

From: The Rt. Hon Sir Keith Joseph, Bt., MP.,



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

KJ/FF

15th February, 1978

Dear Francis,

and

Angus and I wonder whether you would be willing - once you have moved on from Scotland to Wales! - to consider chairing a policy group on House of Commons reform. There is widespread interest in several aspects of this including a greater use of Select Committees and effective system of control on public spending.

I approached Willie, because of his machinery of government work, to ask whether he wanted to take it on or would be content if you would and he has replied that he would be happy for you to take the initiative if you are content. Geoffrey Howe would be delighted if you would do so.

You will know of the contributions that could be made by Edward Du Cann and by others of our colleagues such as David Howell, Norman Lamont, Nigel Lawson and Nicholas Ridley.

There is a special extra importance for the subject in relation to economic policy. You will remember that in The Right Approach to the Economy emphasis was laid on the need for public education in cause and affect particularly in relation to monetary policy, pay, unemployment, inflation etc. Margaret has recently agreed with Geoffrey, Jim and me that work should be put in hand on developing further precise proposals along the lines sketched out in The Right Approach to the Economy for this purpose.

Would you perhaps consider whether you would be willing to convene and chair such a policy group, served of course by CRD. If you decide that you would be willing to take it on then Chris Patten will be glad to arrange servicing at your request.

Yours Keith

The Rt. Hon Francis Pym, MC., MP.,
House of Commons,
LONDON SW1

am copying to Margaret