

Hector Laing has been on to Brian Griffiths, who has copies of this correspondence. I suggest, and I think Brian agrees, that he should take the initiative and see Stephen O'Brien, so a report of his views, if necessary, can be passed to the Prime Minister.

Could I suggest that Brian should be in touch with Stephen O'Brien to arrange a meeting, letting him know that his approach to him reflects Hector Laing's suggestion.

N. L. WICKS

1 July 1987

MR. WICKS

Hector Laing suggested that the Prime Minister saw Stephen O'Brien on inner cities. Lord Young's view is that O'Brien will not tell the Prime Minister anything she does not know already.

Can we find a way for the Prime Minister not to see him?

PS.

STEPHEN SHERBOURNE

PS I gave the original letter from Hector Laing back to the Duty Clerk.