

CONFIDENTIAL

Prime Minister

As we are now too late to say much about 2nd Reading of the Local Gov. Bill. Perhaps could be included in the new clause of the Committee more draft would be

This is a mess: it looks as if a separate Bill may in the end be required, and the Chief Whip won't like that. The Chancellor ought to have gone back to his colleagues urgently, if you agree, I will write on the lines of the attached draft.

Ref. A01312

MR. LANKESTER

Establishment of Enterprise Zones

attached

You asked for advice on the Chancellor of the Exchequer's minute of 30th January to the Prime Minister, inviting her to agree to the inclusion of legislative provisions for establishing Enterprise Zones in the Local Government, Planning and Land Bill.

2. The Second Reading of the Local Government, Planning and Land Bill is tomorrow, and it scarcely seems possible to reach agreement on the use of that Bill in time for the Secretary of State for the Environment to include a suitable passage in his speech on Second Reading. This is not uncontroversial: while MISC 28 were prepared to contemplate the use of the Local Government Bill for this purpose, Legislation Committee were very much against it when they considered the Bill last week.

3. The Chancellor of the Exchequer does not appear to have consulted the Secretary of State for the Environment or the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, as he was invited to do at MISC 28; and he appears not to have copied his minute to them or to the Home Secretary.

4. To the best of our knowledge, Parliamentary Counsel has not yet fully considered the possibility of including the necessary non-fiscal provisions in the Local Government, Planning and Land Bill. The scope of the Bill may not be wide enough to do everything that is required, particularly the provisions relating to industrial training levy.

5. The Prime Minister might therefore reply to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, advising urgent consultation with the Secretary of State for the Environment and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster - and, if necessary, taking the problem back to MISC 28. If it is decided to use the Local Government Bill, it will be necessary to consider how best to inform Parliament.

6. I attach the draft of a reply on these lines which the Prime Minister might send to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

RA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

4th February, 1980

CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFT MINUTE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER

Legislation for the Establishment of Enterprise Zones

*Convert into
Punch cards
later.*

R.

You minuted me on 30th January about legislation for enterprise zones. I share your desire to make provision for this new policy as soon as possible. I understand that it will not be possible to include all the necessary powers in the Finance Bill; but, since the Second Reading of the Local Government, Planning and Land Bill is ^{to day} on Tuesday, ~~I doubt whether~~ there is time to reach agreement on ^{we can't} the inclusion ^{do} of a suitable passage in the Secretary of State's speech.

2. I think you should consult the Secretary of State for the Environment and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, in accordance with the conclusions of MISC 28(80) 1st Meeting, as a matter of urgency, about the inclusion of non-fiscal provisions in the Local Government, Planning and Land Bill, so far as Parliamentary Counsel agrees that it is possible. If agreement is not forthcoming, then you will have to take the matter back to MISC 28.

3. In the event of reaching agreement to use the Local Government Bill, you will need to consider, with the other Ministers concerned, how best to inform Parliament.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 4, 1960

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to hear that you are well and hope this letter finds you in the same state of health and happiness. I have been thinking of you often and hope to see you soon.



-4 FEB 1960

I am sure you will find this letter of interest and hope it will be a pleasure to read it. I am sure you will find it of interest and hope it will be a pleasure to read it.

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