

PRIME MINISTER

COMMUNITY CARE: MEETING ON 21 MARCH

You saw a number of papers for tomorrow's meeting over the weekend:

Flag A - Minute from Kenneth Clarke

Flag B - Department of Health paper on community care

Flag C - Department of Health paper on the mentally ill

Flag D - Brief by Ian Whitehead

Flag E - Further background note by Ian Whitehead.

I hesitate to add to this weight of paper, but there are a number of further papers you should see:

Flag F - Brief by Richard Wilson. Given the complexities of the subject matter, I suggest you use this as the main paper for the meeting. Key points which it brings out are:

- "Community care" covers a whole range of different issues. You need to start by defining what they are;
- you can only hope tomorrow to have a "Second Reading Debate";
- having defined the broad parameters of the problem, you need to decide whether you want a change of policy - e.g. like the NHS Review - or whether to postpone that and focus on minimum change options.

Flag G - Minute from John Moore, underlining his worries about the open-ended nature of the demands on his social

security budget for residential care.

Flag H - A slightly pained minute from Roy Griffiths - who is not attending tomorrow's meeting - defending his original concept of unified local authority responsibility for community care policies. In the light of tomorrow's meeting you will want to consider whether to have Roy Griffiths in for a chat (you decided not to do this before tomorrow's meeting).

Flag I - Short note by Ian Whitehead commenting on Roy Griffiths' minute.

*Paul Gray*

*Inter Clerk.*

† (PAUL GRAY)

20 March 1989

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