

LCC

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE LEADER'S CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting on Monday, 27th February, when immigration was discussed, have been sent to the Leader and Mr. Whitelaw only. If members of the Committee would like to see the minutes they can do so at the Research Department.

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CFP/MHM
15.3.78

LEADER'S CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
193rd MEETING

Minutes of the 193rd Meeting held at 6.00 p.m. on Monday, 27th February, 1978, in the Leader's Room at the House of Commons

Present: Mrs. Thatcher (in the Chair)

Mr. Whitelaw, Sir Keith Joseph, Lord Thorneycroft, Mr. Pym, Sir Ian Gilmour, Mr. Davies, Mr. Jenkin, Mr. Peyton, Mr. Neave, Mr. Heseltine, Mr. St. John Stevas, Mr. Maude, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Nott, Mrs. Oppenheim, Mr. King, Mr. Taylor

Mr. Atkins

In attendance: Sir Michael Havers, Lord Ferrers, Lord Denham, Mr. Speed, Mr. Stanley, Mr. Butler, Mr. Patten, Mr. Ridley, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Houston

Apologies: Lord Carrington, Lord Hailsham, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr. Prior

Immigration

Mr. Whitelaw introduced his paper, "Control of Immigration", LCC(78) 172. There was a discussion and the following points were agreed:

(i) On the subject of a "moratorium", we would not use that word but would indicate that there might need to be an administrative "pause" or "breathing space" while the register was being prepared. Dependants who had already been given permission to come to Britain and compassionate cases would not be affected by this. It was understood that legislation was not required to set up a register, but would be required to enforce the register by providing that those who had not registered would lose their rights of entry.

(ii) Mr. Whitelaw's proposal for dependants other than wives and young children was agreed.

(iii) With regard to permit-free employment we needed to try to find the numbers that might be

affected and in particular find what professional mechanism existed for providing entry for doctors and dentists.

(iv) Mr. Whitelaw's proposals for visas and entry of husbands were agreed, subject to our not using the example in the quotation from the 1973 rules at the end of Section 5 of the paper.

(v) Mr. Whitelaw's proposal for dealing with children born after the closing of the register of dependants was agreed, and it was understood that such children would be subject to the quota.

(vi) With regard to Section 7 on "older children" we should examine how the controls over the entry of East African passport holders and their families worked in this respect.

It was also agreed that we would discuss the timing of the announcement of our proposals at a later date, and in particular, seek to discover when the Select Committee on Immigration was likely to report. Mr. Maude and Mr. Whitelaw would liaise over publicising the positive side of our policies towards urban areas and the immigrant community, and the Research Department would be responsible for background briefing when our proposals were eventually published.

The meeting closed at 7.15 p.m.

Conservative Research Department,
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DJN/MMH/RME
14.3.78