

S
810

PREM 19/1363

CONFIDENTIAL FILING

Prime Minister visit to LIVERPOOL, 2nd October 1984, and a possible visit to British Nuclear Fuels, RISLEY.

PRIME MINISTER

~~possible visit to Sellafield~~

SEPTEMBER 1981

| Referred to | Date | Referred to | Date | Referred to | Date | Referred to | Date |
|---------------------|------|--------------------|------|--------------|------|-------------|------|
| 16/8/84 | | 18.4.85 | | PREM 19/1363 | | | |
| 20/8/84 | | 22.4.85 | | | | | |
| 9.84 | | 22.4.85 | | | | | |
| 0.9.84 | | 25.5.85 | | | | | |
| 10.84 | | 24.5.85 | | | | | |
| 10.84 | | 7.6.85 | | | | | |
| 10.84 | | 11.6.85 | | | | | |
| 10.84 | | 9.7.85 | | | | | |
| 10.84 | | 28.8.85 | | | | | |
| 10.84 | | 4.9.85 | | | | | |
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| 9.11.84 | | | | | | | |
| 7.11.84 | | | | | | | |
| 18/5/85 | | | | | | | |

CKS STRIKE

This was modified
after Messrs Doherty
(Haber Bowd Clause)
directed to PM's
reference at Waverley
but Liverpool was first
last back

File a
Liverpool visit

Called by Union 1 pm 24 August. AT

Several ports including Liverpool stopped work that afternoon.

TURN TO WORK

Department of Transport advise that Liverpool was one of the first
not one of last back.

Recommended by Union 1.30pm 18 September.

Liverpool one of the first back working by 5.30pm 18 September
without a vote.

Some North East ports went back only after a vote on following
day.

Others, principally, Bristol and London were out for several more
days as local issues confused the national return.

Liverpool Visit file
2-10-84

Liverpool file - CF? ~~NOT CF~~



Cruden Construction Limited

BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING
CONTRACTORS

HILLCREST, KNUTSFORD ROAD
GRAPPENHALL, WARRINGTON
CHESHIRE, WA4 3LA

REGISTERED NUMBER
800471
ENGLAND
TELEPHONE:
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0925-67314

REGISTERED OFFICE
HILLCREST
KNUTSFORD ROAD
GRAPPENHALL
WARRINGTON
CHESHIRE, WA4 3LA

OUR REF

YOUR REF

DATE 16th October, 1984

D.G. DOCHERTY
MANAGING DIRECTOR

GR
No reply
necessary.

Dms
24/10

19

GR
X please att.
D
20/10

Dear Prime Minister.

+1

Thank you for your letter of 8th October, 1984, concerning your visit to the Liverpool Anglican Cathedral Precinct - now to be called the Cathedral Park. Both your visit and your letter were very encouraging for those involved in this unique project.

The Cathedral took 70 years to build, during which time much around it became totally derelict. The Precinct that is now being built alongside the Cathedral will, I am sure, be exemplary of Liverpool's permanent recovery.

I hope you will visit us again when at least part of the scheme is completed, and you will be able to better appreciate the scale of this revival.

Yours Sincerely.

David. Docherty.

The Prime Minister



Parker Bauer Publishing Limited

SPECIALISTS IN CLUB AND BUSINESS DIARIES
CONSULTANTS IN DESIGN

4 Berwyn Drive, Heswall, Wirral, Merseyside L61 6UD Telephone: 051-342 6883

The R.H. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON.

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Date: 15 October 1984.

Dear Mrs. Thatcher,

Following your recent visit to the International Garden Festival in Liverpool, we, as publishers of the Official Souvenir Diary, would ask you to accept the enclosed copy as a small memento of your trip to Merseyside.

We remain

Yours sincerely,
PARKER BAUER PUBLISHING LTD.

Linda Bauer (Mrs).
Director.

GR
Re through
18/10
17/10

Enc.



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*Prime Minister

Mr Jenkin advises that it is not possible for MDC to take over the Festival site immediately without putting themselves in the wrong vis à vis the City Council. MDC and Mr Jenkin propose an announcement indicating a readiness for MDC to take over if Liverpool Council do not take up the existing agreement.

Agree, subject to Mr Jenkin and Mr Rees reaching an understanding on how the £2 million will be found?

AT

11/10



PRIME MINISTER

FUTURE OF THE LIVERPOOL GARDEN FESTIVAL SITE

1. During your visit to the Garden Festival in Liverpool last week, you voiced concern (which I share) about the uncertain future of the site. There are two issues; how many of the formal gardens might be retained, and who should manage the whole site in future.
2. The Merseyside Development Corporation (MDC) in November 1982 published their plans, after widespread consultation, on the use of the site after the Festival itself ends this Sunday. These provide for the development of about half the site for housing and high quality industry, and the retention of the Festival Hall, the Arena and some 45 acres of parkland and gardens as permanent public open space. A legal agreement was signed with the then Liberal-run Liverpool City Council in December 1982, whereby the City Council would take over the retained parkland areas in January 1985 and convert the Festival Hall for sports use.
3. As you know, the outstanding success of the Festival has led to considerable pressure from Liverpudlians and visitors for the whole site to be retained intact. This is not possible, for a range of legal and practical reasons. The 45-acre parkland is, of course, secure. The only issue there is who should manage it (see paras 4 - 6 below). On the other issue, I discussed with Sir Leslie Young in July how far it might also be possible to retain many of the best gardens, national and international. We agreed that the first priority was to go ahead with planned development where a clear demand existed. It now appears that it will be possible, while meeting the immediate demand for housing sites, to retain most of the best gardens for next summer at least. With my encouragement, MDC have explored this possibility with the sponsors of those gardens, and I am pleased to say that they are



now ready to announce that, in addition to the 45 of acres parkland, large parts of the rest of the site will be open next year. I should add that this course of action is bound to involve MDC in up to £2m extra cost which, without extra resources, would mean cutting back on other high priority projects such as the Albert Dock development. I have a bid in for a small addition to the resources for the Urban Development Corporations next year and if this is accepted, MDC's proposal could be accommodated.

4. The other area of uncertainty has been caused by the attitude of the present administration of the Liverpool City Council. We have been trying for some time to find out whether they will honour their December 1982 agreement with the MDC. It became clear early last month that the Council intend to use the Garden Festival as a political bargaining counter; they say that if I meet in full the wildly unrealistic bids they have made for Rate Support Grant and capital allocations for 1985/86, then they will honour their agreement on the Garden Festival site, but that if I do not, their other and higher priorities would prevent them from taking on the Festival site. The City Council openly admit the difficulties which this stance is causing for MDC's efforts to plan the future of this part of the site, but have stated quite blatantly that they are not prepared to co-operate in any way to relieve those difficulties (having met the Council's leaders you will recognise their style!).

5. Faced with this attitude, I have considered carefully, with MDC, the options that are available. We would have dearly liked to end the uncertainty forthwith by removing the City Council from any involvement with the Festival site, but MDC advise me that they could not defend in court abrogating the legal agreement unilaterally, as the City Council have not yet defaulted on their obligations under it. Such action would also enable the City Council to claim that they



were being prevented from managing the site "on behalf of the people of Liverpool" (a phrase they are constantly parading). The only other way in which we could resolve the uncertainty now would be for me to accede to the City Council's budgetary demands; but these are clearly unacceptable. I therefore concluded that the best that could be done was to limit the damage being caused by the City Council, by setting a deadline at the end of December for them to decide whether or not they intend to honour their agreement with MDC. By that time the Council should know the 1985/86 RSG settlement and the bulk of their capital allocations, and will no longer be able to use that excuse to defer a decision on the Festival. Perhaps more importantly, that is also the time when the Council are due to take on their obligations, and MDC would therefore have a much stronger legal case if the Council continued to refuse to make a decision. I therefore issued a statement setting the end-December deadline when I visited Liverpool on 6 September (attached at A).

6. Liverpool City Council leaders publicly interpreted my statement as meaning that I was not going to meet their financial demands (which is of course quite correct). I think, and MDC agree, that this paves the way for MDC now to make a statement about what they would intend to do if the City Council withdrew from the agreement, while avoiding the impression of anticipating such a decision. As is already widely known the whole site has to be closed over the winter to enable some essential dismantling and conversion work to be carried out. Once this is completed, MDC would intend to open to the public the part of the site which the City Council were to take over, while at the same time marketing it for operation by a private sector firm, as a leisure and recreational facility for the longer term. This seems to me a very acceptable approach.

/ 7. I attach at B a draft of the statement which MDC intend to make,



covering both their intention to retain and open to the public next summer some of the gardens in areas scheduled for eventual development, and their intention to open to the public the permanent parkland areas if the City Council fail to honour their agreement. This statement will go a long way to reassure the people of Liverpool that they will continue to be able to enjoy the gardens that they have so taken to their hearts this year. That, I am certain, is the most important assurance that needs to be given if the respect of local people for this site, and the hope it has given them, is to be retained. It would be highly desirable for this statement to coincide with the closing of the Festival (The last day being Sunday, 14 October).

/ 8. I am copying this to Peter Rees and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Att/Davis

for

P J

11 October 1984

Approved by the SAS and
signed in his absence

84.10/11 11:56 P01 *MERSEYSIDE TASK FORCE

DOE Department
of the
Environment**Press Notice** *Parliamentary*

FAX Pg 1 of 2

EMBARGOED: NOT FOR USE BEFORE 1115 HOURS, THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

NW 188/84

6 September 1984

FUTURE OF THE LIVERPOOL INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL SITE

Speaking in Liverpool today, Secretary of State for the Environment Patrick Jenkin made a statement on the future of the Garden Festival site. He said:-

"The Garden Festival has been a great success. Already there have been 2.8 million visitors, and it is clear that the final total will top 3 million. The Festival has captured the hearts of visitors, and particularly of local people, and I can understand why many people wish to see the Festival retained. But the plan has always been that the Festival should be for this one summer only; many of the gardens and exhibits, both British and international, must be returned to their owners; and MDC have entered into commitments for the future development of the site in accordance with the Riverside Development Programme which they published in November 1982 after extensive consultations.

It has always been the intention to retain a substantial part of the site for the public to enjoy, including the Promenade, the Britannia Inn, the Festival Hall, the Arena and some 45 acres of parkland and fine gardens at the southern end of the site. MDC have an agreement with Liverpool City Council for the Council to assume responsibility for much of this area on 1 January 1985. However, the City Council are understandably concerned that they might not be able to afford the expenditure required, in view of the other priorities which they have for spending in the city. In discussions with my officials this week the Council have made it clear that they could not take a decision on the Festival site until after they know their capital allocations and revenue targets for 1985/86.

This continuing uncertainty about the City Council's intentions is making it very difficult for MDC to make proper plans for the future of the site. However, MDC do not intend to take any precipitate action just yet. MDC will continue to make all the necessary preparations to ensure that it will be possible to open this part of the site to the public next year. However, if the City Council do not reach a firm decision to commit the necessary resources to the Festival site by the end of the year, when they are due to assume responsibility, MDC will clearly have to reconsider their position.

84. 10/11 11:56 P02 *MERSEYSIDE TASK FORCE

- 2 -

Pg 2 of 2

MDC are also considering whether it would be possible to retain and open to the public, for next summer at least, some of the gardens in the parts of the site which are scheduled for development, but which are not *immediately required for this purpose.*

Press Enquiries:

Eileen Jones or Philip Aylett
Regional Information Officer
Central Office of Information
Sunley Building
Piccadilly Plaza
Manchester M1 4BD
Tel: 061-832 9111 ext 358 or 365

ISSUED BY THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION

B



PRESS RELEASE BY MDC

LIVERPOOL INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL; PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR

There is obviously a good deal of current speculation about the future of the site of the International Garden Festival and it is now considered appropriate to set out the Development Corporation's position.

The Festival is acknowledged as a success in terms of the enjoyment it has given to over three million visitors and the boost it has provided to the image and tourism potential of Liverpool and Merseyside. We will do everything within our power to ensure that the momentum thus gained is not lost.

It may help to summarise the background to the Festival:

Our development proposals, published in 1981, identified the Riverside site - after reclamation - to be used partly for permanent leisure and recreation and partly for housing and industry.

The Festival was superimposed upon this reclamation as an ideal way of upgrading the reclamation itself and providing wide-ranging short and long term benefits for Merseyside. Much of the Festival was designed for temporary use with specific features such as the Festival Hall designed and constructed on the basis of agreements we had reached on their permanent use.

Commitments were given by the Development Corporation on the long term provision of, for example, road access to the Britannia Inn and the Homes and Gardens area, amongst others.



An agreement was signed in 1982 with Liverpool City Council under which the Council will take over responsibility for maintaining and operating the Festival Hall, the Arena, the Arena Theatre and about 45 acres of parkland at the southern end of the site. This includes the lake and some International Gardens, amongst them those of China, India and Japan, since generously donated by these countries to the people of Liverpool.

The Development Corporation has received no notification that the City Council does not intend to honour this agreement, but in view of the Council's well known financial priorities, it would be unrealistic to assume that there was no uncertainty.

