

CF - pc.

PRIME MINISTER

LOCAL AUTHORITY GRANT SETTLEMENT 1989

I gather from Andrew that in your meeting with Robin Butler this morning you raised the possibility of a briefing session prior to the forthcoming series of E(LF) meetings.

You have already had a preliminary talk to Nick Ridley, John Major and Cecil Parkinson. But the main programme starts with a meeting of E(LF) on 22 June.

If you would like it, we can try to arrange a half hour briefing session with Richard Wilson some time in the next ten days. But as you know, the diary pressures are formidable. You might therefore prefer over the weekend to have another glance at an earlier background note Richard Wilson prepared, which I don't think you had a chance to study in detail at the time. This is attached at Flag A; the main part I would draw to your attention is the annex which compares the structure of the old and new Local Government Finance Systems.

Having looked through it, you might also want to have another look at the note Nick Ridley prepared before the last meeting (Flag B).

1. Do you feel this gives you enough background in advance of the main E(LF) papers that will be coming forward in a week or so?

or

2. Would you still like me to try to find a half hour slot to talk to Richard Wilson?

Recf.
PG

9 June, 1989.

Note
Nedie
tried to
19 June.
Recf
w/b

CONFIDENTIAL

Yes - the problem now is the effect of the 75% safety-net provision on the community charge - Plus minus not