



hi  
BC

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

1 October 1984

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

I attach a copy of the programme and a copy of the speech.

Please let me know if there are any late adjustments.

(Andrew Turnbull)

John Ballard, Esq.,  
Department of the Environment

Covering CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO LIVERPOOL - TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER 1984

Composition of party:

Prime Minister  
Secretary of State for the Environment  
The Rt. Hon. Michael Alison, M.P.  
Mr. Bernard Ingham  
Mr. Andrew Turnbull  
Mr. John Ballard  
Mrs. Barbara Moore  
Ch. Insp. Derek Edgar  
Det. Bob Kingston

Det. Supt. Ray Parker in advance on Monday 1 October with the two No. 10 drivers - Mr. Oliver and Mr. Rumble who will stay at:

Atlantic Tower Hotel,  
Chapel Street 3, Liverpool. Tel: 051 227 4444

Brenda Lowe (Agent) and Bill Haresnape (Press Officer) will stay at:

St. George's Hotel,  
St. John's Precinct One,  
Liverpool. Tel. 051 709 7090

Nine people on outward flight; ten on return flight (ie one extra Detective)

S/S for the Environment and Mr. Ballard travelling to and from Northolt independently

0740 Prime Minister to depart  
from Chequers  
Car 1 (Tom Savage)  
Prime Minister  
Detective Bob Kingston

0745 Following to depart from  
No. 10  
Car 1 (Paul Teagle)  
Mr. Alison  
Mr. Ingham  
Mr. Turnbull

Car 2 (GCS car)  
Mrs. Moore  
Ch. Insp. Derek Edgar

BEMACJ

c0815 Arrive Northolt  
 0820 Take off from Northolt (Flight 1 hour 10 mins.)  
 0930 Arrive Liverpool (Speke) Airport. Met by  
 David Renshaw (Director, Merseyside Task Force)

Car 1 (Dennis Oliver - Daimler Sovereign,  
 Prime Minister Reg. No. OYE 436Y)  
 S/S for the Environment  
 Detective

Car 2 (Bob Rumble - Daimler Sovereign,  
 Reg. No. A218 TYW)

Mr. Ingham  
 Mr. Turnbull  
 Mr. Ballard

Car 3 (Pool car - Margery Strong)  
 Mr. Alison  
 Mr. Bill Haresnape (Press Officer)  
 + Photographer

Car 4 (Party car - Henry Percell)  
 Brenda Lowe (Agent - North-West area)  
 David Renshaw (Task Force) (Please note David  
 Renshaw may travel with the Prime Minister  
 during the Housing Tour in which case S/S to  
 travel in Car 2)  
 Eileen Jones (Task Force COI)

Mrs. Moore to be driven straight to Wavertree  
 Technology Park by Mr. Geoff Hinchcliffe (Task Force) and  
 to travel in this car throughout the day

Two Detectives to travel in police car

Cars as above:-

1000 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative at  
 start of tour of housing sites in Liverpool  
 Met by Sophie Krajewska (Area Manager)

1110 Finish of tour at Minster Court.  
 Met by James Keery (Managing Director of Barratt  
 Urban Renewal)

Depart for

1125 Wavertree Technology Park.  
 Met by Sir John Clark (Chairman WTP Company)

BEMACJ

CONFIDENTIAL

- 1140 SPEECH and Open "Meet the Buyers" event  
Tel: 051 228 5006.
- 1200 Depart for
- 1230 Graeme House, Derby Square (Merseyside Task Force Office - tel. 051 236 1635)  
Meeting with four representatives of the City Council
- 1300 Depart for
- 1315 International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane Entrance). Tel: 051 727 1742  
Met by Sir Leslie Young, Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation
- Lunch at the British Pavilion
- 1430 Tour of International Garden Festival site
- 1555 Depart for
- 1600 Albert Dock Tel: 051 236 6090 Ext. 307  
Met by Sir Leslie Young, Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation  
Mr. Donald Forster (Successor to Sir Leslie Young in November)  
Mr. Basil Bean (Chief Executive, M.D.C.)
- 1630 Depart for
- 1700 Huyton Park Conservative Club (Party engagement)  
The Park, Tarbock Road, Huyton, Merseyside  
Tel: 051 489 2315
- Met by Mr. Eric Taylor, O.B.E., J.P.,  
Chairman of the North-West Area
- On behalf of Knowsley South Conservative Assn.  
the Prime Minister will be received by  
Mr. Philip Ford, Chairman  
Mr. Mark Seddon, Deputy Chairman  
Mr. Peter Eva, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. Ian Bailey, Treasurer  
Mr. Matt Armstrong, Club Secretary
- 1815- Depart for Airport (approx. 15 mins. journey)  
1830
- 1830- Take off from Liverpool (Speke) Airport  
1845

