

SRWALC

PRIME MINISTER

FURTHER MEETINGS ON THE ECONOMY

It may be worth thinking now about the follow up to Sunday's seminar at Chequers.

I suggest you aim to hold a further meeting in December. This would be before the papers were prepared for the usual Treasury meeting at Chevening in January and it would give you an opportunity to influence the way those discussions are approached. It need not be a long meeting, say 1½ hours, and it might end with drinks rather than a meal.

You could then hold a longer meeting in the New Year along the lines of the Chequers seminar. I suggest this should take place in February. This year we held it in January and the Chancellor was able to say that his thinking was at a very preliminary stage, and that in any case he did not yet have a final forecast. A meeting in February could be much more influential.

Agree to work towards a further meeting in December? A decision on February can be taken nearer the time.

ms

DRW

(DAVID NORGROVE)

21 October 1986