



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

9 December, 1983

Dear John,

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The Ministers who attended the meeting at Chequers in September are meeting again on Friday, 16 December at 10 a.m. to discuss the follow up to that meeting. As stated in my letter to you of 6 October, the Prime Minister has not asked for written reports on the various remits set out in the checklist attached to Michael Scholar's letter of 14 September. Where, however, there are specific papers to hand these could be circulated as a background to the discussion. In general, Ministers are asked to make oral reports. The Prime Minister has requested that these should nevertheless be thorough and detailed, reporting on progress made and problems encountered, and suggesting the steps to be taken next.

In the time available, it will not be possible to discuss all fifteen subject headings in the checklist. In any case, many of the items have made substantial progress through the normal machinery of government. The Prime Minister has selected those areas where she believes there is still significant progress to be made or where a further discussion would be most productive. These are set out in the attached agenda.

The remaining items have not been selected for discussion, though Ministers may have an opportunity to raise points on them if they think that is essential.

Over lunch, the Prime Minister proposes to discuss general strategy and the main themes; ways in which the presentation of Government policy could be improved; the way in which outstanding work on the various remits should be completed; and the way in which further policy development work of this kind can be carried forward.

I would be grateful if knowledge of the existence of this meeting could be restricted. This implies that any briefing which Ministers call for should be initiated by separate instructions which do not refer back to the meeting.

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bcc: Mr. Gregson. 21  
Mr. Mervin.  
Mr. Radwalek  
Mr. Alison

SECRET AND PERSONAL - CMO

I am sending copies of this letter to Elizabeth Hodkinson (Department of Education and Science), Mike Reidy (Department of Energy), John Ballard (Department of the Environment), Barnaby Shaw (Department of Employment), Callum McCarthy (Department of Trade and Industry), Alex Galloway (Office of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster); to the Chairman of the Manpower Services Commission and Sir Alan Walters; and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

*Yours sincerely  
Andrew*

ANDREW TURNBULL

John Kerr, Esq.,  
H.M. Treasury

SECRET AND PERSONAL - CMO

SEMINARY ON INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT  
FOLLOW UP MEETING, 16 DECEMBER, 1983

AGENDA

(The numbering is that used in the checklist attached to Mr. Scholar's letter to Mr. Kerr of 14 September)

2. Taxation  
Items (a), (c) and (d). Item (b) to be dealt with in the run up to the Budget.
4. Trade Policy  
Items (a), (b) and (c).
6. Small Firms Policy  
Items (a) and (b).
8. Planning Controls  
Item (a). The attached paper by the Secretary of State for the Environment will provide the basis of the discussion.
10. Barriers to Employment  
Items (b) and (c).
13. Housing  
All items except (g).
15. Education  
Items (a), (b), (c), (e), (f) and (k). The remaining items under this heading which are related to training are being discussed either in E(A) or elsewhere.

/Lunchtime Discussion

Lunchtime Discussion

- (i) Review of strategy and summary of main themes.
- (ii) Improving presentation of Government policy.
- (iii) Next steps to follow up outstanding remits.  
and for further development of policy.

Papers

- (i) Mr. Scholar's letter of 14 September.
- (ii) Chancellor of the Exchequer's paper to NEDC on "Changing Employment Patterns", circulated by the Treasury on 8 December.
- (iii) The Town and Country Planning system: paper by the Secretary of State for the Environment, circulated herewith.