Therefore, as far as the area covered by this agreement is concerned, in case the City Council finds itself unable to implement its agreement with us, we are now making our own contingency plans to open up the area, including the parkland and facilities, to the public next year.

Shortly after the close of the Festival, work will begin to fulfill our commitment to provide road access to both 'ends' of the site. The community theme gardens will be dismantled and the sponsors of many of the international gardens will remove their structures and plant material.

The area of domestic theme gardens is not, however, required for immediate redevelopment and will be retained as far as possible in their present form to be enjoyed by the public next year. This 'bonus' obviously depends upon the willingness of the individual sponsors to retain their gardens, but the initial response is extremely encouraging.

We appreciate and understand Liverpool City Council's position, but it cannot be stressed too strongly that the present uncertainty must be resolved without further delay. In the meantime the area must be



maintained and secured so as to continue to be available for the future leisure and recreational enjoyment of the people of Merseyside. As is already widely known the site will have to be closed to the public this winter, apart from access to the public house and river walkway.

One way or another, many of these superb facilities, which have been enjoyed by millions of people this summer, WILL be open to the public next year.



Merseyside Development Corporation

Royal Liver Building Pier Head Liverpool L3 1JH Telephone (061) 236 6090 Telex MDC 627110 CHACOMG

LCY/DA

8th October, 1984

The Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, P.C., M.P.,
The Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London.

Prime Minister:

Jon Peter

must have crossed out

sr letters.

Dear Prime Minister,

I cannot let the occasion of your visit to the International Garden Festival and to the Albert Dock complex pass without writing to say how much we of the Merseyside Development Corporation enjoyed and were stimulated by it.

Dr
9/10

Here in Merseyside you were able to experience for yourself the warmth of feeling and support for you and your policies - an aspect of Liverpool life not often publicised - and by coming you demonstrated your own concern for the problems of the City.

Thank you also for the very kind remarks you made at lunch in the United Kingdom Government Pavilion about the work of the Merseyside Development Corporation and my own role in it. I did not reply at the time as you had indicated that it was not an occasion for speeches. However, I would like to express my sincere appreciation in this letter.

May I close by wishing you success in everything you are doing, which I fully support.

Yours sincerely,

Leslie Young



Sir Leslie Young, CBE, DL
Chairman - ~~Leslie Young~~ CBE; Deputy Chairman - Sir Kenneth Thompson Bt;
Chief Executive - Basil Bean; Commercial Director - Alex Anderson;
Director of Development - John Ritchie; Director of Finance - David Morse
International Garden Festival Liverpool '84



3

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 October 1984

Dear Mr. Clarke.

I was very pleased to have had the opportunity to visit the Anglican Cathedral precinct and to see the enormous progress that is now being made in developing this site which has lain derelict for so long. It is an exciting project and I am grateful to you for taking such trouble to show it to me.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

M. Clarke, Esq.

JP



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 October 1984

My dear Lord Bishop.

I was glad that we were able to exchange a few words before luncheon when I visited the International Garden Festival on 2 October. I do, as you know, share your concern for the future of Liverpool. Though, in the course of my visit, I saw at first hand some of the problems of the City, I also saw a number of most encouraging developments.

I appreciate greatly your work in helping the City to tackle these problems and in helping it to build a new future.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

The Right Reverend The Lord Bishop of Liverpool

JL



10 DOWNING STREET

Mr. Clarke is the Regional
Manager of the Housing
Corporation which is
financing the Precinct
development.

MPO



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 October 1984

Dear Mr. Clarke.

I was very pleased to have had the opportunity to visit the Anglican Cathedral precinct and to see the enormous progress that is now being made in developing this site which has lain derelict for so long. It is an exciting project and I am grateful to you for taking such trouble to show it to me.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

M. Clarke, Esq.

JK

Mr Ryan is Secretary
of the Grafton Crescent
Housing Cooperative.



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 October 1984

Dear Mr Ryan.

I was most grateful to have had the opportunity to visit the Grafton Housing Corporation and to meet some of the residents. I was impressed with the way they had responded to being involved in the planning, construction and management of their own houses. Projects such as these demonstrate that there are alternatives to large municipal estates in which the tenants have no involvement.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

M. Ryan, Esq.

LPO

JRP

Ms Meredith is the
Director of Cooperative
Development Services Ltd,
the organisation which
sponsored Grafton Crescent.



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 October 1984

Dear Ms Meredith,

I was most grateful to have had the opportunity to visit the Grafton Crescent Housing Corporation. I was impressed with the way the residents had responded to being involved in the planning and running of their own houses. Projects such as these demonstrate that there are alternatives to large-scale municipal estates in which the tenant has no involvement.

I hope that in the future it will be possible to build further houses of this kind.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Ms. Catherine Meredith.

sl

Mr Keeney in MB
Barratt Urban Renewal
(Northern) Ltd

LPO



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

5 October 1984

Dear Mr Keery

I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to visit Minster Court and to meet some of the residents. I was astonished to see the transformation you have been able to achieve, from derelict tenements into attractive dwellings at very reasonable prices. I hope that Barratts will have the chance to repeat this not only in Liverpool but in other cities.

You have set a marvellous example of what can be achieved by the public and private sectors working together.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

J. Keery, Esq.

JK



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

5 October 1984

Dear Andrew,

Thank you so much for your letter of 28 September about industry on Merseyside. It was good to see you at the reception during my visit to Liverpool when I had the opportunity of seeing some of the success stories of the City. I was, therefore, all the more pleased to hear about the good news to which you refer. Equally, however, the area has very considerable problems which are exacerbated by the extravagant policies of some of the local authorities which impose such enormous burdens on ratepayers. There is a message of hope for Merseyside in your letter and we must do all we can to help those firms which are providing new jobs for Merseysiders to flourish.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Andrew Pearce, Esq., MEP.

EU

Page

Andrew



10 DOWNING STREET

PM's comments on picture of
International Festival Garden

- Mike Fawcett (DOE
Manchester) confirms
that BBC Radio
Merseyside interview is
accurate.

SW.

BB

BBC RADIO MERSEYSIDE - 20/1

Interviewer: Well yesterday the North West Tourist Board called on the Govt for £10m to ensure that the site would be kept in a reasonable state after the Festival closes. What chance and what hope have you got of that request being granted?

PM : Well I wouldn't say that £10m was the only way in which it could be kept going. I think it's done a marvellous job. We've paid a great deal of money to have the land reclaimed. Quite right it needed to be reclaimed to give Liverpool a future. The use to which it's been put has been marvellous. I know that it closes in about a fortnight. I and a number of other people are deeply concerned about its future - I can't just decide here and now - it has to be in consultation ~~with~~ between many many people. I think this has done fantastic things for L'pool and I hope that in some way the site will be able to do so many more things.

Liverpool, V:sk

Mr Epper is Chairman
of Aircraft Investments
who are developing Albert
Dock

WPO



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 October 1984

Dear Mr. Eppel.

I was most grateful to you for showing me round the Albert Dock. It is a magnificent project and the transformation that Arrowcroft Investments are helping to bring about will provide a great source of encouragement to the City of Liverpool.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Leonard Eppel, Esq.,

JL



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 October 1984

My dear Archbishop,

I was glad that we were able to exchange a few words before luncheon when I visited the International Garden Festival on 2 October. I do, as you know, share your concern for the future of Liverpool. Though, in the course of my visit, I saw at first hand some of the problems of the City, I also saw a number of most encouraging developments.

I appreciate greatly your work in helping the City to tackle these problems and in helping it to build a new future.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

The Most Reverend Derek Warlock.



10 DOWNING STREET

Mr. Doherty is the MD of
Crudens who are building
the Precinct development.

LPO



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 October 1984

Dear Mr Doherty,

I was very pleased to have had the opportunity to visit the Anglican Cathedral precinct and to see the enormous progress that is now being made in developing this site which has lain derelict for so long. It is an exciting project and I am grateful to you and your colleagues for taking such trouble to show it to me.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

—

D. Doherty, Esq.

JD



file

VSC

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

4 October 1984

Dear Sir John,

May I thank you for welcoming Patrick Jenkin and myself so warmly to the Wavertree Technology Park. I am extremely grateful to you, and those people and organisations who have worked with you, in launching such an important project of urban renewal. I was extremely interested to see the photographs which illustrated both the extent of the project and the progress which has been made. I appreciate greatly the faith you and Plessey have shown by establishing the first factory on the site. I wish the Technology Park every success in the future.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Sir John Clark

6



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

4 October 1984

Dear Lord Aberconway,

May I thank you for welcoming Patrick Jenkin and myself so hospitably to the International Garden Festival. I greatly enjoyed my visit, as I am sure over three million others have done. My own tour benefited greatly from your knowledgeable commentary as we went round.

I congratulate you, and all who have worked with you, on the marvellous achievement of making a reality of the Festival in so short a time. Not only has the project given an immediate boost to the people of Merseyside, it has launched the long process of recovery and renewal.

For me it was a happy and joyful day, and one I shall always remember.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

The Lord Aberconway, JP.

ECL



File

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

4 October 1984

Dear Sir Leslie,

May I thank you warmly for welcoming Patrick Jenkin and myself to the International Garden Festival and to the Albert Dock. The achievements of the Merseyside Development Corporation under your Chairmanship have been immense. You can justly take pride in the tangible results of the past 3½ years.

The International Garden Festival was not only a delight to visit but an enormously heartening example of what can be done to tackle the problem of urban decay.

I found the Albert Dock a most impressive project which, when completed, will provide the centre of Liverpool with a most valuable asset.

I am grateful to you for all you have done in your time as Chairman and I wish the Corporation well, under its new Chairman, Donald Forster.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Sir Leslie Young, CBE, DL.



ECL

file

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

4 October 1984

Dear Mr. Oxford.

I am most grateful to you and the officers of the Merseyside Police Force for their efforts in making the visit of Patrick Jenkin and myself run so smoothly. I was particularly impressed with the skill and good humour with which our party was helped through the International Garden Festival.

At a time when the demands on the police are very great, this help is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

K.G. Oxford, Esq., C.B.E., Q.P.M.



File

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434
My ref:

Your ref:

4 October 1984

Dear Andrew

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO LIVERPOOL ON
2 OCTOBER

I enclose a copy of a note from the Merseyside Task Force which is I think self-explanatory.

You will however wish to consider whether the letter at Annex A should be sent to Councillor Hamilton as the MTF suggest. If you judge that a letter would be appropriate I would advise the deletion of the last sentence of the draft.

I doubt whether the draft at Annex A is suitable for the names at Annex B (2). I would therefore suggest a further draft letter to Lord Aberconway, Donald Forster, Leonard Epple, Barry Marsh, and Basil Bean at Annex G and a separate letter to the two Bishops at Annex H.

Your sincerely

John Ballard

JOHN BALLARD
Private Secretary

Andrew Turnbull Esq

2 of 11

cc Mr. Renshaw
Mr. Morrison

PS/Secretary of State

Prime Minister's Visit to Liverpool on 2/10/84

As requested by No. 10 I attach draft letters which the Prime Minister may wish to send to those to whom she was introduced during the course of her visit to Liverpool on 2 October.

The letter at Annex A has been drafted in general terms and could be sent to the majority of those concerned - names and addresses at Annex B. I have only included the main personalities who were introduced at each point during the course of the day eg Councillor John Hamilton, Leader of Liverpool City Council, and not all members of his delegation.

A separate letter is called for when writing to the individual exhibitors at the Wavertree Tech Shop Exhibition. It would seem appropriate for the Prime Minister to write to the Head of the Companies concerned rather than those running the stalls. A draft is at Annex C and a list of names and addresses at Annex D.

No doubt the Prime Minister will want to write in more specific terms to Sir John Clark and Sir Leslie Young in view of their special roles at Wavertree and the IGF/Albert Dock respectively. Draft letter to Sir John is at Annex E and to Sir Leslie at Annex F.

