

Confederation of British Industry  
Centre Point  
103 New Oxford Street  
London WC1A 1DU  
Telephone 01-379 7400  
Telex 21332

From  
Sir James Cleminson MC DL  
President



17th September 1984

*sent  
19/9*

*clt pps*

*Dear Prime Minister*

Thank you very much for your letter. We are all greatly looking forward to your visit to the CBI Conference in Eastbourne on 4 November. I am glad that you expect to look in at the reception before the question time session, and I am delighted that you can spare the time to stay on for dinner afterwards.

My office will be in touch with yours to let you know final arrangements nearer the time.

Many thanks for the support.

*Yours  
James.*

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher MP  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1A 2AA



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

13 September 1984

Dear James,

Thank you very much for your letter of 7 August, which arrived while I was on holiday.

I am looking forward to visiting the CBI Conference on 4 November, and will aim to arrive in time to look in at the reception before the question time starts.

I am afraid it would be difficult for me to join you in time to open the exhibition before the reception, but I should be delighted to stay for dinner afterwards.

Yours ever

Margaret

---

Sir James Cleminson, M.C., D.L.

meetings with CBI : INDUSTRIAL

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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

13 September 1984

Dear James,

Thank you very much for your letter of 7 August, which arrived while I was on holiday.

I am looking forward to visiting the CBI Conference on 4 November, and will aim to arrive in time to look in at the reception before the question time starts.

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Yours ever  
Margaret

---

Sir James Cleminson, M.C., D.L.

PRIME MINISTER

GR  
For despatch for.

Dms  
13/9

CBI CONFERENCE EASTBOURNE: 4 NOVEMBER

I attach a draft reply to Sir James Cleminson's letter of 7 August about the CBI Conference, which we acknowledged in your absence on holiday.

The reply accepts Sir James' invitation to dinner afterwards, but declines the invitation to open the exhibition. If you were to accept this, you would have to get to Eastbourne by about 4.30, even though the question time does not start until 7.00, and the dinner is unlikely to end before 11.00.

Dms

12 September 1984

FILE

DUAAGF



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

12 September 1984

As you will know from Robin Butler's letter of 11 April the Prime Minister has been invited to take part in a question and answer session at the CBI Conference, on the evening of Sunday 4 November.

The Prime Minister has now decided definitely to accept this invitation. It is still a little early to think about briefing, but could I please give you advance notice that the Prime Minister would find it helpful to have a note of the main issues and questions which are likely to be put to her. She is, however, unlikely to require specific briefing on general industrial and economic matters for this occasion.

I am sending copies of this letter for information to David Peretz (HM Treasury) and David Normington (Department of Employment).

David Barclay

Callum McCarthy, Esq.,  
Department of Trade and Industry.

file

JLAAGH



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

12 September 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 15 August, in which you invited her to take tea with the Mayor and Mayoress of Eastbourne during the afternoon of Sunday 4 November.

The Prime Minister very much regrets that she will not be able to accept this kind invitation. She is unlikely to be able to arrive in Eastbourne until shortly before her main engagement at the CBI Conference, which starts at 7.15. Nevertheless, she is most grateful to the Mayor and Mayoress for their kind thought, and was also very interested to hear about the exhibitions on view at the Towner Art Gallery.

David Barclay

M.J. Mitchell, Esq.

FILE

DCAAAG



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

12 September 1984

You wrote to the Prime Minister on 20 July about the reception which forms part of the CBI Conference at Eastbourne on Sunday 4 November, and my colleague Caroline Ryder replied on 26 July.

I thought you might like to know that the Prime Minister is now hoping to attend the reception for at least part of the time, although I am afraid I cannot promise that she will necessarily have an opportunity to see your firm's stand. I am sure that she would be interested to do so if time permits.

David Barclay

Patrick Stewart-Blacker, Esq.





Directors  
Office  
Finance  
& Administration  
Division



*Gen Fidy*

# Borough of Eastbourne

Michael J. Mitchell, Director of Tourism & Leisure

**TOURISM & LEISURE DEPARTMENT, WINTER GARDEN, EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX, BN21 4BP, ENGLAND.**

**TELEPHONE: STD 0323 25252**

Our ref: 1/JW

Prestel\* 33282#

Your ref:

Telex 87146

15th August, 1984

The Right Hon. Mrs. M. Thatcher, MP,  
Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
LONDON,  
SW1

*217*

*1) GR: pcc ack/atten 2/8*

*2) Caroline*

*For special*

Dear Prime Minister,

CBI CONFERENCE 4th - 6th November, 1984

We are all delighted to learn of your intention to visit Eastbourne to participate in the CBI Conference this year and I wonder whether it may be possible for you to fit in a visit to the Towner Art Gallery during the afternoon of Sunday 4th November for Sussex Cream Tea with His Worship the Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor and Mrs. L. Mason.

At that time we shall have four art exhibitions on view, of which one reflects work from within the Common Market from our permanent collection together with an exhibition from the Eastbourne Group of Artists.

The Towner Art Gallery is the former manor house of Eastbourne and has been in the ownership of Eastbourne Borough Council since 1923, when it was acquired as an Art Gallery. It is set in beautiful parkland in the Old Town area.

