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Mr McDonald

CeTS/Lord Bellwin

PS/Mr Seaman

PS/Peter Sec. Dr Holdgate

PS/Mr Hancock Mr Nicholas

PS/Mr Ayles Mr Lane

Mr Deacon Mr Birch

Mr Harris Mr Gunn

Mr Conner Mr Rumble

My ref: K/PSO/11306/83

Your ref:

10 March 1983

Dear Home Secretary

Thank you for your letter of 2 March setting out the views of QL Committee on the Departmental bids for the 1983-84 Legislative Programme. I should like to accept your invitation to attend the meeting on 14 March.

Without knowledge of the other programme Bills you are recommending for inclusion in List B it is difficult to give more than a provisional view. I anticipate that I shall be in a position to give a firmer comment at the meeting.

In the meantime I note what you say about the Somerset House (Management) Powers Bill and the New Towns (Money) Bill. On the latter I accept that if there is to be a short pre-election session then the Bill must be restricted to a financial clause only. If there is to be a normal post election session then I consider it essential for the Bill to include the provisions to wind up the New Towns Commission and to achieve an effective means of transferring housing and community-related assets from new town corporations to the local councils. Without these powers we are unable to wind up the Commission or any New Town Corporation, some of whose dissolution dates have already been announced for 1984 and 1985.

I should also like to put up a marker that it is highly probable that legislation will be needed to give cover to the extension of the scheme to deal with defects in Airey Houses (or variants of it) to other house types. You are aware of current discussions in H Committee and of John Stanley's recent statement to the House (8 February). The Chief Secretary is anxious that we do not continue making ex gratia payments.

I think it might be helpful if I explain at the meeting the probable position on the scope and timing of the local government legislation. I should like, as a minimum and without prejudice to my final views on the List B, to suggest that at least one DOE Bill should be held in reserve pending final decisions on

local government legislation. On the basis of current priorities this would be a medium sized Housing Bill extending the system of assured tenancies and simplifying the improvement grants system (B4 of our original bid).

I am copying this to the Members of QL, and to First Parliamentary Counsel and Sir Robert Armstrong.

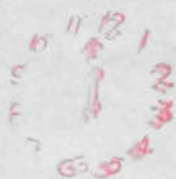
*Yours sincerely*

*RB King*

P.P. TOM KING

*(dictated by the Secretary of State and signed in his absence).*

13 APR 1983



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QUEEN ANNE'S GATE  
LONDON SW1H 9AT

30 March 1983

Dear You

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME 1983-84

Thank you for your letter of 10<sup>th</sup> March. *requested*

QL did not, I am afraid, feel able to agree that the New Towns (Money) Bill should be expanded in a normal post-election Session to deal with matters other than the borrowing limit, or that the Housing Bill should be placed in a reserve list. It will, of course, be open to you to argue the case in Cabinet. QL hoped that it would not be necessary to legislate in 1983-84 to give cover to the extension to other house types of the scheme to deal with defects in Airey houses.

I am sending copies of this letter to QL colleagues and to First Parliamentary Counsel and Sir Robert Armstrong.

The Rt. Hon. Tom King, M.P.

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SAINT CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS INDEPENDENCE TIMETABLE

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Key to Abbreviations:

D = Done

UW = Underway

TD = To be done

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TASK	CRUCIAL DATES	REMARKS
<u>CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL</u>		
Final draft of Independence Constitution to be written.	D. Ready by early 1983	Prepared by Mr Rushford, Constitutional Adviser to the Government of St Kitts-Nevis and examined by FCO Legal Advisers.
Presentation of Final Draft of Independence Constitution to House of Assembly, St Kitts-Nevis.	D. 16 March	Request and Consent Resolution passed.
Formal request to HMG that Association be terminated by Order-in-Council under S.10(2) of the West Indies Act 1967.	D. 17 March	By Bridgetown telegram no. 87 of 17 March.
Preparation of OD Paper.	UW. To be submitted before end March.	Submission to FCO Minister; to S of S for circulation to OD Committee of Cabinet. Action: WIAD

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TASK	CRUCIAL DATES	REMARKS
Preparation of Termination of Association Order.	TD. Ready by mid-April	To be laid in draft in both Houses of Parliament and 22 copies to Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments before 28 April. Action: Legal Executive Section.
Preparation of Constitution Order.	TD. Ready by mid-April	To be laid with Privy Council for meeting on 15 June. Action: Legal Executive Section.
Preparation of Modification of Enactments Order.	TD. Ready by mid-April	To be with the Privy Council by 11 May for meeting on 18 May Action: Legal Executive Section.
Termination of Association Order to be considered by Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments.	TD. In first week of May	Committee meets on Tuesday and Wednesdays. (Two meetings may be required).