R. K. Madders

R. K. Madders
Merseyside Task Force
4 October 1984

4 of 11

LIVERPOOL HOUSING TOURGRAFTON CRESCENT HOUSING CO-OPERATIVE

- ✓ 1. Ms Catherine Meredith Director
Co-operative Development Services Ltd
39/41 Bold Street
Liverpool
L1 4EU
2. Ms Sophy Krajewska Area Manager
Co-operative Development Services Ltd
(address as above)
3. Mr J Pettit Treasurer
Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative
2 Grafton Crescent
Liverpool 8
- ✓ 4. Mr M Ryan Secretary
Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative
39 Grafton Crescent
Liverpool 8

ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL PRECINCT

- ✓ 1. Mr D Doherty Managing Director
Cruden Construction Limited
'Hillicrest'
Knutsford Road
Grappenhall
Warrington
Cheshire
WA4 3LA
2. Mr A Smith Director
Cruden Construction Limited
(address as above)
- ✓ 3. Mr M Clarke Regional Manager
Housing Corporation
6th Floor
Corn Exchange Buildings
Kenwick Street
Liverpool
L2 7RD

MINSTER COURT

- ✓ Mr J Keery Managing Director
Barratt Urban Renewal (Northern) Ltd
Huson House
Park Lane
Liverpool
L1 8HG

5 of 11

WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK COMPANY - BOARD MEMBERS

1. Sir John Clark
(Separate letter at Annex E) Chairman
Plessey plc
21-24 Millbank
London SW1P 4QP
2. Mr A R Pender Chief Executive
English Estates
St Georges House
Kingsway
Team Valley
Gateshead
Tyne & Wear NE11 0NA
3. Councillor Keva Coombes Leader, Merseyside County Council
PO Box 95
Metropolitan House
Old Hall Street
Liverpool L69 5EL
4. Mr G Forshaw Chief Executive
Wavertree Technology Park Company
First Floor, Sefton House
Exchange Street East
Liverpool L3 2RD

PLESSEY CRYPTO

Mr R Fisk General Manager
Plessey Crypto
2 Wavertree Boulevard
Liverpool L7 9PE

LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL

Councillor John Hamilton Leader
Liverpool City Council
Municipal Buildings
Dale Street
Liverpool L69 2DH

60111

LUNCH AT BRITISH PAVILION - GUESTS

| | |
|--|--|
| / Sir Leslie Young (Separate letter at Annex F) | Chairman Merseyside Development Corporation 4th Floor Royal Liver Building Pier Head Liverpool L3 1JH |
| / Lord Aberconway | Commissioner General International Garden Festival Priory Wood Liverpool 17 |
| Donald Forster | Chairman Designate Merseyside Development Corporation 4th Floor Royal Liver Building Pier Head Liverpool L3 1JH |
| The Most Rev Derek Worlock | Archbishop of Liverpool Archbishop's House 87 Green Lane Mossley Hill Liverpool L18 2EP |
| The Rt Rev David Shepherd | Bishop of Liverpool Church House 1 Hanover Street Liverpool L1 3DW |
| ✓ Leonard Eppel | Chairman Arrowcroft Investments Albert Dock Village Liverpool 3 |
| Barry Marsh | Chairman Merseyside Chamber of Commerce 1 Old Hall Street Liverpool 1 |
| Basil Bean | Chief Executive Merseyside Development Corporation 4th Floor Royal Liver Building Pier Head Liverpool L3 1JH |

DRAFT LETTER FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO SEND TO THOSE PEOPLE LISTED
AT ANNEX B

I was pleased to meet you during the course of my visit to Liverpool on 2 October. It was useful to see, at first hand, some aspects of the City's life and meet with those directly involved. It was a stimulating and encouraging day.

DRAFT LETTER FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO SEND TO THOSE PEOPLE LISTED
AT ANNEX D

I was glad to have the opportunity to meet your representative at the Wavertree Technology Shop Exhibition, during the course of my visit to Liverpool on 2 October. The exhibition and the Park project itself contain considerable promise for the future, which I am ^{sure} confident will be fulfilled.

ANNEX D(1)

WAVERTREE TECH SHOP - EXHIBITORS

Mr A R Burnip Plant Manager
Vauxhall Motors Ltd
Ellesmere Port Plant
North Road Industrial Estate
South Wirral
L65 1AL

Mr J Cansley Managing Director
Microdata Information Systems Ltd
Maylands House
Hemel Hempstead
Herts HP2 4RL

Mr E H H Crawford Regional Director
Midland Bank PLC
Regional Head Office
Winckley Square
Preston
Lancs PR1 3EY

Mr Eric Clark Managing Director
Flessey Telecommunications & Office
Systems Ltd
Edge Lane
Liverpool
L7 9NW

Mr Derek Henderson Director
BICC PLC
Prescot
Merseyside
L34 5SZ

Mr John Higham Plant Manager
A C Spark Plug Overseas Corporation
Moorgate Road
Kirkby
L33 7XL

Mr A E Kelly Group Chairman
Aughton Group of Companies
Woodward Road
Kirkby Industrial Estate
Liverpool

Sir Edwin Nixon IBM UK Ltd
PO Box 41
North Harbour
Portsmouth
PO6 3AU

90611

Mr K J Rushton

Divisional Secretary
ICI PLC Mond Division
PO Box 14
The Heath
Runcorn
Cheshire WA7 4QG

Mr G Shingles

Managing Director
Digital Equipment Co Ltd
Digital Park
Worton Grange
Reading

Mr K Willacy

General Manager
Shell UK Materials Services
(Reference Indicator UMA)
Shellmex House
The Strand
London

Mr J Stopforth

Director
Merseyside County Economic
Development Office
Tithebarn House
Tithebarn Street
Liverpool 2

DRAFT LETTER FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO SEND TO SIR JOHN CLARK

I was glad to be able to come to Wavertree Technology Park, during the course of my visit to Liverpool on 2 October. A great deal has been achieved already and there is great promise for the future. Liverpool people well led do produce good results!

DRAFT LETTER FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO SEND TO SIR LESLIE YOUNG

It was kind of you to show me round the International Garden Festival site and the Albert Dock development during the course of my visit to Liverpool on 2 October. Both developments show in different ways what can be achieved on Merseyside with good leadership and management.

I was glad that we were able to meet over luncheon, when I visited the International Garden Festival on 2 October. The Festival itself is a fine example of what can be achieved on Merseyside with good management and leadership; it is a tribute to all concerned and let us hope an example to be followed widely.

~~and appreciate greatly your~~

DRAFT LETTER FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO SEND TO THE MOST REV.
DEREK WARLOCK AND THE RT REV DAVID SHEPHERD

pro

I was glad that we were able to exchange a few words before luncheon when I visited the International Garden Festival on 2 October. I do, as you know, share your concern for the future of Liverpool. *Though in the course of my visit I saw at first hand some of the problems of the city, I also saw a number of most encouraging developments.*

I appreciate greatly the work you do in helping the city tackle ^{these} problems and in helping it build a new future.

124 OCT 1994

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L O S



BM

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 October 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 2 October. Though her visit to the "Drop-in" centre in Liverpool 8 was very brief, it nevertheless provided her with a valuable insight into some of the problems of the area, particularly drug abuse.

(Andrew Turnbull)

David Mathieson, Esq.

file

EA



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 October 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you and your colleagues in the Merseyside Task Force for the work that went into arranging her visit. The planning of the programme was undoubtedly carried out with great thoroughness so that it was possible to cover an enormous amount of ground in the limited time available. The Prime Minister was extremely satisfied with the outcome which enabled her to see clearly both the problems and opportunities of the Liverpool area.

She was also delighted to be able personally to thank the members of the Task Force for their work on what is undoubtedly a testing assignment.

Andrew Turnbull

David Renshaw, Esq.

A handwritten signature in the bottom right corner of the page, appearing to be 'DR' or similar initials.

V82



CC MASTER SET

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 October 1984

I attach a copy of a record of the meeting with Merseyside County Council. I assume you will be sending me in due course the record you are doing of the meeting with the Liverpool City Council.

I am copying this letter to David Renshaw of the Merseyside Task Force.

(Andrew Turnbull)

John Ballard Esq
Department of the Environment.

ECLADM.

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORD OF MEETING HELD AT OFFICES OF MERSEYSIDE TASK FORCE
AT 1225, 2 OCTOBER 1984

Present:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Prime Minister | Mr Keva Coombes (Chairman, |
| Secretary of State for | Merseyside County Council) |
| the Environment | Mr Ray O'Brien (Chief |
| Mr Renshaw | Executive, Merseyside |
| Mr Turnbull | County Council) |

Mr Coombes asked that before Ministers took final decisions on abolition they examined carefully the circumstances of Merseyside. He believed a strong case could be made for its retention. He said that many of the developments the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State would see, e.g. Speke Airport, Albert Dock, Wavertree Technology Park, had come about with the cooperation and support of the MCC. It was a council with a proven record of success, which had attracted cross-party support in favour of its retention.

He believed that an authority going beyond the boundaries of Liverpool was essential to ensure cooperation between the districts. He regarded Merseyside as a natural community which, for the purposes of local government, should not be artificially divided.

He went on to discuss the problems of the City of Liverpool. He had noted the reference in the Prime Minister's speech to the drain of the "able and adventurous". He confirmed the existence of this phenomenon and confessed that he and his family had themselves moved to the Wirral. He did not believe that the problems of Liverpool could be solved in the political environment that

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

-2-

was left.

The Prime Minister said the powers of the metropolitan counties were limited - they did not for example have responsibility for health, education or housing.

(Mr Coombes argued that transport, fire and police plus a development role provided a sufficient basis for an elected authority.) The Prime Minister said that Mr Coombes' argument was effectively that a higher tier of local government had to be created to make good the deficiencies of the lower tier. The logic of this would be to dissolve the districts. She asked why it would not be possible, after abolition, to get more able people involved in Liverpool politics.

Mr O'Brien argued that, although Merseyside had a population comparable with say Lancashire, Nottinghamshire or Kent, education was divided amongst five districts. The same was true for social services.

The Secretary of State for the Environment warned against the "nothing else will change" fallacy. After abolition the behaviour of the districts could well change. He reminded Mr Coombes that the idea of a non-elected body to undertake industrial promotion for the Merseyside area was still on the agenda.

The meeting ended at 1240.

AT

3 October 1984

CONFIDENTIAL



AT 5/1
File a Liverpool note

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

Dear Andrew

3 October 1984

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL ON 2 OCTOBER: MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL

I said that I would let you have a note of the points made in the meeting that the Prime Minister and my Secretary of State had with the City Council on 2 October.

The Prime Minister invited the City Council's representatives to put to her any points of which they felt she should be aware. They were initially reluctant to do so arguing that they had not been given sufficient advanced warning of the meeting and were not therefore suitably prepared. Councillor Hatton argued strongly that the Council held the Prime Minister personally responsible for conditions in Liverpool; but they would have liked the opportunity to have shown her personally the results of Government action since 1979.

The Prime Minister said that she had seen a range of housing estates and schemes in her tour of the City that morning. She did not accept that present conditions were the results of Government action since 1979. They were the result of policies pursued over a longer term. She had been appalled at some of the housing conditions she had encountered. They indicated severe mismanagement and lack of maintenance. By contrast she had been impressed by the Grafton Crescent Co-operative Estate which had involved occupants in the planning of the estate, with such good results. Equally at Minster Court good quality low priced accommodation had been made available with the help of a private developer working with the Council. She understood however that the Council were not prepared to co-operate on future schemes of this kind. The Government had pursued a policy of encouraging more private money into Liverpool. The Government's policy on housing provided for a variety of provision meeting a range of means. The City's did not and would not rejuvenate Liverpool.

Councillor Byrne said that the Council have, upon taking office, reappraised the strategy. The previous administration had neglected the living conditions in the inner City. This was now to be remedied. The reduction in HIP allocations of £62m since 1979 and the reductions in RSG had made conditions worse. The Council had a responsibility for the whole City.

The Prime Minister observed that over the last twenty years Liverpool had lost over a quarter of a million people. In these circumstances it was important to keep communities together. There had been bad mistakes in the post-war housing policy and later. These all contributed to the present problem. The solution was not however simply a question of resources. This was critical but so was the way in which they were managed.

Councillor Byrne maintained that the Council were prepared to sell blocks of flats to private developers for refurbishment. They were however determined to secure the best price. They were prepared to continue with 'build for sale'. They would also be providing for the sixty thousand unemployed and the pensioners in the City who required municipal housing.

Councillor Hamilton said that he understood that 85% of the youth in the City were unemployed, with little prospect of employment. Housebuilding provided job opportunities which were doubly valuable given the general tenseness in the City. He hoped that the Prime Minister would take on board the wider benefits of the housebuilding programme.

Councillor Hatton asked the Prime Minister to intervene to secure the release of the twelve Cammell Laird strikers who had been arrested, on orders of the court - the twelve people who were attempting to secure their livelihood had been arrested on the orders of 'her' judiciary.

The Prime Minister firmly rebutted any suggestion that the judiciary were in the Government's control. There was no democracy unless the judiciary operated with complete independence. Any respect for his views that Councillor Hatton might have engendered in the course of discussion could not be sustained in the face of such allegations.

Yours sincerely

John Ballard

JOHN BALLARD
Private Secretary

Andrew Turnbull Esq

1984 OCT 30

30 OCT 1984

Liverpool ECHO



Outlook: Rain, sunny spells.
Noon: 10.9C (51.6F)
Y'day: 11.6C (52.9F)



32,480

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1984

14p

The paper that speaks up for Merseyside

IT'S HOLIDAY WEEK IN YOUR ECHO!

HOLIDAYS IN NEW YORK & PARIS

TO BE WON—P.10



PAT PHOENIX Her new life —P.6

THE OLDER WOMAN and the YOUNGER MAN WOMAN Page 8

£100,000 ECHO LINE-UP

IS ON PAGE 19

14p

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People * Politics * Television * News * Sports

Hush-hush city tour starts with surprise caller at breakfast

GIZZA HOUSE

MAGGIE!

Catherine, 62, gives the Premier taste of life in rundown tenement

A TEARFUL pensioner took the Prime Minister into her slum flat today and pleaded: "Please get me a house."

