

MR WICKS

*Rd Beagard  
see note at end.*

RESTRICTIONS ON SMOKING

I have looked through some of the attached guidance and have had some preliminary discussions with various people within No.10.

I think we should have two main objectives:-

- i) Past practice, medical evidence, experience all suggest we should make efforts to reduce/restrict smoking in 10 Downing Street just as elsewhere in the Civil Service.

but

- ii) No.10 is unique, and as always our first duty must be to ensure that the Prime Minister is served in the best way possible.

These objectives need not be mutually exclusive.

Looking around the building to date we seem to evolve a policy whereby certain areas e.g. Cabinet Room, Private Office, Garden Rooms are effectively non-smoking areas. Some other offices have no restrictions at all, and the Front Hall seems at times to be an area where smoking is positively encouraged.

Over the next year or so I would suggest that our ambition should be to increase - where possible - the number of non-smoking offices, to curtail to some extent the amount of smoking in the Front Hall, but to ensure that people's work is not adversely affected in any way. To be successful it is essential that this proceeds with the maximum of tact and consultation with all concerned. I do not see any great

advantage in taking conscious steps now with regard to increasing the number of non-smoking offices, but as a first step I will make a few discreet enquiries to see exactly how many of these there are. With regard to the Front Hall I suggest that we should tie any action into the redecoration of the Hall. If you wish I will make some preliminary - and very careful - enquiries over the next couple of months to see what might be done and what the reaction would be.

X/

MS

Some Comments:

- i. No 10 is indeed unpre. A house, as you say; and a house where one of the permanent residents, D.T., is a smoker.

P.A. Bearpark

14 April 1988

I cannot see that we could stop DT, or any of his friends, from lighting up in the front hall, or outside the study, or for that matter in the office if he so chose. Another unpre feature is the number of visitors to No 10, from Cabinet Ministers to security guards + assorted hangers on of Powers + King. If they light up outside the Cabinet Room or in the Front Hall it would be intolerable to stop them (and where would he really go for his craggy long after a difficult ERF!).

ii. I agree that we should, as a first step, increase the number of no smoke offices. But we need to go carefully regarding the public corridors, including the Front Hall, and the areas where visitors go.

iii Please proceed as you suggest at X. and let me know the outcome

MJ2CPU