BEMACJ

CONFIDENTIAL

1940- Land at Northolt  
1955

Drive to No. 10

Car 1 (Tom Savage)  
Prime Minister  
Mr. Alison  
Detective

Car 2 (Paul Blackaby)  
Mr. Ingham  
Mr. Turnbull

Car 3 (GCS car)  
Mrs. Moore  
2 Detectives

2015- Arrive No. 10  
2030

Circulation:

S/S for the Environment  
Mr. Alison  
Mr. Ingham  
Mr. Turnbull  
Mr. Ballard  
Mrs. Moore

Mrs. Gaisman  
Detectives (3)  
Drivers (4)  
Duty Clerk  
GR file

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

PROGRAMME:

- 09.30 Arrive Speke Airport. Met by David Renshaw (Director, Merseyside Task Force)
- 10.00 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative at start of tour of housing sites in Liverpool
- 11.10 Finish of tour at Minster Court. Depart for
- 11.25 Wavertree Technology Park (Plessey Crypto building), Met by Sir John Clark (Chairman, WTP Company)
- 11.35 *Walk to nearby mosque for.*
- 11.40 Speech/open Technomart (Meet the Buyers) exhibition
- 12.00 Tour of exhibition
- 12.10 Depart for
- 12.30 Graeme House, Derby Square
  - (a) brief word with Merseyside Task Force personnel
  - (b) meeting with representatives of Liverpool City Council
- (13.00 press facility - if needed)
- 13.10 Depart for
- 13.20 International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane entrance) Met by Sir Leslie Young - Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation
  - Lunch at the British Pavilion
- 14.45 Tour of IGF site
- ~~15.00~~ 15.55 Depart (Herculaneum exit) for
- 16.00 Albert Dock
- 16.15 Depart for
- 16.35 16.35 Huyton Park Conservative Club *(Liverpool Echo interview)*
- 17.25 ~~17.45~~ 17.20 Join Party engagement
- 18.20 18.20 Depart for Speke
- 18.40 18.40 Depart Speke

TP has a reply been sent?

**Andrew PEARCE**

MEMBER FOR CHESHIRE WEST

AT



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

30 Grange Road  
West Kirby  
WIRRAL  
Merseyside  
GREAT BRITAIN  
L48 4HA

Telephone 051-625 1896

AP/BBJ.

28th September 1984.

8/10

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP  
10, Downing Street,  
London, S.W.1.

*Dear Prime Minister,*

Merseyside industry and commerce - some of the good news.

There is so much bad publicity about Merseyside that the Merseyside Chamber of Commerce, at my suggestion, asked its members for some of the good news about industrial and commercial life in the area, to demonstrate that many good things happen here as well as the bad things featured in the press.

Attached is a selection of comments from local firms, which you might care to bear in mind when next visiting the area.

*Yours sincerely,*

Andrew Pearce.

MERSEYSIDE INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE - SOME OF THE GOOD NEWS.

ALEX STEWART LTD. - Assayers. - "The firm is based on Merseyside because the owner is a Merseysider and has built up a workforce second to none in the industry."

EDMUND KIRBY & SONS. - Architects and Surveyors. - "We have, whenever possible, appointed local contractors and sub-contractors who, in turn, have employed local labour. Not once, over the whole of this period, have we suffered a local stoppage and even in the National Building Trades Strike in the early '70s, efforts were made by employers and some employees to continue working."

FEATHERS HOTELS GROUP. - "The productivity of our Liverpool workforce is exceptionally high. Having had hotels around the country, without a doubt, a Liverpoolian's ability to change working practices and to adapt to new machinery and techniques is far better than any other industrial area that we have ventured into."

SYNECTIC COMPUTERS LTD. - "We are naturally pleased with the rapid growth of the company ..... We have some new packages and enhancements due out in the new year ..... Synectic see themselves achieving a permanent place in the computer industry in 1984."

BDL CONTRACTS - Shopfitting and building. - "The record of our company since we have been on Merseyside is that the turnover every year has practically doubled. We do not, as a company, plan to be as good as anybody else on Merseyside in our field, we plan to be better."

MANPOWER LTD. - "A 40% increase in demand for our temporary staff in Merseyside over the next 12 months is encouraging news. By far the most vigorous growth is in information technology, with a 25% increase in demand for word processing and data entry operators."

