

PRIME MINISTER

# PARTY CONFERENCE

While you were in Lusaka I attended the usual meeting to select the Motions for the Party Conference. I enclose the draft programme, with copies of the Motions which have been selected.

I was able to clear with Ministers in advance of the meeting which Motions would be acceptable to them. Their wishes have been met in all cases except, I am sorry to say, on Rhodesia. This Motion, as you will see, calls for immediate recognition and the lifting of sanctions. I also enclose copies of the other Motions on Rhodesia which were before the selection group. I had hoped, after consulting Ian Gilmour, that one of the two on page RO4 [fing A] which I have marked would be selected, but Peter Thorneycroft held the view strongly that anything other than the unequivocal approach would be unacceptable, given the feeling in the Party on this subject. He pointed out that an amendment would certainly be moved to delete "as soon as possible" and insert "immediately".

I am also writing to Peter Carrington, whom Ian Gilmour has fully briefed.

The agenda will be finalised on 15th August at a meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the National Union. I intend to go to the meeting, but it will not be easy to get it changed, unless you and Peter Carrington feel you ought to intervene.

4th August 1979.

E.R.

DATE

# PARTY CONFERENCE

# SUBJECT

# MINISTER INVITED TO REPLY

PROGRAMME

Tues. 9 Oct.	a.m.	Religious Service and formal business	
		Health	Dr. Vaughan
		Transport	Mr Fowler
	p.m.	Food, Farming and Fishing	Mr Walker
		Education	Mr Carlisle
		Défence	Mr Pym
Wed. 10 Oct.	a.m.	Law and Order	Mr Whitelaw
		Homes and Land	Mr Heseltine
		Electoral Change	Mr Brittan
	p.m.	Rhodesia	Lord Carrington (to be confirmed)
		Environment and Local Govt.	Mr King
		Youth Employment and Training	Lady Young
Thurs. 11 Oct.	a.m.	Employment and Industrial Relations	Mr Prior
		Energy	Mr Howell
		Social Services	Mr Jenkin
	p.m.	Economic Policy and Taxation	Sir Geoffrey Howe
		Balloted Motion	
		Free Enterprise and Industry	Sir Keith Joseph
Fri. 12 Oct.	9•30 – Noon	European and Overseas Affairs	Sir Ian Gilmour (to be confirmed)
			(M. Poniatowski and Mr. Scott-Hopkins to intervene)
	p.m.	Financial Appeal	
		The Prime Minister	
		(Mr Pym in the Chair)	
		(Mr Pym in the Chair)	



## HEALTH

"This Conference believes that the National Health Service is sufficiently funded and that the apparent shortage of money is due to a large proportion of the present funds being mis-spent and mis-applied to the detriment of the patient."

Mr Michael Carter, Wells.



# TRANSPORT

" That this Conference urges the Government to improve public transport in rural areas by reducing licensing and legal restrictions on the introduction of new Private bus, mini-bus, coach and car services."

Mr. Iain Mills, MP. Meriden.



FOOD AND FARMING

"This Conference calls upon Her Majesty's Government to produce policies which will halt the depopulation of our rural areas and give hope for the future to those who earn their living in the countryside, particularly in the less favoured areas."

Mr Iain A. McCrone East Fife:



#### EDUCATION

"This Conference calls upon the Government to raise education standards so that all children, whether they attend a comprehensive school or a grammar school, will receive an education to develop their potential to the full."

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Dr. M. Clark, Ilkeston.

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#### DEFENCE

"This Conference congratulates the Government on the prompt action taken to strengthen the defence forces and gives full support to the policy of maintaining the effectiveness of the British Nuclear deterrent."

Mr M. Niblock, Greenwich.



LAW AND ORDER

"This Conference deplores the ever-increasing violence in our society and asks that Her Majesty's Government fulfils, in the early future, its election commitments,

- a) to give the courts greater sentencing powers
- b) to amend legislation dealing with young offenders
- c) to introduce short, sharp sentences for young violent offenders, thereby giving society the lead in its fight against the criminal."

