



LWA

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

The Secretary of State for the Environment has said that he would like to change the designation of Lord Bellwin from Minister of State (Local Government and Environmental Services) to Minister for Local Government. I should be very grateful if you could give the Prime Minister your advice on this suggestion.

Looking at the tables of Ministerial offices, I imagine that Lord Bellwin's formal title would be "Minister of State (Local Government)" instead of "Minister of State (Local Government and Environmental Services)" and that the title "Minister for Local Government" would be used informally in the same way as Mr Channon is called Minister for the Arts, and Mr Raison Minister of Overseas Development ?

The letter from the Secretary of State's office was dated 7 January and did not arrive until after the Prime Minister had left for the Falklands. In view of the passage of time, it would be very helpful if you could advise as soon as possible.

BJR (

F.R.S

13 January 1983

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