VACTITE LTD. - "The company enjoys a good relationship with its 190 employees and there have been improvements in productivity and profitability which is supporting the future plans to continue to invest at an increased rate in new specialised capital plant and facilities."

OCEAN TRANSPORT AND TRADING PLC. - "In 1981 our ship repair establishment in Birkenhead was forced to close. It was decided to let the buildings as small industrial units. As The Odyssey Centre, it has been turned into a Merseyside success story, with the majority of the place occupied by enterprising people who are turning their businesses into flourishing concerns."

ASSOCIATED OCTEL. - "We supply approximately 70% of all anti-knock compounds used in oil refineries around the world outside of North America."

I.C.I. PLC - Runcorn. - "Mond Division gained a Queen's Award for export in 1981 and 1984 and awards for technological achievement in 1978 and 1968."

"The first full-scale application of new membrane cell technology to produce chlorine and caustic soda has exerted worldwide interest."

SINGAPORE AIRLINES. - "There exists in the Liverpool travel trade a very high degree of professionalism."

HUGHES & TRELEAVEN - Manufacturers of filter fabrics. - "We think that Merseyside is an excellent place to be situated primarily because the workforce is second to none and secondly due to its central position for international communications and transport. We have never had a strike ....."



AIDE MEMOIRE FOR PRESS BRIEFING  
AFTER MEETING WITH COUNCIL. *File*

HOUSING CONDITIONS

Condition on Council Estates in inner Liverpool and some outlying estates are appalling. It is a legacy of unpopular high density building and inadequate management and maintenance.

Solutions

Public expenditure must be controlled. The city's approach of substantial demolition and major municipal building is expensive. Council should look more to refurbishment and better maintenance. They should harness the resources of the public and private sector and of the local community. The partnership at Stockbridge Village does not rely solely on the public sector.

Opportunities should be given for more home ownership and tenants involvement in management.

BUDGET - THE COUNCIL MAY CLAIM THAT:

a) The RSG targets system discriminates against Liverpool

No; they are treated like all other authorities:- their GRE assessment is the second highest of all Met districts taking County Council GRE into account.

b) Audit Commission Report supports the City's claim

The report is still being considered by Secretary of State, he will respond in due course.

c) The proportion of RSG has fallen over the years

This is to shift the burden from the taxpayer to the rate-payer and thus increase the accountability of authorities to their electorate.

d) The Council must increase its budget - it will not increase its rates to allow for inadequate RSG

The City has a duty to balance its budget like all authorities.

e) The City will not cast employees on the dole to meet Government targets

High rate increases undermine the efforts of the private sector and thereby help create unemployment. An efficient authority sets the right environment for real job creation.

f) The Council is not prepared to cut services dramatically

It is incumbent upon the council to be efficient and to obtain value for money for their ratepayers. There are many areas where savings could be made:

1. Liverpool have budgeted to spend 3 x more per head on environmental health;
  - and 2. 40% more per head on waste collection
  - and 3. 30% more per head on social services
- than the Met district average last year

EFFICIENCY

The Council could be reminded that

- a) A study into improving the operation of the City Cleansing Department carried out in 1982 has yet to be implemented.
- b) The capacity of the Direct Labour Organisation exceeds that necessary to undertake the work it is able to win through competitive tendering and is widely criticised for inefficiency and poor workmanship.
- c) The Council does not have a policy for asset disposal.
- d) The Council has no policy to encourage early retirement or voluntary redundancy.

There is little sign that these or any other ideas have been seriously considered.

OFFICIAL PARTY - CAR PLACING

CAR	ROUTE	OCCUPANTS				
		1 (Driver)	2	3	4	5
A Daimler Sovereign	a. Speke - Minster Court	Dennis Orton	PM	Ray Parker	David Renshaw	-
	b. Minster Court - Wavertree - Graeme Hse - IGF site	"	"	"	S of S	-
	c. IGF - Albert Dock	"	"	"	Sir Leslie Young	-
	d. Albert Dock - Huyton Speke	"	"	"	S of S	-
B Ford Granada	a. Speke - Minster Court	Pat Smythe	S of S	Bernard Ingham	Andrew Turnbull	Roy Bunce
	b. Minster Court - Wavertree - Graeme Hse - IGF site	"	David Renshaw	"	"	David McDonald
	c. IGF site - Albert Dock	"	S of S	"	"	David Renshaw
	d. Albert Dock - Huyton - Speke	"	"	"	"	David McDonald
C Ford Granada ULS963X	Full journey	Marjorie Strong	Michael Allison	Bill Hairsnip	Dennis Morrison (to Albert)	John Ballard
D Morris Ital	a. Speke - Minster Court	Henry Purcell	Brenda Low	Eileen Jones	Photographer	Reporter
	b. Minster Court - Wavertree - Graeme Hse - IGF site	"	"	"		
	c. IGF site - Albert Dock	"	"	"	David McDonald	
	d. Albert - Huyton - Speke	"	"	"	Barbara Moore	