Mrs. Catherine Langton (62), took Mrs. Thatcher on a tour of her rotting Toxteth tenement. Then she said goodbye with a kiss on the Premier's cheek.

The Prime Minister and Mrs. Langton came face-to-face as Mrs. Thatcher encountered one of the few demonstrators on her hush-hush tour of Liverpool.

Mrs. Veronica Hoase, of Langley Way, Toxteth, shouted at the Premier to inspect the appalling housing conditions in the area.

Then Mrs. Langton stepped in. She told the unruffled Premier: "I'll stand by you. No one will touch you while I'm here."

Mrs. Langton, who has been on the housing waiting list for years, took Mrs. Thatcher into her Prince William Street flat.

She was spared no detail — and even shown the blocked toilet.

Echo reporting team: Peter Phelps, Tim Rogers and Andrew Edwards.

Echo photographic team: John Davidson, Derek Wright, Richard Williams.

A word in your ear . . . Mrs. Catherine Langton leads the Prime Minister into her home to show her the "appalling living conditions." She asked Mrs. Thatcher to help find her another home.

One man shouted to her from a first floor window: "Go inside the blocks — see the rats." She shouted back: "I've been inside".

Derelict

As the motorcade passed Joliffe Street, the Toxteth Wimpey "dream home" development taken over by the council, Mrs. Thatcher stopped to see the property which has already burned out.

Then it was on for a glimpse of the Anglican Cathedral precinct scheme from the top of the site office before calling in at the Barratt Minster Court development, where derelict flats have been turned into luxury homes.

There she found resigned. Continued on Page 3



Face-to-face with the heroin evil

A SHOCKED Mrs. Thatcher came face-to-face with Liverpool's drug problem today.

The Prime Minister paid a surprise visit to a Toxteth youth centre as part of her hush-hush city housing trip.

And there, against a background of blaring pop music, five unemployed youngsters told her they were converting the building to provide a refuge for drug addicts.

"So many people we know are on heroin," 26-years-old David Osu told her. "On heroin?" a



- Echo takes drugs campaign to Labour conference — Page Two.
- Drugs in jail — Page Three.

shaken Mrs. Thatcher said in almost a whisper. Then she declared: "It's terrible. If we can find the people who are peddling it, they should have really stiff penalties."



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Kinnock speaks up on violence

LABOUR leader Neil Kinnock this afternoon attacked picket line violence by both police and miners. His speech to the Party conference in Blackpool brought him into direct confrontation with miners' leader Arthur Scargill.

Conference Report—Page 2

Wearisome Willy and dozy Harry!

PRINCE Harry is a sound sleeper and never disturbs his parents at night, Prince Charles said today.

The Prince, on his first engagement since his second son was born a fortnight ago, was bombarded with questions about the baby, but he also had a word about two-year-old Prince William.

He told a nursery nurse: "I'd give you an hour with my child and you'd be worn out."

Full Story—Page 5

My way right for city

Maggie

A REVIVAL in Liverpool's fortunes depends on "painful adjustment", Prime Minister Mrs. Margaret Thatcher said in the city today.

'Clanger' angers docks bosses

MRS. THATCHER dropped a clanger in Liverpool today — and infuriated Mersey docks bosses.

The Prime Minister had said she was "deeply disappointed" to hear Liverpool dockers were the first out and the last back in the latest docks strike.

But today Docks Company bosses said she was wrong and that Hull was the first out and Liverpool was among the first back.

Mrs. Thatcher was speaking in the city about Liverpool making a recovery when she referred to the strike and said she had hoped the Liverpool dockers would seize the opportunity to continue the recovery and resist the action.

"I was deeply disappointed that they were the first out and the last back to work," she said.

'Gizza house'

From Page One

dents David Connolly, conductor of the Birkenhead Operatic Society, hard at work completing a musical score for tonight's dress rehearsal of a show song reviews.

She was clearly impressed by his diligence and told him: "You are a rare person".

Earlier the Prime Minister was a surprise breakfast-time visitor at the Toxteth home of Joe and Rose Murphy.

Mr. Murphy said: "She took us by surprise. We had no idea she would want to have a look round our home."

"She asked us how long we had lived here and she seemed very impressed by it all."

An R.A.F. Andover of the Queen's Flight flew the Prime Minister and Environment Secretary Patrick Jenkin into Liverpool Airport just after 9.30 amid security reminiscent of a Royal visit.

They were met by a five-car motorcade, with a strong police escort, and whisked away ignoring red traffic lights for a drive through the depressed inner-urban areas of Speke and Dingle.

Compliment

The first top was the new Grafton Crescent housing cooperative where Mrs Thatcher stepped out of her black Daimler and immediately met startled eight-year-old Jenny Ryan. "You are a tall girl for your age," she told the speechless youngster.

Residents, rehoused in February from Caryl Street tenements to the scheme they pioneered themselves knew a VIP was coming but were not told it would be Mrs Thatcher until early today.

Mrs. Thatcher, wearing a grey winter coat, matching shoes, a pearl necklace and earrings, talked to a group of residents who had come out

to watch her arrival.

Mrs. Patty Pritchard said: "She thought the houses were lovely, and complimented us on their design and condition."

"She seemed to be very nice, and wanted to know everything about the estate that we could tell her. I'm not saying if I support her or not, but you have to be hospitable, don't you."

Security

Mrs. May Foster (71), was anxious to show the Prime Minister around her home.

"I don't bother much with politics in fact I don't vote at all, but it was nice to see her here and I'm very pleased she came to look at my home. She was very polite and I was impressed by her," said Mrs. Foster.

Mrs Thatcher's verdict on the house: "It just shows what can be done with a certain amount of money."

The Premier's visit—her first to the city since the aftermath of the Toxteth riots—was planned at the last minute to coincide with Mr. Jenkin's pre-arranged tour.

This afternoon the Prime Minister was visiting the new Albert Dock development, accompanied by Mr. Jenkin, before moving on to Huyton for a Conservative party engagement.

Speaking at the launching of Wavertree Technology Park, Mrs. Thatcher admitted Liverpool's problems were acute.

But she insisted her Government's spending policies, particularly concerning local government expenditure, would, in the long run, serve to make life better on Merseyside.

She said the key to Liverpool's revitalisation was a working partnership between private enterprise and the public sector. And, she maintained, her way was the right way to achieve that goal.

"High Government spending and ambitious public sector programmes lead inevitably to high taxes, high inflation and high interest rates, all of which will destroy jobs," she said.

Painful

Mrs. Thatcher said Liverpool had to make painful adjustments for the future.

But she said the Government was committed to helping Liverpool. The resources available to Merseyside were substantial, she said.

"They are not merely financial, nor are they the monopoly of the public sector," she said.

The Government had done its part, investing over £120,000,000 in the inner-city partnership programme.

It had also established the Merseyside Development Corporation, an enterprise zone at Speke, a freeport and 17,000 places in Merseyside under the Youth Training Scheme.

She admitted Liverpool faced grave housing problems, but said the emphasis needed to be more on maintaining and overhauling existing buildings, rather than demolishing, then building new homes.

On the Wavertree Technology Park, she said the development, built from private and public money, was a perfect example of what can be done on Merseyside.



A cheery Mrs. Thatcher makes a point during her speech today.



Mrs. Thatcher and Christine Oruche share a laugh at Minster Court.



Pointing the way... Mrs. Thatcher sees the funny side while chatting to residents of Grafton Walk, Toxteth.

Garden site
may go up for grabs

LIVERPOOL'S International Garden Festival site is likely to become a leisure park run by private enterprise.

Mr. Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said it was one of the options. He ruled out the Government aid sought by Liverpool City Council to help maintain the festival hall, other buildings and parkland.

Speaking before visiting the festival today, he said the site owners, Merseyside Development Corporation, would need to look to private enterprise if the council decided to go back on their agreement to take over the area when the festival closes later this month.

Problem

"The problem is that if the M.D.C. had to run it, it would be at the expense of other projects," he said. "There is no way I can conjure money out of the air in order to meet any costs."

"Liverpool has got its park, festival hall, theatre, pub, asplanade, all sorts of things. All they are being asked to do now is to run it."

"The idea that the taxpayer should help still further is one which would be extremely difficult to sell elsewhere."

Mr. Jenkin said it would be ironic if a decision by a council of the political complexion of Liverpool produced a privatised leisure area operating at a profit.

But, he added, the Labour council still had two months or so to pick up the undertaking by the previous Liberal administration in the knowledge that there could not be any specific Government finance.

Drugs the key to prisoners' power in jail

TRADING power by prisoners now centres around possession of drugs, it was claimed today.

Traditional "tobacco barons" are turning to drug peddling, says a national report by the Prison Officers' Association.

Liverpool's Walton Jail is high on the list of drug discoveries—including heroin, LSD and morphine.

Searches

Prison officers are now pressing the Home Office for better drug search training to help combat the increase in trafficking inside jails.

The report says there was almost one

drug seizure a week at Walton during 1982 and 1983.

The problem has escalated so much that prison visitors are sometimes searched before meeting inmates. Visiting is the main method of smuggling drugs inside.

Mr. John McDonnell, secretary of the Liverpool branch of the P.O.A., said: "It is an increasing problem. Traditionally tobacco has always been the main form of trade inside jails, but now it is fair to say that drugs are running alongside that as buying power".

Mr. John Richardson, prison governor at Walton, was not available for comment.

Stock Market

ANOTHER slide on Wall Street overnight and the Bank of England's gloomy economic forecast yesterday made for a drab opening on Northern Markets.

Top industrials were widely lower with losses stretching into the twenties. British Funds, however had so far managed to hold reasonably steady as the pound strengthened slightly against the dollar.

The F.T. Index at 1 p.m. was 851.3, down 5.6.

Television * News * Sports

2 of 2.

and sit-in rebels

QUAD T TO ORM S RIG

staging an occupation at Cammell were arrested today as police 13-week sit-in. special police squad was planning an gas rig.

By Alan Quantrough

moment is that there is an enormous police presence," said boilermakers' union leader Barry Williams.

"We think a move by the police is now imminent."

The move followed the expiry of a court deadline at midnight, ordering the men to abandon their action or face a month in jail for contempt of court.

The men were trapped in a well-planned police manoeuvre as they fled the navy vessel Edinburg and tried to dash

to the gas accommodation rig.

Six men were cornered near the main gates of the yard. As they waited three police vans led by Chief Superintendent Richard Adams drove from behind sheds to make the arrests.

As police approached some of the men fell and refused to move but were quickly bundled away.

All the men were taken to Mortimer Street police station, less than half a mile from the yard.

Continued on Page 3

Maggie for Merseyside



Margaret Thatcher

By Peter Fledge Local Government correspondent

THE Prime Minister is planning a surprise visit to Liverpool tomorrow.

Speculation was mounting today that Mrs Thatcher would accompany her Environment Secretary Patrick Jenkin on a trip to the Albert Dock Village complex and, possibly, to the garden festival.

But any appearance by Mrs Thatcher in Liverpool is bound to be shrouded in secrecy.

No official sources would confirm or deny the report.

The Central Office of Information which handles ministerial visits referred inquiries to the No 10 Downing Street Press office, where a spokesman said: "We never disclose Mrs Thatcher's diary in advance. It's a matter of strict policy."

Criticised

But Mr Jenkin's movements are usually revealed in advance and the C.O.I. was maintaining a curious silence about tomorrow's visit.

A visit by Mrs Thatcher would be bound to cause controversy in Labour-dominated Merseyside.

But it was said that the Prime Minister would attend the International Garden Festival at some stage and the week of the Labour Party conference in Blackpool, when most Labour leaders are away, would seem an opportune time.

Mrs Thatcher has not been to Liverpool since the Toxteth riots in 1981

Labour's away at the seaside as the contest is clear for Premier

Parliamentary

Ballard N 16/05

Rk

THE LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

ANDY GRICE

Scargill wins ovation

THE Labour Party Conference today gave a standing ovation to the miner's leader Arthur Scargill after he claimed his union was challenging "the whole basic concept of the Tory Government's philosophy."

Mr Scargill said: "There are no uneconomic pits. There are only pits which have been deliberately starved of investment."

Conference report - Page 2

Merseyside Probation Service

Burlington House
South Wing
Crosby Road North
Liverpool L22 0PJ
Tel: 051-920 9201

After Office Hours: 051-928 9493

Chief Probation Officer: David Mathieson

Our ref. DAM/MB

Your ref.

2 October 1984

Rt Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON

R3

Dear Annie Minister,

I understand that earlier today you paid a short impromptu visit to our "Drop-in" centre in Liverpool 8.

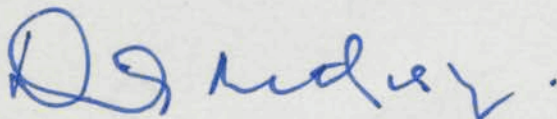
I am sorry that, due to the extemporary nature of your visit, it was not possible for me to be present to receive you and Mr Patrick Jenkin. I am confident, however, that you were indeed well received by those who were present.

