

PRIME MINISTER

MEETING ON COMMUNITY CHARGE AND THE MATES AMENDMENT

We have arranged a series of three meetings for early next week to consider the handling of the Mates amendment:

- (i) on Monday with the Chancellor, Mr. Ridley and the Chief Whip. Against the background of the Mates amendment, the Chancellor and Mr. Ridley have been considering whether there are any changes that could be proposed which are justified on their merits. They will report their conclusions to you;
- (ii) the regular meeting with colleagues has been re-arranged to follow on Tuesday morning;
- (iii) this will then be followed on Tuesday afternoon by the Week Ahead Meeting.

You may also like to glance at the enclosed Research Department briefs on the Local Government Bill and the Mates amendment. John Whittingdale tells me that the Whips have been actively distributing these during the week.

Do you want to restrict Monday's meeting just to the Chancellor, Mr. Ridley and the Chief Whip? Or would you also want to invite the Lord President?

*Invite Lord President
Please no*

PCG.

Paul Gray
8 April 1988