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Order of cars

1. Unmarked police car
2. " " "
3. Car A
4. Unmarked police car
5. " " "
6. Car B
7. Car C
8. Car D
9. Police car

(10. Malcolm Thornton MP - Blue Mercedes - from Wavertree JRN83S)

(11. Jeff Hinchcliffe - Green Datsun + David McDonald to Minster Court).

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VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

PROGRAMME:

- 08.20 Depart Northolt
- 09.30 Arrive Speke Airport. Met by David Renshaw (Director, Merseyside Task Force)
- 10.00 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative at start of tour of housing sites in Liverpool
- 11.10 Finish of tour at Minster Court. Depart for
- 11.25 Wavertree Technology Park (Plessey Crypto building), Met by Sir John Clark (Chairman, WTP Company)
- 11.35 Walk to nearby marquee for
- 11.40 Speech/open Technomart (Meet the Buyers) exhibition
- 12.00 Tour of exhibition
- 12.10 Depart for
- 12.30 Graeme House, Derby Square
- 1232 (a) brief word with Merseyside Task Force personnel  
1232 (b) <sup>part of</sup> meeting with leader of Merseyside County Council
- 1237 (c) meeting with representatives of Liverpool City Council
- {13.00 (d) Press facility - if needed)
- 13.10 Depart for
- 13.20 International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane entrance)  
Met by Sir Leslie Young - Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation
- Lunch at the British Pavilion
- 14.45 Tour of IGF site
- 15.55 Depart (Herculaneum exit) for
- 16.00 Albert Dock
- 16.15 Depart for
- 16.35 Huyton Park Conservative Club (party engagement)  
(interview with Echo)
- 18.25 Depart for
- 18.40 Speke Airport

CONFIDENTIAL

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

DETAILS OF PROGRAMME:

- 0930 Andover arrives at Speke Airport carrying official party from No 10 (5) and DOE (2)
- Met on tarmac by MTF (4) and Central Office (3) staff  
(<sup>per Mr. ...</sup> to ring Alfred Stocks re nature of meeting at Graeme House)
- Board official cars (4) + police escort (5 cars)
- 0940 Depart
- 1000 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative scheme
- Walk through development and, if desirable, call on resident(s)
- 1015 Depart
- 1017 Arrive Beaufort St (Hill St/Prince William St area)
- Walk up Langley Way and ~~down Prince William Street~~ to view area of run-down Council housing
- 1032 Rejoin cars ~~in Hill Street~~. Depart
- 1042 Arrive Anglican Cathedral precinct (Cruden site office at old school)
- Walk up stairs to roof of building for view of development
- 1057 Depart
- 1100 Arrive Minster Court
- View development and, if desirable, meet resident(s)
- 1115 Depart
- 1125 Arrive Wavertree Technology Park (Plessey Crypto building)
- Brief presentation of project in foyer. Refreshments
- 1135 Walk/Drive to nearby marquee housing Technomart exhibition
- 1139 Sir John Clark to introduce Prime Minister. Secretary of State to share the platform.
- 1140 Speech

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- 1200 Tour of exhibition
- 1210 Depart
- 1230 Arrive Graeme House for
- 1232 (a) brief word with MTF personnel - in reception area  
*1232 (b) possible meeting with head of Merseyside CC - Room 407*
- 1237 (b) meeting with representatives of the City Council -  
in Conference room (401). Refreshments.
- 1300 (d) Press pool facility in Room 404
- 1310 Depart
- 1320 Arrive International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane  
service entrance)
- Walk directly to UK Government Pavilion past International  
Pavilion, French Garden, and German garden
- 1330 Lunch in UK Government Pavilion
- 1445 Depart pavilion for tour of IGF site
- Walk past Turkish and Dutch Gardens, Gardener's Bazaar to  
Festival Hall station
- 1500 Board train. Front 3 carriages reserved for official  
party - see separate seating plan
- 1520 Alight at Festival Hall station
- Walk to and through Festival Hall
- 1535 Leave Festival Hall for Herculaneum exit via various  
gardens
- 1555 Depart
- 1600 Arrive Albert Dock (Block D)
- Tour of shopping area. View dock basin
- 1615 Depart (MTF officials take leave)
- 1635 Arrive Huyton Park Conservative Club