In fact, this particular "Drop-in" centre is still in the course of preparation. It will be so important in this particular part of Liverpool - where unemployment and other social problems are particularly high. On the basis of our experience in other parts of Merseyside, we are hoping that the availability of this centre will prove beneficial in the interests of crime reduction and crime prevention.

You may be particularly interested to know that some of the persons whom you met earlier today are "Community Assistants". With the assistance of finance from the Manpower Services Commission, the Merseyside Probation Service is able to employ on temporary contracts local people as community assistants. Many of them are black and ex-offenders - and our experience is that they serve as a valuable link between authority and the community.

Finally, may I thank you very much indeed for the interest which you showed personally in our work. I am sure that the Home Office will be able to provide you with any further information because the Probation Inspectorate there are fully in the picture.

Yours sincerely



David Mathieson
Chief Probation Officer

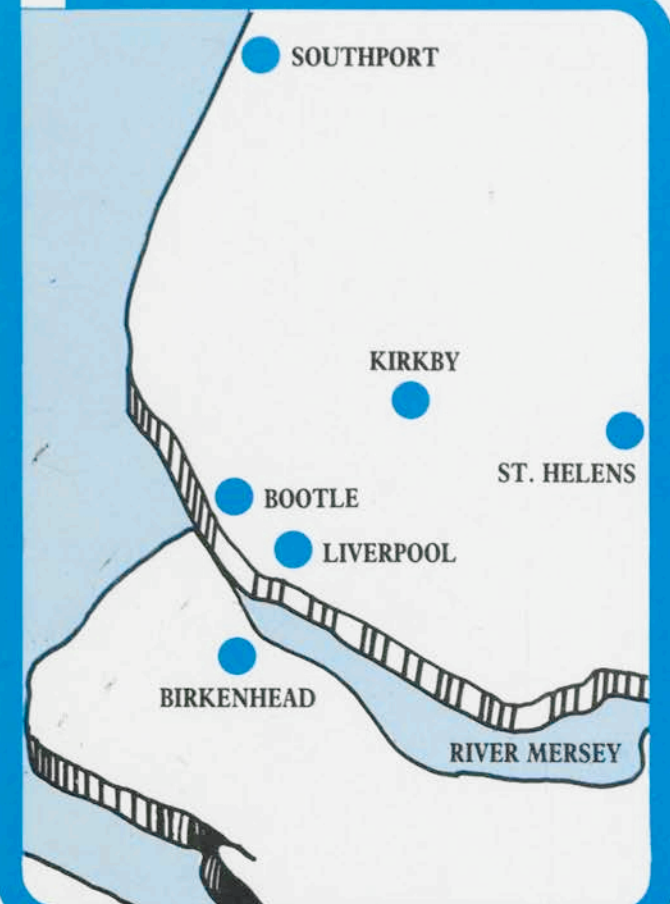
FURTHER DETAILS

If you would like to know more about the Probation Service, either locally or nationally, please contact:

**David Mathieson,
Chief Probation Officer,
Burlington House,
(4th Floor/South Wing),
Crosby Road North,
Waterloo,
Liverpool L22 0PJ,
Merseyside**

**Telephone: 051-920 9201 (day time)
051-928 9493 (after hours)**

Merseyside Probation Service



Merseyside Probation Service

is administered by a Probation Committee representing Magistrates from all parts of the County. The Chief Probation Officer is responsible to that Committee.

There are 28 local Probation Offices throughout Merseyside serving the communities in which they are located.

The Probation Service provides a social work service for 8 Magistrates' Courts, the Crown Courts and Divorce Court. It also staffs the Probation Department in Liverpool Prison, Probation Hostels and a Bail Hostel.

Probation Officers work with offenders of all ages. They provide reports on offenders to assist the Courts to determine the most appropriate sentence. Together with ancillary staff and volunteers, who are members of the public, they provide community based supervision.

Probation Officers not only work with offenders but also serve in the Domestic and Divorce Courts helping with family difficulties. Probation Officers are particularly involved in decisions concerning custody and access of children.

Some people get into trouble because of mental illness, personality problems, drink or drugs. The Probation Service works with other agencies to overcome these problems.

Probation Orders, for adults, and Supervision Orders, for those under 17 years of age, require offenders to comply with the conditions of a Court Order. In administering the Order, Probation Officers supervise offenders for a specified period.

If an offender receives a custodial sentence, the Probation Officer keeps in touch with him and his family during the sentence. Some offenders are discharged subject to conditions and must report to a Probation Officer; others do not have conditions on release, and choose to maintain contact voluntarily.

Community Service is undertaken by offenders who are ordered by the Court to work in their spare time for the benefit of the Community. Work varies from improving the environment, to helping the aged, children and the disabled.

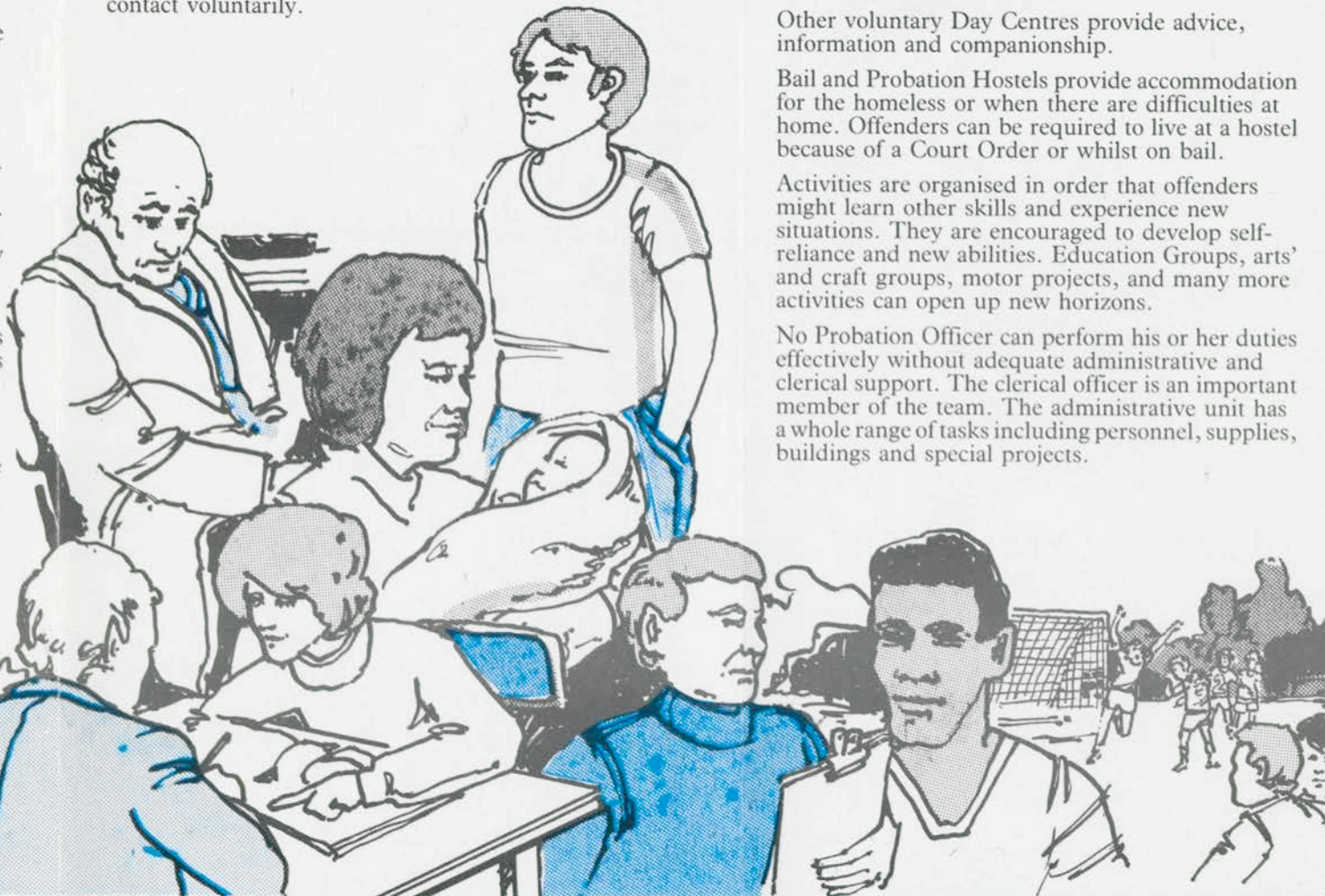
There are a number of Day Centres in Merseyside where offenders go as a condition of a Probation Order. There they learn practical and social skills. They are encouraged to develop self-confidence and a capacity to work with others.

Other voluntary Day Centres provide advice, information and companionship.

Bail and Probation Hostels provide accommodation for the homeless or when there are difficulties at home. Offenders can be required to live at a hostel because of a Court Order or whilst on bail.

Activities are organised in order that offenders might learn other skills and experience new situations. They are encouraged to develop self-reliance and new abilities. Education Groups, arts' and craft groups, motor projects, and many more activities can open up new horizons.

No Probation Officer can perform his or her duties effectively without adequate administrative and clerical support. The clerical officer is an important member of the team. The administrative unit has a whole range of tasks including personnel, supplies, buildings and special projects.





10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 October 1984

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to thank you and the rest of the crew for the very smooth flights to and from Liverpool yesterday and for the service you provided.

As always, this was excellent and I would be grateful if you could kindly pass on the Prime Minister's thanks to all concerned.

(Andrew Turnbull)

Flight Lieutenant Neil Franks

PRIME MINISTER

YOUR VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

Rumours about your visit tomorrow have not been confirmed though it is known that Patrick Jenkin has a full day of engagements in Liverpool.

The media generally will not be informed of your visit until your arrival at Speke Airport and then only given a sketchy outline of your programme. But I shall alert the editor of the Liverpool Echo at 8.45 am to permit him to get a photographer and reporter to Speke to cover your arrival.

A chill wind blows off the Mersey so warm clothes are recommended for your walk round the housing area and at the Festival Garden. Both can be rough underfoot.

Housing Tour

To avoid demonstrations the Council's Housing Committee will not be informed that you will visit one of their sites until you arrive at the airport.

Patrick Jenkin with David Renshaw, Director of the Merseyside Task Force, will explain the background on this part of the visit.

On the 6-mile drive from the airport into the City you will see examples of empty decayed 1930s tenement blocks, a Wimpey development in its early stages and in the Inner City Partnership area a mixture of boarded-up tenements and shops and industrial/commercial units for letting.

You will then tour by car 6 housing sites in an area of run-down neglected public housing with some examples of development of pre and post-war units.

The programme allows time for you to walk round some of the sites and perhaps to call briefly on a few residents - though at that time of day many may well not be up and about since the majority are out of work.

- First stop is Grafton Crescent Housing Corporation - about 20 red brick 2-storey homes and bungalows for pensioners overlooking the site of their demolished tenement block in which they had previously lived. The self-help scheme is funded by the City Council.
- Drive on to Hill Street/Prince William Street, an area of

run-down and neglected post-war public housing with very high unemployment. Though having had only 30 minutes advance notice of your visit, the Council's Housing Committee representatives could be present.

- You then drive through the Dickens Street Housing Action Area - an area of older 2-storey terraced properties of 300 houses scheduled for demolition before declaration of a Housing Action Area 1979.
- The tour then takes you down Princes Boulevard, the principal Victorian thoroughfare of neglected tall terraced houses. Housing Associations are taking action on a few improvements but some are gutted and open to the street.
- Your car then turns into a private sector development of 200 small Wimpey houses. Wimpey responded to the Government's efforts to reintroduce new private sector housing but before buyers were able to move in, the estate was municipalised in June 1983 by the new Labour Council. Some units are already showing signs of neglect.
- The Anglican Cathedral Precinct is your next step, where you will see Crudens Ltd development plans for the 16 acre site of private housing with some commercial facilities and high quality landscaped areas. Still in early stages of construction, the site is very rough underfoot but you can get a very good view from the flat roof of the old school, Crudens' offices site.
- Your final stop is Barratts Urban Renewal Ltd flagship, Minster Court, refurbished local authority tenement blocks of 200 units surrounded by a security wall. The price of the 2 bedroom flats is about £12,000 with an extra charge for the 24 hour security guards.

Wavertree Technology Park

The 64 acre Park is a collaborative venture between the public and private sectors on previously derelict land to provide a suitable location for high technology industry.

You will open the Park's "Meet the Buyers" Exhibition - displays by about a dozen major purchasers in the electronics, computing and telecommunications field aimed at making contact with about 300 small companies. The media have been invited and will form part of the audience.

Plessey Telecommunications are already nearby and the Plessey company have committed themselves to provide professional and technical assistance to companies going to the Park. The Plessey Chairman, Sir John Clark, is chairman of the Park's management company.

Sir John will greet you on your arrival at the recently occupied Plessey Science Products building of 40,000 sq ft (Plessey Crypto). In the reception area he will introduce the other members of the Park's Policy Board - Councillor Coombs, Leader of Merseyside City Council, Councillor Hamilton, Leader of Liverpool City Council, Tony Pender, Chief Executive, English Estates, and the Chief Executive, Geoffrey Farshaw ex-Director of Technology at Plessey Telecommunications.

