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PRIME MINISTERMISC 111(85)2nd Meeting: Wednesday 13 February

I have sent you separately Cabinet Office briefs for this meeting.

In addition to the base documents (MISC 111(85)1 and MISC 111(85)2) that the Group had in front of them last week, Mr Fowler has circulated two further papers on provision for retirement; and supplementary benefit and housing benefit. Both of these papers have been circulated very late, partly because of Mr Fowler's apprehension about leaks following Mr Pauley's article in the Financial Times on Monday. Mr Fowler also intends to hand to his colleagues at the meeting, further information on costs and savings. Colleagues may complain about the lack of time for considering the additional material.

You may wish to say that papers for future meetings should be circulated in good time for colleagues to digest them before the meeting, but also to remind members of the Group of the need for extreme sensitivity in handling papers.

P L GREGSON

12 February 1985