CONFIDENTIAL

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

REVISED GUEST LIST FOR LUNCH AT THE BRITISH PAVILION,  
INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL SITE

1. Prime Minister
2. Secretary of State
3. Michael Allison MP
4. Malcolm Thornton MP
5. Bernard Ingham
6. Andrew Turnbull
7. John Ballard
8. David McDonald
9. David Renshaw
10. Supt Parker
11. Sir Leslie Young, Chairman MDC
12. Lord Aberconway - Commissioner General of the IGF
13. The Most Reverend Derek Warlock - Roman Catholic  
Archbishop of Liverpool
14. The Rt Reverend David Sheppard - Anglican Bishop of Liverpool
15. Donald Forster - Chairman (designate), MDC
16. Sir John Clark - Chairman, Plessey PLC
17. Leonard Eppel - Chairman, Arrowcroft Group
18. Cllr Hugh Dalton - Chairman, Liverpool City Council
19. Alfred Stocks - Chief Executive, Liverpool City Council
20. Barry Marsh - Chairman, Merseyside Chamber of Commerce



16 r train journey - seatings

COACH 1

X	1	2	5	6	9	10	13	14	X
X	3	4	7	8	11	12	15	16	X

- |                |                     |                 |                  |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1 - Sp. Branch | 5 - Lord Abercromby | 9 - D. Fowler   | 13 - B. Ingham   |
| 2 - D. Penchar | 6 - Sep S           | 10 - M. Thovnan | 14 - Sp. Branch  |
| 3 - B. Hainnes | 7 - P M             | 11 - B. Bean    | 15 - A. Turnbull |
| 4 - Sp. Branch | 8 - Sir h. Young    | 12 - M. Allison | 16 - Sp. Branch  |

COACH 2

X	1	2	5	6	9	10	13	14	X
X	3	4	7	8	11	12	15	16	X

- |                        |                 |                |      |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------|
| 1 - <del>B. have</del> | 5 -             | 9 -            | 13 - |
| 2 - B. have            | 6 - J. Ballard  | 10 - R. Madden | 14 - |
| 3 -                    | 7 -             | 11 -           | 15 - |
| 4 - D. McDonald        | 8 - D. Morrison | 12 - E. Jones  | 16 - |

COACH 3

Kept vacant

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OFFICIAL PARTY

No 10

1. Prime Minister
2. Parliamentary PS/PM (Rt Hon Michael Allison MP)
3. APS/PM (Andrew Turnbull)
4. Press Secretary (Bernard Ingham)
5. Secretary (Barbara Moore)

DOE

6. Secretary of State
7. PS/S of S (John Ballard)
8. Director of Information - David McDonald

MTF

9. Mr D C Renshaw
10. Mr D Morrison
11. Mr R Bunce (Housing tour only)
12. Mr R Madders

Central Office

13. Brenda Lowe - NW Regional Secretary
14. Henry Pursell (driver)
15. Bill Hairsnip - Press Officer

COI

16. Oliver Prince-White
17. Eileen Jones
18. Photographer (housing tour only)
19. Reporter (housing tour only) + Special Branch (10+)

CONFIDENTIAL

Meeting with Liverpool City Council

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Prime Minister     | 1. Tony Byrne         |
| 2. Secretary of State | 2. Tony Mulhearn      |
| 3. Michael Allison    | 3. John Hamilton      |
| 4. Andrew Turnbull    | 4. Derek Hatton       |
| 5. John Ballard       | 5. Alfred Stocks      |
| 6. David Renshaw      | 6. <i>Jim Preston</i> |
| 7. Dennis Morrison    |                       |
| 8. Roy Bunce          |                       |
| 9. Bernard Ingham     |                       |

SPEECH FOR THE PRIME MINISTER: WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK:

2 OCTOBER 1984

I. Introductory Remarks

II. The Problems of Liverpool

The changing world in which we live can bring with it not only greater prosperity but also the need for painful adjustment. Such problems have been particularly acute for those great cities like Liverpool, and Liverpool is a great city, which grew rapidly in response to the burgeoning demands of the first industrial revolution. They are not unique to Liverpool but are being experienced in many places both in this country and elsewhere in Europe.