After a cup of coffee and a brief look at the exhibition of the Park's development plans, Sir John will escort you back through the front entrance and to your right across about 200 yards to the specially erected marquee. On your left under construction are English Estates speculative units. On this walk there is a possibility of demonstrations stirred up by Council workmen on the site.

On entering the marquee you will tour the dozen or so product displays - about 200 invited guests will be present - before taking your seat on the small platform at the far end. About 40 VIPs and media will be already seated. Behind you will be the Park's logo on a background of several shades of green. On the platform with you will be Patrick Jenkin and Sir John Clark who will welcome you and invite you to open the Exhibition. You will speak from a lectern.

Depending on the circumstances and time available, you may wish to mingle with some of the guests in the display area before departing.

Merseyside Task Force and Liverpool City Council

You will arrive at the rear entrance of the Government Department's Building, Graeme House, to avoid any demonstration at the front entrance.

A lift will take you up to the 4th floor where David Renshaw, Director of the Task Force will introduce you to his 30 or so staff in the reception area.

After about 5 minutes you will move across the corridor to meet representatives of the Liverpool City Council in the conference room.

Immediately after the half hour meeting, Bernard will escort you to your left to the Director's office where you can give a short statement to a media pool of 10 - 2 TV crews, 2 radio reporters and 2 writing correspondents. They will not be able to have separate interviews but he proposes let them have about 10 minutes in which to ask questions.

You can then return to the rear entrance and depart for the Garden Festival.

International Garden Festival

Your car will enter by the staff entrance and drive a short distance to where you will be met by Sir Leslie Young, Chairman of the Merseyside Development Corporation. He will escort you along one of the shrub and tree-lined paths to the United Kingdom Government Pavilion, a construction of elegant glass-houses. In one of them you will lunch with about 20 guests closely associated with the Festival before touring the exhibits in the Pavilion.

The Festival's photographer will be present during the tour but not during lunch.

You then start a tour of the Garden Festival accompanied by Sir Leslie Young and the luncheon guests.

The tour includes

- a 15 minute ride on the small closed carriage railway around one half of site, passing the Japanese, Chinese and American Gardens. Media facility at the station but none on the train;
- a walk round the indoor garden exhibits in the Festival Hall. Next to the impressive British Telecom stand is the BBC Radio Merseyside studio. You can consider giving them a short interview about your impressions of the Garden Festival, taking account of all the circumstances.
- a half hour walk through the rest of the Garden including the British Garden, the Victorian Garden (sponsored by Leverhulme), the Rose Garden (sponsored by the Post Office) and the downhill walk to the public entrance at the Herculanean Docks. Media facilities for part of this walk.

Albert Docks

On the 2 mile drive back to the City's Centre you will see on your left in the docks area some of the Merseyside Development Corporation's developments. The Albert Docks complex close to the famous Liver Building is a joint venture between the MDC and Arrowcroft Group, very similar to London's St Katherine's Docks development, though the access area to it has yet to be improved.

You enter through an arcade of small specialist shops including, on your left, Liverpool City Football Club's

Souvenir Shop and past a refreshment area to the open dock basin. Sir Leslie Young will explain the plans for the warehouse opposite, including luxury flats with garage space and the future home for the Tate of the North Gallery. The media will be present.

If time permits Sir Leslie will escort you upstairs to the Corporation's offices where you will meet some of its members over a cup of tea.

You then depart for Hyton Conservative Club where before you meet the constituency members you will give an interview of about three-quarters an hour to the Editor of the Liverpool Post. A photographer will be present.

Your visit to Merseyside ends after the Party function.

Sheenagh Wallace

SHEENAGH WALLACE
Press Office

1 October 1984

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO LIVERPOOL - TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER 1984

Composition of party:

Prime Minister
Secretary of State for the Environment
The Rt. Hon. Michael Alison, M.P.
Mr. Bernard Ingham
Mr. Andrew Turnbull
Mr. John Ballard
Mr. David McDonald
Mrs. Barbara Moore
Ch. Insp. Derek Edgar
Det. Bob Kingston

Det. Supt. Ray Parker in advance on Monday 1 October with
the two No. 10 drivers - Mr. Oliver and Mr. Rumble
who will stay at:

Atlantic Tower Hotel,
Chapel Street 3, Liverpool. Tel: 051 227 4444

Brenda Lowe (Agent) and Bill Haresnape (Press Officer) will
stay at:

St. George's Hotel,
St. John's Precinct One,
Liverpool. Tel. 051 709 7090

Ten people on outward flight; eleven on return flight
(ie one extra Detective)

S/S for the Environment and Mr. Ballard travelling
together to and from Northolt and Mr. McDonald travelling on
his own.

c0735 Prime Minister to depart
from Chequers
Car 1 (Tom Savage)
Prime Minister
Detective Bob Kingston

0745 Following to depart from
No. 10
Car 1 (Paul Blackaby)
Mr. Alison
Mr. Ingham
Mr. Turnbull

Car 2 (GCS car)
Mrs. Moore
Ch. Insp. Derek Edgar

c0815 Arrive Northolt

08.35 0820 Take off from Northolt (Flight 1 hour 10 mins.)

0930 Arrive Liverpool (Speke) Airport. Met by David Renshaw (Director, Merseyside Task Force)

Car 1 (Dennis Oliver - Daimler Sovereign,
Prime Minister Reg. No. OYE 436Y)
Mr. Renshaw
Detective

Car 2 (GCS car)

S/S for the Environment
Mr. Ingham
Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Ballard

Car 3 (GCS car - Margery Strong)-
Mr. Alison
Mr. Bill Haresnape (Press Officer)
Mr. McDonald
Mr. Morrison

Car 4 (Party car - Henry Percell)
Brenda Lowe (Agent - North-West area)
Eileen Jones (Task Force COI)
+ Reporter and Photographer

(Please note David Renshaw to travel with the Prime Minister during the Housing Tour and the S/S to travel in Car 2)

Car 5 (Blue Mercedes JRN 835)
Mr. Malcolm Thornton M.P. (to join the party
at Wavertree)

(Bob Rumble - Daimler Sovereign, GUL 416W to be stand-by car)

Mrs. Moore to be driven straight to Wavertree Technology Park by Mr. Geoff Hinchcliffe (Task Force) and to travel in this car throughout the day

Two Detectives to travel in police car

Cars as above:-

1000 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative at

BEMACJ

CONFIDENTIAL

start of tour of housing sites in Liverpool
Met by Sophie Krajewska (Area Manager)

1110 Finish of tour at Minster Court.
Met by James Keery (Managing Director of Barratt
Urban Renewal)

Depart for

1125 Wavertree Technology Park (Plessey Crypto
Building)
Met by Sir John Clark (Chairman WTP Company)

1135 Walk to nearby marquee for

1140 SPEECH and Open Technomart "Meet the Buyers"
Exhibition
Tel: 051 228 5006.

1200 Tour of Exhibition

1210 Depart for

1230 Graeme House, Derby Square (Merseyside Task
Force Office - tel. 051 236 1635)

Brief word with Merseyside Task Force Personnel

Meeting with representatives of Liverpool City
Council

1300 (Press facility - if needed)

1310 Depart for

1320 International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane
Entrance). Tel: 051 727 1742
Met by Sir Leslie Young, Chairman, Merseyside
Development Corporation

Lunch at the British Pavilion

1445 Tour of International Garden Festival site

1555 Depart Herculaneum exit for

(Please note Sir Leslie Young to travel with
the Prime Minister to Albert Dock and S/S in
Car 2)

1600 Albert Dock Tel: 051 236 6090 Ext. 307

BEMACJ

Met by Sir Leslie Young, Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation
Mr. Donald Forster (Successor to Sir Leslie Young in November)
Mr. Basil Bean (Chief Executive, M.D.C.)

1615 Depart for

1635 Huyton Park Conservative Club
The Park, Tarbock Road, Huyton, Merseyside
Tel: 051 489 2315 * *CALL BOX*
Liverpool Post Interview

Met by Mr. Eric Taylor, O.B.E., J.P.,
Chairman of the North-West Area

On behalf of Knowsley South Conservative Assn.
the Prime Minister will be received by
Mr. Philip Ford, Chairman
Mr. Mark Seddon, Deputy Chairman
Mr. Peter Eva, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Ian Bailey, Treasurer
Mr. Matt Armstrong, Club Secretary

1720 Join Party engagement

1820 Depart for Speke Airport (approx. 15 mins. journey)

1840 Take off from Liverpool (Speke) Airport

1950 Land at Northolt

Drive to No. 10

Car 1 (Tom Savage)
Prime Minister
Mr. Alison
Detective

Car 2 (Paul Blackaby)
Mr. Ingham
Mr. Turnbull

Car 3 (GCS car)
Mrs. Moore
2 Detectives

2025 Arrive No. 10

✓ Cars at Northolt from 1925.

Circulation:

S/S for the Environment
Mr. Alison
Mr. Ingham
Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Ballard
Mrs. Moore

Mrs. Gaisman
Detectives (3)
Drivers (4)
Duty Clerk
GR file
Switchboard

SPEECH FOR THE PRIME MINISTER: WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK:

2 OCTOBER 1984

I. Introductory Remarks

II. The Problems of Liverpool

The changing world in which we live can bring with it not only greater prosperity but also the need for painful adjustment. Such problems have been particularly acute for those great cities like Liverpool, and Liverpool is a great city, which grew rapidly in response to the burgeoning demands of the first industrial revolution. They are not unique to Liverpool but are being experienced in many places both in this country and elsewhere in Europe.

The shifting patterns of trade and industry have worked against Liverpool, for example the long term decline of the port - and with it the traditional industry and commerce which were the source of so many jobs.

Liverpool's decline has been particularly steep. Even before the world recession the city was losing 11,000 jobs a year. Over the last 20 years it has lost a third of its population and often these have included a disproportionate share of the able and adventurous.

III. The Government's Response

The Government recognises fully the impact which these fundamental changes in our society and our economy have had on Liverpool. In 1981 I asked Michael Heseltine to take a special interest in the area. This responsibility is now with Patrick Jenkin.

The Government has made available substantial resources to help Liverpool tackle the problems it faces. But as important as the amount of money, is the way it is spent. Since coming into office in 1979, the Government has fought a long but increasingly successful battle of ideas about how jobs and prosperity can be created. Over many years, the view had grown up that the key lay in Government spending and borrowing. Quite wrongly the name of Keynes was invoked in support.

It is now recognised that high Government spending and ambitious public sector programmes led inevitably to high taxes, high inflation, high interest rates - all of which will destroy jobs. This battle of ideas is now being won, not just in Britain, but in socialist countries abroad.

But we see now in a number of our cities, and particularly here in Liverpool, a municipal version of the big Government thesis.

But this cannot work for much the same reasons. High rates drive away businesses that provide jobs and the lion's share of the council's rate income. Restrictive planning controls inhibit new developments. The process of economic decline would not be arrested but accelerated.

The Government has broken away from these outmoded prescriptions. Our goal is to create the climate in which enterprise will flourish, by keeping taxes down and interest rates down. Where special help is needed, it should come through public expenditure programmes which encourage the energies and enterprise of the private sector rather than supplant them.

The resources available to Merseyside are substantial. They are not merely financial; nor are they the monopoly of the public sector.

At the heart of the Government's inner city policy lies the concept of partnership with the private sector - the business community and voluntary services. Liverpool was built on the motivation, energy and resources produced by individual initiative and enterprise. These qualities must again be harnessed in the process of revitalisation.

Through the taxpayer, this Government has played a full supporting role. The highest rates of regional assistance to industry and commerce are available here in Liverpool.

The Inner City Partnership Programme seeks to stimulate the economy of the inner area by reclaiming derelict land, improving the environment and supporting voluntary effort. Over £120 million has been made available to the Partnership since we took office in 1979.

In 1981 we established the Merseyside Development Corporation to tackle 840 acres of rundown dockland on the Liverpool and Birkenhead waterfront. Later today I shall be visiting its most spectacular achievement to date - the International Garden Festival - seen already by over three million visitors. When the event was announced in late 1981, many said it could not be done in time. They were proved wrong. The Festival has demonstrated what Liverpool people can do here in Liverpool.

And that's not all the Government is doing. There's

- an Enterprise Zone at Speke;
- a Freeport, the largest in the UK, in the Northern Docks;
- English Estates reclaiming the old Tate and Lyle site, and developing the old Exchange Station which lay derelict for so long;
- 17,000 places in Merseyside under the Youth

Training Scheme.

Working both with the private sector, local authorities and Government Agencies, the Merseyside Task Force has helped to establish a wide variety of innovative schemes - many conceived and implemented here on Merseyside for the first time anywhere.

Let no one say the Government is not playing its part. The facts speak for themselves.

IV CONTRIBUTION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

And there has been an encouraging response from the private sector.

I am looking forward later this afternoon to seeing the refurbishment scheme that is taking place on the Albert Dock. £20 million of public money is being matched with £30 million of private funding to convert this famous building into offices, shops and flats.

