



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

14 February 1985

Dear Mr Willis,

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to thank you for your letter of 28 January.

The Prime Minister will be glad to meet the Steering Committee of the National Pensioners' Convention on Thursday 7 March. May I suggest that the meeting should take place at 1545 in the Prime Minister's room at the House of Commons? Perhaps you would let me know as soon as possible whether this time would be convenient, and in due course also let me have a list of those who will be attending on behalf of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,
David Barclay

David Barclay

Norman Willis Esq



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

14 February 1985

Dear Stephen,

National Pensioners' Convention

Thank you for your letter of 11 February advising on the request from the Chairman of the National Pensioners' Convention for a meeting with the Prime Minister.

BF11 The Prime Minister agrees to see the delegation, and I have offered them 1545 on 7 March, in the Prime Minister's room at the House of Commons. The Prime Minister would be grateful if your Secretary of State could attend, together with any other Minister from your Department whose presence he considers necessary.

BF11 Could you please arrange for a brief to be prepared, to reach this office by close of play on Friday 1 March.

I am sending a copy of this letter to John Graham (Scottish Office) and Colin Jones (Welsh Office).
Yours ever,
David Barclay David

Stephen Hickey Esq
Department of Health and Social Security

Can I see last years pps por?

DMS 1412



1) Mr Turnbull
2) Prime Minister

Agree to meet the delegation at the House on 7 March?

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SECURITY
Alexander Fleming House, Elephant & Castle, London SE1 6BY

Telephone 01-407 5522

From the Secretary of State for Social Services

DMS 13/2

PO 4715/1119

David Barclay Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

Yes not

DB

11 February 1985

15.45 - H1C
16.45 - H1C
forward

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 31 January enclosing one from the Chairman of the National Pensioners' Convention.

The annual meeting between the National Pensioners' Convention and the Prime Minister with Secretary of State on the day of the Convention's Lobby of Parliament is by now a part of the political calendar. It serves a very useful purpose by acting as a pressure valve for all the major pensioners' organisations. It also enables the Prime Minister and Secretary of State to explain the Government's policies on issues of importance to pensioners.

With over a year of high profile activity on issues of concern to pensioners and the Green Paper on the social security Review publicly expected this Spring it is of particular importance that the invitation to meet the deputation be accepted. While the Green Paper will not have been published by 7 March, it will be an invaluable opportunity to reassure pensioners' organisations.

It is worth noting that the Convention, which has hitherto used the 'Declaration of Intent' as its policy platform has limited its immediate objectives in the Petition to only three issues, namely the level of retirement pension, heating and fuel and transport concessions for pensioners.

Yours sincerely

Stephen

STEPHEN HICKEY
Private Secretary

File

Martin WILLIS

7/2

7 11/2

31 January 1985

NATIONAL PENSIONERS' CONVENTION: 7 MARCH LOBBY

The Chairman of the National Pensioners' Convention has written to us once again to ask whether the Prime Minister would be prepared to meet a delegation on Thursday 7 March, when they will be lobbying Parliament. You will recall that the Prime Minister agreed to a similar request last year.

I should be grateful for your advice on the latest invitation by Thursday 7 February.

David Barclay

Stephen Hickey, Esq.,
Department of Health and Social Security.

h

VC

31 January 1985

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to acknowledge your letter of 28 January. This is receiving attention and a reply will be sent to you as soon as possible.

DAVID BARCLAY

Norman Willis, Esq.

230
NATIONAL PENSIONERS' CONVENTION STEERING COMMITTEE

c/o CONGRESS HOUSE GREAT RUSSELL STREET LONDON WC1B 3LS

Telephone 01-636-4030

Mrs M Thatcher MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Our Ref: NDW/PJ/RE/DS

January 28 1985

Dear Mrs Thatcher

National Pensioners Convention
March 7, 1985 Lobby of Parliament

The Steering Committee of the National Pensioners Convention has decided to hold a lobby of Parliament on Thursday, March 7, 1985 between 2.30 pm and 5.00 pm. The purpose of the lobby is to enable pensioners and those who support their demands, to express their views to Members of Parliament. In particular we wish to press for a fairer deal for pensioners in the light of the aims set out in the NPC petition (copy attached) and the Declaration of Intent.

The Steering Committee is also seeking a meeting between its representatives and the main party leaders as in previous years. I should be grateful if you would agree to meet a delegation on the day of the Lobby.

You may be aware the organisations involved on the Steering Committee include the British Pensioners and Trade Union Action Association, the National Federation of Old Age Pensioners Associations, the Scottish Old Age Pensions Associations, the Trades Union Congress and the Transport and General Workers Union Retired Members Section.

I look forward to your reply and hope, in view of the considerable importance of the matters concerned, that you will be able to agree to our request.

Yours sincerely

(Norman Willis)

Chairman
National Pensioners Convention
Steering Committee

The National Pensioners' Convention Steering Committee includes representation from: Age Concern; British Pensioners' Trade Union Action Association; Help the Aged; London Joint Council of Senior Citizens; NALGO Retired Members Section; National Federation of Post Office and British Telecom Pensioners; Pensioners Voice; Public Services Pensioners Alliance; Scottish Old Age Pensioners' Association; TGWU Retired Members Section; Trades Union Congress; Wales Old Age Pensioners Association; and West Midlands Pensioners Convention.