The shifting patterns of trade and industry have worked against Liverpool, for example the long term decline of the port - and with it the traditional industry and commerce which were the source of so many jobs.

Liverpool's decline has been particularly steep. Even before the world recession the city was losing 11,000 jobs a year. Over the last 20 years it has lost a third of its population and often these have included a disproportionate share of the able and adventurous.

### III. The Government's Response

The Government recognises fully the impact which these fundamental changes in our society and our economy have had on Liverpool. In 1981 I asked Michael Heseltine to take a special interest in the area. This responsibility is now with Patrick Jenkin.

The Government has made available substantial resources to help Liverpool tackle the problems it faces. But as important as the amount of money, is the way it is spent. Since coming into office in 1979, the Government has fought a long but increasingly successful battle of ideas about how jobs and prosperity can be created. Over many years, the view had grown up that the key lay in Government spending and borrowing. Quite wrongly the name of Keynes was invoked in support.

It is now recognised that high Government spending and ambitious public sector programmes led inevitably to high taxes, high inflation, high interest rates - all of which will destroy jobs. This battle of ideas is now being won, not just in Britain, but in socialist countries abroad.

But we see now in a number of our cities, and particularly here in Liverpool, a municipal version of the big Government thesis.

But this cannot work for much the same reasons. High rates drive away businesses that provide jobs and the lion's share of the council's rate income. Restrictive planning controls inhibit new developments. The process of economic decline would not be arrested but accelerated.

The Government has broken away from these outmoded prescriptions. Our goal is to create the climate in which enterprise will flourish, by keeping taxes down and interest rates down. Where special help is needed, it should come through public expenditure programmes which encourage the energies and enterprise of the private sector rather than supplant them.

The resources available to Merseyside are substantial. They are not merely financial; nor are they the monopoly of the public sector.

At the heart of the Government's inner city policy lies the concept of partnership with the private sector - the business community and voluntary services. Liverpool was built on the motivation, energy and resources produced by individual initiative and enterprise. These qualities must again be harnessed in the process of revitalisation.

Through the taxpayer, this Government has played a full supporting role. The highest rates of regional assistance to industry and commerce are available here in Liverpool.

The Inner City Partnership Programme seeks to stimulate the economy of the inner area by reclaiming derelict land, improving the environment and supporting voluntary effort. Over £120 million has been made available to the Partnership since we took office in 1979.

In 1981 we established the Merseyside Development Corporation to tackle 840 acres of rundown dockland on the Liverpool and Birkenhead waterfront. Later today I shall be visiting its most spectacular achievement to date - the International Garden Festival - seen already by over three million visitors. When the event was announced in late 1981, many said it could not be done in time. They were proved wrong. The Festival has demonstrated what Liverpool people can do here in Liverpool.

And that's not all the Government is doing. There's

- an Enterprise Zone at Speke;
- a Freeport, the largest in the UK, in the Northern Docks;
- English Estates reclaiming the old Tate and Lyle site, and developing the old Exchange Station which lay derelict for so long;
- 17,000 places in Merseyside under the Youth

## Training Scheme.

Working both with the private sector, local authorities and Government Agencies, the Merseyside Task Force has helped to establish a wide variety of innovative schemes - many conceived and implemented here on Merseyside for the first time anywhere.

Let no one say the Government is not playing its part. The facts speak for themselves.

## IV CONTRIBUTION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

And there has been an encouraging response from the private sector.

I am looking forward later this afternoon to seeing the refurbishment scheme that is taking place on the Albert Dock. £20 million of public money is being matched with £30 million of private funding to convert this famous building into offices, shops and flats.

But there are other examples:

- BAT's conversion scheme in the South Docks
- the refurbishment of the famous Adelphi Hotel
- ten new Information Technology centres on



Merseyside established with private sector support.

## V HOUSING

Today I have seen some of Liverpool's housing which illustrates clearly both the problems and the opportunities. Though built with the best of intentions, much of it reflects immediate post-war policies whose legacy has been housing which is ill-planned, poorly constructed and badly managed.

Improvements are needed urgently but in a way which is not only represents good value for money but which also provides housing choice and utilises the energies of local people. One cardinal lesson of the past is that public authorities don't always know best.

Encouraging owner occupation is the surest way of gaining lasting improvements in living conditions. I am justly proud of this Government's record on that.

Of course in the cities like Liverpool there will always be a substantial role for council housing. But the conditions for existing tenants cannot be improved simply by demolishing old houses and building new ones. Indeed we have learned that it is often better to keep communities together by better maintenance and management of existing properties.