It may be, Prime Minister, that you will have received a similar letter from the Secretary of the CBI, Mr. D. Jackson, alerting you to this invitation and I very much look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully,

*Michael J. Mitchell*

DIRECTOR

*D*  
*2/8*

CCBI

- 1. MR. BUTLER
- 2. PRIME MINISTER

GR/CF

dit 3

pps pm.

12/9

CBI CONFERENCE: 4 NOVEMBER

You are due to take part in a Question Time session at the CBI Conference in Eastbourne on the evening of Sunday, 4 November. The session starts at 7 pm for 7.15 pm, and is due to end by approximately 8.45 pm.

You have also been invited to three events before and after the Question Time itself:

- (i) To tea with the Mayor and Mayoress, to be combined with a visit to the Towner Art Gallery just outside Eastbourne.
- (ii) To a civic reception at the Winter Gardens, starting at 0545 pm and continuing until the start of the Question Time.
- (iii) To dinner afterwards with the President of the CBI and his committee.

Sir James Cleminson would understand if you felt unable to accept the dinner invitation, since he knows that it would make a very late return to London for you. You could also, I am sure, decline tea with the Mayor on the grounds that it would be difficult to get to Eastbourne until the early evening. (You will be coming from Chequers, but will have been in Germany all day on the Friday, and have the State Opening the following Tuesday).

Agree to look in at the Reception before the Question Time starts, but to decline the tea and dinner invitations?

Will stay for dinner  
no.

Dms

3 September, 1984

Confederation of British Industry  
Centre Point  
03 New Oxford Street  
London WC1A 1DU  
Telephone 01-379 7400  
Telex 21332

From  
Sir James Cleminson MC DL  
President

CBI

15th August 1984

*Dear Mr Barclay,*

Many thanks for your letter about the arrangements for the Prime Minister's attendance at the CBI National Conference at Eastbourne. I note what you say and look forward to hearing from you further in due course.

*Yours sincerely,*

*James Cleminson*

D.M. Barclay Esq.,  
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
London, SW 1.



sl

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

9 August 1984

I am writing in the Prime Minister's absence overseas to thank you for your letter of 7 August about the arrangements for her attendance at the CBI Conference at Eastbourne on Sunday 4 November.

I will place your letter before the Prime Minister on her return, and will let you have her reaction to your invitation to open the "Intercom" Exhibition as soon as possible thereafter. I think, however, that I should sound something of a warning note now about your kind proposal that she should be your guest at a dinner after the Question Time session. The Conference does come at a particularly busy time for the Prime Minister and she will need to return to London on the Sunday evening. She may, therefore, prefer to depart straight after the Question Time session, but I will let you know definitely in September.

(DAVID BARCLAY)

Sir James Cleminson, MC, DL.

BTC

MR. BUTLER on return

CBI CONFERENCE EASTBOURNE

Please see the attached letter to the Prime Minister from Sir James Cleminson and my interim reply.

You may wish to consult the Prime Minister about the invitation to open the "Intercom" Exhibition and attend the reception before the Question Time session. But I do hope that she will agree to decline the dinner invitation. The meal is not even scheduled to begin until 2045, which would mean a very late return to London; and the State Opening follows on Tuesday, 6 November.

*DWB*

8 August 1984

Confederation of British Industry  
Centre Point  
103 New Oxford Street  
London WC1A 1DU  
Telephone 01-379 7400  
Telex 21332

From  
Sir James Cleminson MC DL  
President

CBI

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

7 August 1984

Dear Prime Minister,

GR  
There are other  
PPS. Please try  
CF  
Attached. DMS  
7/8

I am writing to confirm the arrangements for your visit to the 8th National Conference of the CBI at Eastbourne on Sunday 4 November.

There will be a Civic Reception at the Winter Garden for Conference delegates commencing at 17.45.

The actual Question Time session on industry and politics will follow in the adjoining Congress Theatre at 19.15 and it is suggested that there is a brief discussion beforehand at 19.00 in the VIP Room at the theatre with the Question-Master, Mr Peter Murray.

I would welcome any views you may have on the procedure for this session but provisionally we plan that questions should be taken from the audience who will have access to roving microphones and will signal their wish to ask a question by raising a hand.

The session is due to conclude at 20.45 after which it is proposed to hold a small dinner party in your honour at the Grand Hotel to which members of the President's Committee and Mr and Mrs Murray will be invited.

Since the announcement of your intention to join us on 4 November there has been an immensely good response from CBI members indicating their intention to be at Eastbourne.

There is, therefore, one final suggestion which I would ask you to consider. As part of the arrangements for the Conference being held under the theme "Agenda for Enterprise" there will be an exhibition featuring the best of information technology under the title "Intercom".

A number of major companies will be exhibiting, led by British Telecom which intends taking a prominent site.

Would there be any possibility of your undertaking to visit the exhibition immediately prior to the reception, and to declare it officially open? Naturally, I would not wish to burden you unduly but the exhibition would provide you with an opportunity to underline the crucial importance of new technology, which is so closely related to the "enterprise" theme of the Conference.

Hope you have a really good holiday and enjoy it.

Yours ever

James.