Mr J. Dawson, Keighley.



HOMES AND LAND

"This Conference, being well aware of the substantial impact of housing policy on the country's well-being and economy, welcomes the Government's intention to continue the trend to wider home ownership; revive the rented sector, particularly to provide homes for mobile workers and the young; and urges it to review the role of Local Authorities in providing housing."

Mr G. Gardiner, MP, Reigate and Banstead.



ELECTORAL CHANGE

"That this Conference, being aware of the present wide variations between the electorates of Parliamentary constituencies and the fact that the Parliamentary Boundary Commission is at present reviewing boundaries, urges the Government to implement the Commission's recommendations at the earliest possible opportunity. Further it urges the Government to look at election law in general."

Mr A. James Herbert, Bury St. Edmunds





RHODESIA

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"That this Conference calls upon Her Majesty's Government to recognise immediately the internal settlement and lift sanctions on Zimbabwe-Rhodesia."

Mr Richard Stewart, Truro.



## ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

"That this Conference urges Conservative controlled local authorities to give a lead in their support of the Government's policy to reduce public expenditure. However, whilst accepting the vital need for cuts in public expenditure and appreciating that local authorities will need to take their full share of these economies, it urges the Government to ensure that its policies give positive support to those Councils which have taken a responsible and prudent attitude in recent years as distinct from those which have been profligate in their spending and have, therefore, not served the national interest."

St. Albans.



## YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

"This Conference, believing that youth unemployment, if unchecked, will become the greatest social problem for the remainder of this century, calls upon Her Majesty's Government to initiate consultations between the Department of Education and Science, the Department of Employment, Local Education Authorities, teachers' organisations and the industrial and commercial world in order that effect can be given to making the curricula in our schools and colleges more relevant to both the needs of a changing society and the actual job opportunities that will exist in the future in particular areas.

Cllr Mrs Ruth Dean, Liverpool Garston.



## EMPLOYMENT

1.

"This Conference deplores the serious increase in unemployment in the regions, in particular among young people, during the five years of Labour Government, and welcomes the Conservative Government's measures to reduce taxation and the demands on the public sector and to restore incentives, so making it possible for industry, especially small firms, to expand and create permanent new jobs.

Mrs Gordon Hunter, Women's National Advisory Committee



ENERGY

This Conference urges the Government to give the maximum encouragement for research into the conservation of existing energy resources such as coal and oil and the development of other means of generating power."

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Mr K McKenzie, Pontypool



#### SOCIAL SERVICES

"This Conference congratulates Her Majesty's Government on its budgetary policy which promotes initiative and enterprise, whilst at the same time increasing pensions, unemployment and social service allowances to protect those less able to fend for themselves. It is vital, nevertheless, that abuse of these increased benefits should be discouraged by ensuring that it is not financially advantageous for any fit person persistently to refuse, without good reason, offers of suitable employment."

Mrs M. Morris, Abingdon.



#### ECONOMIC POLICY

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"That this Conference warmly welcomes the transformation in the economic management of tha nation since the General Election, and pledges its support for continuing measures to increase personal freedom and to defeat inflation by reducing direct taxes and public spending, and by retaining strict monetary control."

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Mr David Grant, Lewisham Deptford.



FREE ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY

"That this Conference congratulates the Government on implementing certain items of its Election Manifesto so speedily and calls on industrialists and trade unions to respond by ensuring that industry improves job prospects and its contribution to economic growth."

Mr G. Campbell, Conservative Trade Unionists National Committee



OVERSEAS AFFAIRS

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"That this Conference supports the determination of Her Majesty's Government to work to restore the good name of the country abroad, so that we may with pride influence world affairs, in particularly through close co-operation with the other E.E.C. countries."

Cllr. Colin Millar, Islington Central.