There are many encouraging examples on Merseyside of partnership with the private sector: Stockbridge Village, Edge Lane in Sefton and Woodchurch in Wirral. Local tenants are at work in improving their own housing and gaining satisfaction in so doing. Over six thousand dwellings are benefiting.

Barratts, Wimpeys and others have been active for some years in building housing for sale in inner Liverpool. I saw this morning the result of an imaginative scheme at Minster Court where Barratts have converted rundown tenement blocks into much sought after private flats.

I hope that other authorities facing similar housing problems will look at some examples of what is being achieved in Liverpool.

#### VI WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK

We stand here on one of the most dramatic regeneration projects in the heart of Liverpool. For years the site of this Wavertree Technology Park presented a depressing spectacle of rundown buildings and abandoned railway sidings. Work began less than two years ago - and just look at the transformation. Government have provided £6 million to the County Council in Derelict Land Grant - to remove the

eyesores, level the site and provide roads and services. In very little time an attractive location for high technology industry has been created.

A Technology Park Company involving Plesseys, English Estates and the City and County authorities has been set up under the Chairmanship of Sir John Clark.

Already you can see a 40,000 square foot factory which has been occupied by 300 people. Work has started to provide further smaller units. May I congratulate you, Sir John, and all those who have worked with you on your vision and energy in bringing this about.

The creation of the Wavertree Technology Park shows what can be achieved by the private and public sector working together. This is the future for Liverpool.

#### VII "MEET THE BUYER" EXHIBITION

At the end of the day, it is for the producer to find a market for his goods and services. For it is customers that make pay days possible.

We can see this clearly here on Merseyside. At Vauxhall, for example, attractive new models can bring new investment and jobs.

Many smaller firms, however good technologically, find it difficult to make contact with the large companies. And the reverse is true. By bringing them together we can make the best use of the creative potential of the small, thrusting company and the massive resources of the well-established household names.

I therefore take pleasure in opening this "Meet the Buyer" exhibition. I hope that everyone who attends it will make the most of the genuine opportunities which it presents.

DRAFT SPEECH FOR THE PRIME MINISTER: WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY

PARK: 2 OCTOBER 1984

I. Introductory Remarks

II. The Problems of Liverpool

The changing world in which we live brings with it not only rising prosperity but also the need for painful adjustment. These problems have been particularly acute for those great cities like Liverpool, and Liverpool is a great city, which grew rapidly in response to the burgeoning demands of the first industrial revolution. They are not unique to Liverpool but are being experienced in many places both in this country and elsewhere in Europe.

The shifting patterns of industry and trade have worked against Liverpool, for example the long term decline of the port - and with it the traditional industry and commerce which were the source of so many jobs.

Aside on  
Liverpool  
Docks

But Liverpool's decline has been particularly steep. Even before the world recession the city was losing 11,000 jobs a year. Over the last 20 years it has lost a third of its population and often these have included a disproportionate share of the able and energetic.

### III. The Government's Response

The Government recognises fully the impact which these fundamental changes in our society and our economy have had on Liverpool. In 1981 I asked Michael Heseltine to take a special interest in the area. This responsibility is now with Patrick Jenkin.

The Government has made available substantial resources to help Liverpool tackle the problems it faces. But as important as the amount of money, is the way it is spent. Since it came into office in 1979, the Government has fought a long but increasingly successful battle of ideas about how jobs and prosperity can be created. Over many years, the view had grown up that the key lay in Government spending and borrowing. Quite wrongly the name of Keynes was invoked in support.

It is now recognised that high Government spending and ambitious public sector programmes led inevitably to high taxes, high inflation, high interest rates. All of which will destroy jobs. This battle of ideas is now being won, not just in Britain, but in socialist countries abroad.

But we see in a number of our cities, and particularly here in Liverpool, a municipal version of the big Government thesis.

But it will fail for much the same reasons. High rates will drive away businesses that provide jobs and the lion's share of the council's rate income. Restrictive planning controls will inhibit new developments. The process of economic decline will not be arrested but will be accelerated.

The Government has broken away from these failed and outmoded remedies. Our goal is to create the climate in which enterprise will flourish, by keeping taxes down and interest rates down. Where special help is needed it should come through public expenditure programme which encourage the energies and enterprise of the private sector rather than supplant them.

The resources available to Merseyside are substantial. They are not merely financial; nor are they the monopoly of the public sector. Local people, the business community, and voluntary effort all have a part to play.

