

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER

BILATERAL WITH THE LORD CHANCELLOR: 3 APRIL

You agreed before Easter to have a bilateral with the Lord Chancellor to take stock of the position on the proposed legal reforms. I understand he is concerned to ensure that, in pressing ahead with his proposals, he is not placing you in a difficult position. But no doubt he will be looking for reassurance that, notwithstanding the vociferous criticism of the proposals, you do still stand behind them.

My earlier note of 17 March immediately below summarised points you might cover in the meeting: and these are set out in more detail in Carolyn Sinclair's note of the same date.

One point I failed to clear with you before Easter was whether you would also like the Lord President (who has been having some tactical discussions with the Lord Chancellor) to attend the meeting. Would you like the Lord President to come?

Recg.

(PAUL GRAY)

31 March 1989

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No
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