

①
PRIME MINISTER

PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURE WHITE PAPER

The Chief Secretary proposes to publish the PEWP at 12 p.m. on Thursday, 16 February. Bernard has been anxious to bring the publication time forward from the afternoon in order to ensure that the White Paper can be given publicity on the 1 o'clock news and in the provincial evening papers. The only disadvantage is that it will appear shortly before Question Time but, given adequate briefing, I think we can cope with this. It will also mean that the Chief Secretary may have to leave the Cabinet meeting shortly before the end though there is no problem here as there are no special papers on the agenda.

Agree?

AT

Yes

9 February 1984