At the heart of the Government's inner area policy lies the concept of partnership with the private sector. Liverpool was built on the motivation, energy and resources produced by individual initiative and enterprise. These qualities must again be harnessed to play an essential part in the process of revitalisation.

The Government is prepared to play its part in full.

E. R.

The highest level of regional assistance to industry and commerce is available here in Liverpool. The Inner City Partnership Programme seeks to stimulate the economy of the inner area by reclaiming derelict land, improving the environment and by supporting voluntary effort. Over £120 million has been made available to the Partnership since we took office in 1979.

In 1981 we established the Merseyside Development Corporation to tackle 840 acres of rundown dockland on the Liverpool and Birkenhead waterfront. Later today I shall be visiting its most spectacular achievement to date - the International Garden Festival - seen already by over three million visitors. Many said it could not be done in the time available when the event was announced in late 1981. They were proved wrong. The Festival has demonstrated what can be done in Liverpool, by Liverpool people.

We have designated an Enterprise Zone at Speke and a Freeport, the largest in the UK, in the Northern Docks.

English Estates are reclaiming the old Tate and Lyle site and are constructing new office accommodation on the site of the old Exchange Station which lay derelict for so long.

In 1981 17,000 places under the Youth Training Scheme have been sponsored in Merseyside by the Manpower Services



Commission.

Working both with the private sector, local authorities and Government Agencies, the Merseyside Task Force has helped to establish a wide variety of innovative schemes - many conceived and implemented here on Merseyside for the first time anywhere.

Let no one say the Government is not playing its part. The facts speak for themselves.

#### IV CONTRIBUTION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

And there has been an encouraging response from the private sector.

I am looking forward later this afternoon to seeing the refurbishment scheme that is taking place on the Albert Dock. £20 million of public money is being matched with £30 million of private funding to convert this famous building into offices, shops and flats.

But there are other examples:

- BAT's conversion scheme in the South Docks
- the refurbishment of the famous Adelphi Hotel
- the new Information Technology centres

D.R.

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V HOUSING

Today I have seen some of Liverpool's housing which illustrates clearly both the problems and the opportunities. Much of the housing reflects immediate post-war policies which we now see were ill-conceived. We are left with a legacy of poorly planned, poorly constructed and badly managed housing. Improvements are needed urgently but in a way which is not only cost-effective but also provides housing choice and involves the private sector and the energy of local people. One cardinal lesson of the past is that public authorities don't always know best.

Encouraging owner occupation is the surest way of gaining lasting improvements in living conditions. I am justly proud of this Government's record on that.

Of course in the cities like Liverpool there will always be a substantial role for council housing. But the conditions for existing tenants cannot be improved simply by building more council houses. They need better management and better maintenance of the flats and houses in which they live.

There are many encouraging examples on Merseyside of partnership with the private sector: Stockbridge Village,

Edge Lane in Sefton and Woodchurch in Wirral. Local tenants are at work in improving their own housing. Over six thousand dwellings are benefiting.

Barratts, Wimpeys and others have been active for some years in building housing for sale in inner Liverpool. I saw this morning the result of an imaginative scheme at Minster Court where Barratts have converted rundown tenement blocks into much sought after private flats.

I hope that other authorities which face similar housing problems will look at what is being achieved in Liverpool.

#### VI WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK

We stand today on one of the most dramatic regeneration projects in the heart of Liverpool. For years the site of this Wavertree Technology Park presented a depressing spectacle of rundown buildings and abandoned railway sidings. Work began less than two years ago - and just look at the transformation. Government have provided £6 million to the County Council in Derelict Land Grant - to remove the eyesores, level the site and provide roads and services. In very little time an attractive location for high technology industry has been created.

D. B.

A Technology Park Company involving Plesseys, English Estates and the City and County authorities has been set up under the Chairmanship of Sir John Clark.

Already you can see a 40,000 square foot factory which has been occupied by 300 people. Work has started to provide further smaller units. May I congratulate you, Sir John, and all those who have worked with you on your vision and energy in bringing this about.

The creation of the Wavertree Technology Park shows what can be achieved by the private and public sector working together. This is the future for Liverpool.

#### VII "MEET THE BUYER" EXHIBITION

But, at the end of the day, it is for the producer, whether of goods or services, to sell them where there is a market. Many smaller firms, however good technologically, find it difficult to make contact with the large companies. And the reverse is true. By bringing them together we can make the best use of the creative potential of the small, thrusting company and the massive resources of the well-established household names.

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VSCAAZ