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TASK	CRUCIAL DATES	REMARKS
Public announcement of HMG's intention to seek Parliamentary approval for the Termination of Association Order	TD. Early May	By inspired written PQ. Dr Simmonds to be informed. Action: WIAD
Guidance telegram to Posts on the inspired PQ.	TD. Day following public announcement	Action: WIAD
Debate on the Termination of Association Order: House of Commons	TD. Week beginning 9 May (i.e. before Whitsun recess)	Mr Onslow is available. Action: Parliamentary Unit to book time. WIAD to brief Minister.
Debate on the Termination of Association Order: House of Lords	TD. At suitable date after Commons debate before Whitsun recess	Action: Parliamentary Unit to book time and alert Lord Skelmersdale. WIAD to brief Minister.
Guidance telegram to Posts on Parliamentary debates.	TD. Day following debate in House of Lords.	Action: WIAD

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TASK	CRUCIAL DATES	REMARKS
Termination of Association Order sent to Privy Council	TD. 15 June	Action: Legal Executive Section
Modification of Enactments Order sent to Privy Council.	TD. 15 June	Action: Legal Executive Section.
Constitution Order sent to Privy Council.	TD. 15 June	Action: Legal Executive Section
Making of Termination of Association Order by Privy Council.	TD. 22 June	Action: Legal Executive Section
Making of Modification of Enactments Order by Privy Council.	TD. 22 June	Action: Legal Executive Section
Making of Constitution Order by Privy Council.	TD. 22 June	Action: Legal Executive Section
Termination of Association Order, Constitution Order and Modification of Enactments Order.	TD.	To come into effect on 19 September

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SAINT CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS INDEPENDENCE TIMETABLE

TASK	CRUCIAL DATES	REMARKS
<u>INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS</u>		
Nomination of Royal Visitor.	D.	Dr Simmonds and Dr Thomas informed <u>in confidence</u> that HM has nominated HRH Princess Margaret to represent her. No public announcement of this may be made until after the Privy Council meeting of <u>15 June</u> .
Selection of Ministerial representative.	UW. To be decided soonest.	Mr Onslow has indicated that since Mr Raison is planning a tour of Caribbean countries he should represent the Secretary of State. Action: WIAD in consultation with ODA.
Approval of No 10 for Ministerial representative	TD. immediately after selection.	Action: WIAD
Visit by RN Ship	UW.	Action: WIAD with Defence Department and MOD.
Military Band	UW.	Action: WIAD with Defence Department and MOD.

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TASK	CRUCIAL DATES	REMARKS
First draft of Royal Visitor's programme.	TD. Ready by end April/early May.	Action: BGR Barbados
If Royal Visitor is to open Parliament, preparation of Letters Patent.	TD. Start as soon as possible.	Action: PCD
Recce Visit by PS/Royal Visitor to St Kitts.	TD. June/July	Action: PCD
Presentation Copy of Constitutional Instruments.	TD. Start preparation early July.	Action: Legal Executive Section
Final programme for Royal Visitor.	TD. Early August.	Action: PCD with WIAD
Message from HM The Queen to the People of St Kitts and Nevis.	TD. Ready for submission by late August.	Action: Draft by BGR Barbados. Submission by PCD.
Message from PM to PM.	TD. Ready for submission by late August.	Action: Draft by BGR Barbados. Submission by WIAD.

TASK	CRUCIAL DATES	REMARKS
Message from S of S to Minister for Foreign Affairs	TD. Ready for submission by late August	Action: Draft by BGR Barbados Submission by WIAD
Speeches by Royal Visitor	TD. Ready for submission by late August	Action: BGR Barbados to advise what speeches necessary and to draft
Administrative arrangements for Minister and party attending celebrations	TD. Completed by late August	Action: WIAD to co-ordinate. BGR Barbados for hotel accommodation and programme
Briefing for Royal Visitor	TD. To be completed by early September	Action: WIAD and PCD
Briefing for Minister	TD. To be completed by early September	Action: WIAD
Thanksgiving Service in London on Independence Day	TD.	Action: Dr Thomas

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## SAINT CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS INDEPENDENCE TIMETABLE

TASK	CRUCIAL DATES	REMARKS
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE</u>		
Flag Coat of Arms National Anthem	TD. St Kitts- Nevis Govern- ment to make a start as early as possible	Action: BGR Bridgetown to stimulate
Visas and Passports	TD. St Kitts- Nevis Govern- ment to make a start as early as possible	Action: BGR Barbados to stimulate
UN Membership?	TD. St Kitts- Nevis Govern- ment to make a decision	Action: BGR Barbados to stimulate
Commonwealth Membership?	TD. St Kitts- Nevis Govern- ment to make a decision	Action: BGR Barbados to stimulate

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TASK	CRUCIAL DATES	REMARKS
Independence Gift	TD. St Kitts- Nevis Govern- ment to consi- der	Action: BGR Barbados to stimulate
Appointment of Governor-General	TD. St Kitts- Nevis Govern- ment to consi- der	Commission to be drawn up. Action: BGR Barbados to stimulate
Accreditation of British High Commissioner	TD.	Action: PPD
London Press Conference by St Kitts and Nevis High Commissioner (designate)	TD. To be held in week pre- ceding indepen- dence	Action: WIAD and News Department to stimulate

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SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS INDEPENDENCE TIMETABLE

Distribution:

WIAD (4)	PS/Mr Onslow
Legal Advisers (3)	PS/PUS
Legal Executive (2)	PS/Mr Giffard
Parliamentary Unit	PS/Mr Ure
NTD	Sir Philip Moore, Buckingham Palace
CCD	
PCD (3)	
Consular Department	
Defence Department	
BGR Barbados (3)	
DBGGR Antigua (2)	
News Department	

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