



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

25th July 1983

*Dear David*

I am writing to send you my best wishes for a successful result in the Penrith and the Border by-election on Thursday.

Last month, the voters gave an overwhelming vote of confidence to the Conservative Government and its resolute policies. We believe that sound finance is essential for economic recovery. We believe in encouraging personal responsibility and home ownership. We fully appreciate the importance of rural life and the prosperity of the countryside to the future of our country. Above all, we believe in freedom under the law and defence of the realm. We are determined to press on vigorously with these policies.

I have now appointed William Whitelaw to new responsibilities as Lord President and Leader of the House of Lords. Lord Whitelaw represented Penrith and the Border for the past 28 years with great distinction. I know that you will be a worthy successor.

I am sure that you will win a splendid victory on Thursday and I look forward to welcoming you to the House of Commons.

*Yours sincerely*

*Margaret Thatcher*

David Maclean Esq