

D.R.

CF: I have conveyed the PM's ⁽²⁾ views to the appropriate members of H Committee, ad to the secretariat. Please p.a.

PRIME MINISTER

Right to Buy : The Five Year Rule

DAB
12/3

At their meeting next week H Committee will consider the attached paper from the Chief Secretary. He proposes a reduction in the period during which a tenant who exercises his right to buy must repay part of the discount if he sells, from 5 to 3 years. He asks for inclusion of this change in the Housing and Building Control Bill, currently before the Lords.

The Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales are not convinced about the merits of such a reduction, since they are concerned about criticism of people making a quick profit. The Minister for Housing is likely to argue against any tactical reasons: it is very late in the passage of the Bill to include such a major and controversial change.

But how did
such a paper get on
the agenda unless
it had been virtually
agreed by Ian Gow
Nick Edwards & Geoff
Younger?
I share their view
not

AT

P. D. BARCLAY

9 March 1984