But there are other examples:

- BAT's conversion scheme in the South Docks
- the refurbishment of the famous Adelphi Hotel
- ten new Information Technology centres on

Merseyside established with private sector support.

V HOUSING

Today I have seen some of Liverpool's housing which illustrates clearly both the problems and the opportunities. Though built with the best of intentions, much of it reflects immediate post-war policies whose legacy has been housing which is ill-planned, poorly constructed and badly managed.

Improvements are needed urgently but in a way which is not only represents good value for money but which also provides housing choice and utilises the energies of local people. One cardinal lesson of the past is that public authorities don't always know best.

Encouraging owner occupation is the surest way of gaining lasting improvements in living conditions. I am justly proud of this Government's record on that.

Of course in the cities like Liverpool there will always be a substantial role for council housing. But the conditions for existing tenants cannot be improved simply by demolishing old houses and building new ones. Indeed we have learned that it is often better to keep communities together by better maintenance and management of existing properties.

There are many encouraging examples on Merseyside of partnership with the private sector: Stockbridge Village, Edge Lane in Sefton and Woodchurch in Wirral. Local tenants are at work in improving their own housing and gaining satisfaction in so doing. Over six thousand dwellings are benefiting.

Barratts, Wimpeys and others have been active for some years in building housing for sale in inner Liverpool. I saw this morning the result of an imaginative scheme at Minster Court where Barratts have converted rundown tenement blocks into much sought after private flats.

I hope that other authorities facing similar housing problems will look at some examples of what is being achieved in Liverpool.

VI WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK

We stand here on one of the most dramatic regeneration projects in the heart of Liverpool. For years the site of this Wavertree Technology Park presented a depressing spectacle of rundown buildings and abandoned railway sidings. Work began less than two years ago - and just look at the transformation. Government have provided £6 million to the County Council in Derelict Land Grant - to remove the

eyesores, level the site and provide roads and services. In very little time an attractive location for high technology industry has been created.

A Technology Park Company involving Plesseys, English Estates and the City and County authorities has been set up under the Chairmanship of Sir John Clark.

Already you can see a 40,000 square foot factory which has been occupied by 300 people. Work has started to provide further smaller units. May I congratulate you, Sir John, and all those who have worked with you on your vision and energy in bringing this about.

The creation of the Wavertree Technology Park shows what can be achieved by the private and public sector working together. This is the future for Liverpool.

VII "MEET THE BUYER" EXHIBITION

At the end of the day, it is for the producer to find a market for his goods and services. For it is customers that make pay days possible.

We can see this clearly here on Merseyside. At Vauxhall, for example, attractive new models can bring new investment and jobs.

Many smaller firms, however good technologically, find it difficult to make contact with the large companies. And the reverse is true. By bringing them together we can make the best use of the creative potential of the small, thrusting company and the massive resources of the well-established household names.

I therefore take pleasure in opening this "Meet the Buyer" exhibition. I hope that everyone who attends it will make the most of the genuine opportunities which it presents.

DRAFT SPEECH FOR THE PRIME MINISTER: WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY

PARK: 2 OCTOBER 1984

I. Introductory Remarks

II. The Problems of Liverpool

The changing world in which we live brings with it not only rising prosperity but also the need for painful adjustment. These problems have been particularly acute for those great cities like Liverpool, and Liverpool is a great city, which grew rapidly in response to the burgeoning demands of the first industrial revolution. They are not unique to Liverpool but are being experienced in many places both in this country and elsewhere in Europe.

The shifting patterns of industry and trade have worked against Liverpool, for example the long term decline of the port - and with it the traditional industry and commerce which were the source of so many jobs.

Aside on
Liverpool
Docks

But Liverpool's decline has been particularly steep. Even before the world recession the city was losing 11,000 jobs a year. Over the last 20 years it has lost a third of its population and often these have included a disproportionate share of the able and energetic.

III. The Government's Response

The Government recognises fully the impact which these fundamental changes in our society and our economy have had on Liverpool. In 1981 I asked Michael Heseltine to take a special interest in the area. This responsibility is now with Patrick Jenkin.

The Government has made available substantial resources to help Liverpool tackle the problems it faces. But as important as the amount of money, is the way it is spent. Since it came into office in 1979, the Government has fought a long but increasingly successful battle of ideas about how jobs and prosperity can be created. Over many years, the view had grown up that the key lay in Government spending and borrowing. Quite wrongly the name of Keynes was invoked in support.

It is now recognised that high Government spending and ambitious public sector programmes led inevitably to high taxes, high inflation, high interest rates. All of which will destroy jobs. This battle of ideas is now being won, not just in Britain, but in socialist countries abroad.

But we see in a number of our cities, and particularly here in Liverpool, a municipal version of the big Government thesis.

But it will fail for much the same reasons. High rates will drive away businesses that provide jobs and the lion's share of the council's rate income. Restrictive planning controls will inhibit new developments. The process of economic decline will not be arrested but will be accelerated.

The Government has broken away from these failed and outmoded remedies. Our goal is to create the climate in which enterprise will flourish, by keeping taxes down and interest rates down. Where special help is needed it should come through public expenditure programme which encourage the energies and enterprise of the private sector rather than supplant them.

The resources available to Merseyside are substantial. They are not merely financial; nor are they the monopoly of the public sector. Local people, the business community, and voluntary effort all have a part to play.

At the heart of the Government's inner area policy lies the concept of partnership with the private sector. Liverpool was built on the motivation, energy and resources produced by individual initiative and enterprise. These qualities must again be harnessed to play an essential part in the process of revitalisation.

The Government is prepared to play its part in full.

E. R.

The highest level of regional assistance to industry and commerce is available here in Liverpool. The Inner City Partnership Programme seeks to stimulate the economy of the inner area by reclaiming derelict land, improving the environment and by supporting voluntary effort. Over £120 million has been made available to the Partnership since we took office in 1979.

In 1981 we established the Merseyside Development Corporation to tackle 840 acres of rundown dockland on the Liverpool and Birkenhead waterfront. Later today I shall be visiting its most spectacular achievement to date - the International Garden Festival - seen already by over three million visitors. Many said it could not be done in the time available when the event was announced in late 1981. They were proved wrong. The Festival has demonstrated what can be done in Liverpool, by Liverpool people.

We have designated an Enterprise Zone at Speke and a Freeport, the largest in the UK, in the Northern Docks.

English Estates are reclaiming the old Tate and Lyle site and are constructing new office accommodation on the site of the old Exchange Station which lay derelict for so long.

In 1981 17,000 places under the Youth Training Scheme have been sponsored in Merseyside by the Manpower Services

Commission.

Working both with the private sector, local authorities and Government Agencies, the Merseyside Task Force has helped to establish a wide variety of innovative schemes - many conceived and implemented here on Merseyside for the first time anywhere.

Let no one say the Government is not playing its part. The facts speak for themselves.

IV CONTRIBUTION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

And there has been an encouraging response from the private sector.

I am looking forward later this afternoon to seeing the refurbishment scheme that is taking place on the Albert Dock. £20 million of public money is being matched with £30 million of private funding to convert this famous building into offices, shops and flats.

But there are other examples:

- BAT's conversion scheme in the South Docks
- the refurbishment of the famous Adelphi Hotel
- the new Information Technology centres

D.R.

●

V HOUSING

Today I have seen some of Liverpool's housing which illustrates clearly both the problems and the opportunities. Much of the housing reflects immediate post-war policies which we now see were ill-conceived. We are left with a legacy of poorly planned, poorly constructed and badly managed housing. Improvements are needed urgently but in a way which is not only cost-effective but also provides housing choice and involves the private sector and the energy of local people. One cardinal lesson of the past is that public authorities don't always know best.

Encouraging owner occupation is the surest way of gaining lasting improvements in living conditions. I am justly proud of this Government's record on that.

Of course in the cities like Liverpool there will always be a substantial role for council housing. But the conditions for existing tenants cannot be improved simply by building more council houses. They need better management and better maintenance of the flats and houses in which they live.

There are many encouraging examples on Merseyside of partnership with the private sector: Stockbridge Village,

Edge Lane in Sefton and Woodchurch in Wirral. Local tenants are at work in improving their own housing. Over six thousand dwellings are benefiting.

Barratts, Wimpeys and others have been active for some years in building housing for sale in inner Liverpool. I saw this morning the result of an imaginative scheme at Minster Court where Barratts have converted rundown tenement blocks into much sought after private flats.

I hope that other authorities which face similar housing problems will look at what is being achieved in Liverpool.

VI WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK

We stand today on one of the most dramatic regeneration projects in the heart of Liverpool. For years the site of this Wavertree Technology Park presented a depressing spectacle of rundown buildings and abandoned railway sidings. Work began less than two years ago - and just look at the transformation. Government have provided £6 million to the County Council in Derelict Land Grant - to remove the eyesores, level the site and provide roads and services. In very little time an attractive location for high technology industry has been created.

D. B.

A Technology Park Company involving Plesseys, English Estates and the City and County authorities has been set up under the Chairmanship of Sir John Clark.

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The creation of the Wavertree Technology Park shows what can be achieved by the private and public sector working together. This is the future for Liverpool.

VII "MEET THE BUYER" EXHIBITION

But, at the end of the day, it is for the producer, whether of goods or services, to sell them where there is a market. Many smaller firms, however good technologically, find it difficult to make contact with the large companies. And the reverse is true. By bringing them together we can make the best use of the creative potential of the small, thrusting company and the massive resources of the well-established household names.

I therefore take pleasure in opening this "Meet the Buyer" exhibition. I hope that everyone who attends it will

100



make the most of the genuine opportunities which it presents.

VSCAAZ

PRIME MINISTER

This appeared around 4 pm in the Liverpool Echo. Departments and ourselves have refused to confirm or deny it.

Mr. Keva Coombes, Chairman of the Merseyside County Council (Labour controlled, to be rate-capped, and then abolished) reacted to this report by putting in a request to meet you for 5 - 10 minutes. This could be accommodated, just before the meeting with the Liverpool Councillors.

I suggest you discuss this with Mr. Jenkin on the plane, though I think there are good reasons to accept. Mr. Coombes could then be informed as soon as we arrive.

1 October 1984

758 CABOFF G
108108 MERTAS G
01-OCT-84 17:21

TO ANDREW TURNBULL
FROM DENNIS MORRISON MTF
MAGGIE FOR MERSEYSIDE

LABOUR'S AWAY AT THE SEASIDE, SO THE COAST IS CLEAR FOR PREMIER

BY PERER XXXXX PETER PHELPS LOCAL GOVERNMENT EDITOR

THE PRIME MINISTER IS PLANNING A SURPRISE VISIT TO LIVERPOOL
TOMORROW

SPECULATION WAS MOUNTING TODAY THAT MRS THATCHER WOULD ACCOMPANY
HER ENVIRONMENT SECRETARY PATRICK JENKIN ON A TRIP TO THE ALBERT
DOCK VILLAGE COMPLEX AND, POSSIBLY, TO THE GARDEN FESTIVAL.

BUT ANY APPEARANCE BY MRS THATCHER IN LIVERPOOL IS BOUND TO BE
SHROUDED IN SECRECY.

NO OFFICIAL SOURCES WOULD CONFIRM OR DENY THE REPORT.

THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION WHICH HANDLES MINISTERIAL VISITS
REFERRED ENQUIRIES TO THE NO 10 DOWNING STREET PRESS OFFICE,
WHERE A SPOKESMAN SAID 'WE NEVER DISCLOSE MRS THATCHER'S DIARY
IN ADVANCE. IT IS A MATTER OF STRICT POLICY'.

BUT MR JENKIN'S MOVEMENTS ARE USUALLY REVEALED IN ADVANCE AND
THE COI WAS MAINTAINING A CURIOUS SILENCE ABOUT TOMORROW'S VISIT.

A VISIT BY MRS THATCHER WOULD BE BVXXXXX BOULXXXXX BOUND TO
CAUSE CONTROVERSY IN LABOUR DOMINATED MERSEYSIDE.

BUT IT WAS SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD ATTEND THE INTERNATIONAL
GARDEN FESTIVAL AT SOME STAGE AND THE WEEK OF THE LABOUR PARTY
CONFERENCE IN BLACKPOOL, WHEN MOST LABOUR LEADERS ARE AWAY,
WOULD SEEM AN OPPORTUNE TIME.

MRS THATCHER HAS NOT BEEN TO LIVERPOOL SINCE THE TOXTETH RIOTS IN
1981.

108108 MERTAS G
758 CABOFF G

JK

PRIME MINISTER

LIVERPOOL - MEDIA

Sheenagh Wallace has done a detailed recce for your visit (attached). This note is simply to let you know our media arrangements.

Arrival

We shall alert only the editor of the local paper, the Liverpool Echo, at 8.45am to send a photographer to Speke to cover your arrival on a pool basis.

Housing

All the advice is to avoid a media circus here. Consequently, the rest of the media will not be informed of your visit until you have arrived. They will not be told about your housing tour until you have completed it, though we cannot be sure that others will not catch up.

