

Sa + Tech: Science Budget

FILE SH.

cc: Mr. Letwin



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

2 April, 1984

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to me of 29 March. She agrees in principle to holding two meetings. I am putting in hand the arrangements for the smaller meeting to discuss priorities within the science budget. The most likely date for this is 3 May.

We spoke about the larger meeting to discuss advances in science and the opportunities for research. The proposal your Secretary of State originally discussed with the Prime Minister was to invite the Chairmen of the Research Councils plus two or three others. With this number it would have been possible to arrange the occasion around a dinner. Your letter suggests adding a further 8-10 specialists in particular scientific fields. The format of such a meeting will need to be thought out very carefully if it is to be successful. You are now considering this and will come back with proposals. The target date for this would be early in July.

I am copying this letter to Dr. Nicholson (Cabinet Office).

MR. A. TURNBULL

Miss C. E. Hodkinson,
Department of Education and Science

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