I intend, however, to arrange for the Liverpool Echo reporter and photographer to follow you around the housing tour so that there can be some media coverage, and especially reportage. We intend to take the reporter-photographer in a car with the cavalcade from the airport.

My advice is to be very sparing in you walkabouts at the housing sites. You have nothing to gain from a demo or row.

Wavertree Technology Park

We have arranged for about 40 media to attend and to record and film your speech. There will be no provision for a press conference or interviews and I should warn you that, on the evidence of the Chester visit, any doorstep interviews you pause for throughout the day will concentrate on the negative stories - for example the Cammel Laird occupation and arrests.

Task Force and City Council

This is the trickiest part of the visit from the media point of view. The City Council can be expected to make the most of their side of the case. However, if you were to give an open press conference it is highly likely it would be infiltrated and conceivably disrupted.

/Consequently

Consequently, I have arranged a pool of 10 radio, television and press to see you in the office of the Task Force Director immediately after the meeting to get over your point of view. I suggest you sit behind a desk to brief and that I control the exercise.

I would propose to end the mini-press conference after about 10 minutes.

I shall inevitably get complaints about the operation of a pool but I propose to be extremely robust in defence of the decision. After all, we shall be giving the media a facility.

Garden Festival

Before lunch we shall permit two - Festival and local newspaper - photographers to cover your arrival.

Afterwards, the media generally will be admitted to cover your tour but will be corralled at pre-arranged points.

You will be able to decide on the spot whether to give BBC Radio Merseyside, who have a studio in the Festival, a short interview of your impressions.

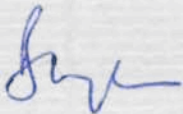
Albert Docks

Again there will be full media coverage, but on a corral basis.

Heyton Conservative Club

I have arranged for the Editor of the Liverpool Post to have an interview with you for 45 minutes before the reception. Patrick Jenkin will warm up the audience for you.

Content?



BERNARD INGHAM
1 October 1984

PRIME MINISTER

YOUR VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

Rumours about your visit tomorrow have not been confirmed though it is known that Patrick Jenkin has a full day of engagements in Liverpool.

The media generally will not be informed of your visit until your arrival at Speke Airport and then only given a sketchy outline of your programme. But I shall alert the editor of the Liverpool Echo at 8.45 am to permit him to get a photographer and reporter to Speke to cover your arrival.

A chill wind blows off the Mersey so warm clothes are recommended for your walk round the housing area and at the Festival Garden. Both can be rough underfoot.

Housing Tour

To avoid demonstrations the Council's Housing Committee will not be informed that you will visit one of their sites until you arrive at the airport.

Patrick Jenkin with David Renshaw, Director of the Merseyside Task Force, will explain the background on this part of the visit.

On the 6-mile drive from the airport into the City you will see examples of empty decayed 1930s tenement blocks, a Wimpey development in its early stages and in the Inner City Partnership area a mixture of boarded-up tenements and shops and industrial/commercial units for letting.

You will then tour by car 6 housing sites in an area of run-down neglected public housing with some examples of development of pre and post-war units.

The programme allows time for you to walk round some of the sites and perhaps to call briefly on a few residents - though at that time of day many may well not be up and about since the majority are out of work.

- First stop is Grafton Crescent Housing Corporation - about 20 red brick 2-storey homes and bungalows for pensioners overlooking the site of their demolished tenement block in which they had previously lived. The self-help scheme is funded by the City Council.
- Drive on to Hill Street/Prince William Street, an area of

run-down and neglected post-war public housing with very high unemployment. Though having had only 30 minutes advance notice of your visit, the Council's Housing Committee representatives could be present.

- You then drive through the Dickens Street Housing Action Area - an area of older 2-storey terraced properties of 300 houses scheduled for demolition before declaration of a Housing Action Area 1979.
- The tour then takes you down Princes Boulevard, the principal Victorian thoroughfare of neglected tall terraced houses. Housing Associations are taking action on a few improvements but some are gutted and open to the street.
- Your car then turns into a private sector development of 200 small Wimpey houses. Wimpey responded to the Government's efforts to reintroduce new private sector housing but before buyers were able to move in, the estate was municipalised in June 1983 by the new Labour Council. Some units are already showing signs of neglect.
- The Anglican Cathedral Precinct is your next step, where you will see Crudens Ltd development plans for the 16 acre site of private housing with some commercial facilities and high quality landscaped areas. Still in early stages of construction, the site is very rough underfoot but you can get a very good view from the flat roof of the old school, Crudens' offices site.
- Your final stop is Barratts Urban Renewal Ltd flagship, Minster Court, refurbished local authority tenement blocks of 200 units surrounded by a security wall. The price of the 2 bedroom flats is about £12,000 with an extra charge for the 24 hour security guards.

Wavertree Technology Park

The 64 acre Park is a collaborative venture between the public and private sectors on previously derelict land to provide a suitable location for high technology industry.

You will open the Park's "Meet the Buyers" Exhibition - displays by about a dozen major purchasers in the electronics, computing and telecommunications field aimed at making contact with about 300 small companies. The media have been invited and will form part of the audience.

Plessey Telecommunications are already nearby and the Plessey company have committed themselves to provide professional and technical assistance to companies going to the Park. The Plessey Chairman, Sir John Clark, is chairman of the Park's management company.

Sir John will greet you on your arrival at the recently occupied Plessey Science Products building of 40,000 sq ft (Plessey Crypto). In the reception area he will introduce the other members of the Park's Policy Board - Councillor Coombs, Leader of Merseyside City Council, Councillor Hamilton, Leader of Liverpool City Council, Tony Pender, Chief Executive, English Estates, and the Chief Executive, Geoffrey Farshaw ex-Director of Technology at Plessey Telecommunications.

After a cup of coffee and a brief look at the exhibition of the Park's development plans, Sir John will escort you back through the front entrance and to your right across about 200 yards to the specially erected marquee. On your left under construction are English Estates speculative units. On this walk there is a possibility of demonstrations stirred up by Council workmen on the site.

On entering the marquee you will tour the dozen or so product displays - about 200 invited guests will be present - before taking your seat on the small platform at the far end. About 40 VIPs and media will be already seated. Behind you will be the Park's logo on a background of several shades of green. On the platform with you will be Patrick Jenkin and Sir John Clark who will welcome you and invite you to open the Exhibition. You will speak from a lectern.

Depending on the circumstances and time available, you may wish to mingle with some of the guests in the display area before departing.

Merseyside Task Force and Liverpool City Council

You will arrive at the rear entrance of the Government Department's Building, Graeme House, to avoid any demonstration at the front entrance.

A lift will take you up to the 4th floor where David Renshaw, Director of the Task Force will introduce you to his 30 or so staff in the reception area.

After about 5 minutes you will move across the corridor to meet representatives of the Liverpool City Council in the conference room.

Immediately after the half hour meeting, Bernard will escort you to your left to the Director's office where you can give a short statement to a media pool of 10 - 2 TV crews, 2 radio reporters and 2 writing correspondents. They will not be able to have separate interviews but he proposes let them have about 10 minutes in which to ask questions.

You can then return to the rear entrance and depart for the Garden Festival.

International Garden Festival

Your car will enter by the staff entrance and drive a short distance to where you will be met by Sir Leslie Young, Chairman of the Merseyside Development Corporation. He will escort you along one of the shrub and tree-lined paths to the United Kingdom Government Pavilion, a construction of elegant glass-houses. In one of them you will lunch with about 20 guests closely associated with the Festival before touring the exhibits in the Pavilion.

The Festival's photographer will be present during the tour but not during lunch.

You then start a tour of the Garden Festival accompanied by Sir Leslie Young and the luncheon guests.

The tour includes

- a 15 minute ride on the small closed carriage railway around one half of site, passing the Japanese, Chinese and American Gardens. Media facility at the station but none on the train;
- a walk round the indoor garden exhibits in the Festival Hall. Next to the impressive British Telecom stand is the BBC Radio Merseyside studio. You can consider giving them a short interview about your impressions of the Garden Festival, taking account of all the circumstances.
- a half hour walk through the rest of the Garden including the British Garden, the Victorian Garden (sponsored by Leverhulme), the Rose Garden (sponsored by the Post Office) and the downhill walk to the public entrance at the Herculanean Docks. Media facilities for part of this walk.

Albert Docks

On the 2 mile drive back to the City's Centre you will see on your left in the docks area some of the Merseyside Development Corporation's developments. The Albert Docks complex close to the famous Liver Building is a joint venture between the MDC and Arrowcroft Group, very similar to London's St Katherine's Docks development, though the access area to it has yet to be improved.

You enter through an arcade of small specialist shops including, on your left, Liverpool City Football Club's

Souvenir Shop and past a refreshment area to the open dock basin. Sir Leslie Young will explain the plans for the warehouse opposite, including luxury flats with garage space and the future home for the Tate of the North Gallery. The media will be present.

If time permits Sir Leslie will escort you upstairs to the Corporation's offices where you will meet some of its members over a cup of tea.

You then depart for Hyton Conservative Club where before you meet the constituency members you will give an interview of about three-quarters an hour to the Editor of the Liverpool Post. A photographer will be present.

Your visit to Merseyside ends after the Party function.

Sheenagh Wallace

SHEENAGH WALLACE
Press Office

1 October 1984

11 12
5000 1/2
PRIME MINISTER

Visit to Liverpool

I had an irate call from David Alton in whose constituency, Mossley Hill, contains the Garden Festival. He had heard radio reports that you were visiting Liverpool and 'phoned to seek confirmation. I said I was unable to confirm or deny these reports.

He made two complaints. First, generally he felt that a visit by you without giving local MPs the normal advance warning undercut the position of those, like himself, who advocated the normal course of responsible politics. (MPs have been sent a letter by Michael which will arrive tomorrow).

Secondly, and more specifically he has views on how the Garden Festival site should be developed when the Festival ends. I believe the argument is whether the southern half of the site should be returned to the City Council or, as David Alton prefers, is retained by MDC as a permanent park or garden site. He has made representations, including a 30 minute meeting, to Patrick Jenkin when he handed in a petition with 140,000 signatures. I expect he will go to the Garden Festival tomorrow in the hope of meeting you as you go round.

Andrew Turnbull

1.10.84



hi
BC

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 October 1984

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

I attach a copy of the programme and a copy of the speech.

Please let me know if there are any late adjustments.

(Andrew Turnbull)

John Ballard, Esq.,
Department of the Environment

Covering CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO LIVERPOOL - TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER 1984

Composition of party:

Prime Minister
Secretary of State for the Environment
The Rt. Hon. Michael Alison, M.P.
Mr. Bernard Ingham
Mr. Andrew Turnbull
Mr. John Ballard
Mrs. Barbara Moore
Ch. Insp. Derek Edgar
Det. Bob Kingston

Det. Supt. Ray Parker in advance on Monday 1 October with the two No. 10 drivers - Mr. Oliver and Mr. Rumble who will stay at:

Atlantic Tower Hotel,
Chapel Street 3, Liverpool. Tel: 051 227 4444

Brenda Lowe (Agent) and Bill Haresnape (Press Officer) will stay at:

St. George's Hotel,
St. John's Precinct One,
Liverpool. Tel. 051 709 7090

Nine people on outward flight; ten on return flight (ie one extra Detective)

S/S for the Environment and Mr. Ballard travelling to and from Northolt independently

0740 Prime Minister to depart
from Chequers
Car 1 (Tom Savage)
Prime Minister
Detective Bob Kingston

0745 Following to depart from
No. 10
Car 1 (Paul Teagle)
Mr. Alison
Mr. Ingham
Mr. Turnbull

Car 2 (GCS car)
Mrs. Moore
Ch. Insp. Derek Edgar

BEMACJ

c0815 Arrive Northolt
 0820 Take off from Northolt (Flight 1 hour 10 mins.)
 0930 Arrive Liverpool (Speke) Airport. Met by
 David Renshaw (Director, Merseyside Task Force)

Car 1 (Dennis Oliver - Daimler Sovereign,
 Prime Minister Reg. No. OYE 436Y)
 S/S for the Environment
 Detective

Car 2 (Bob Rumble - Daimler Sovereign,
 Reg. No. A218 TYW)

Mr. Ingham
 Mr. Turnbull
 Mr. Ballard

Car 3 (Pool car - Margery Strong)
 Mr. Alison
 Mr. Bill Haresnape (Press Officer)
 + Photographer

Car 4 (Party car - Henry Percell)
 Brenda Lowe (Agent - North-West area)
 David Renshaw (Task Force) (Please note David
 Renshaw may travel with the Prime Minister
 during the Housing Tour in which case S/S to
 travel in Car 2)
 Eileen Jones (Task Force COI)

Mrs. Moore to be driven straight to Wavertree
 Technology Park by Mr. Geoff Hinchcliffe (Task Force) and
 to travel in this car throughout the day

Two Detectives to travel in police car

Cars as above:-

1000 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative at
 start of tour of housing sites in Liverpool
 Met by Sophie Krajewska (Area Manager)

1110 Finish of tour at Minster Court.
 Met by James Keery (Managing Director of Barratt
 Urban Renewal)

Depart for

1125 Wavertree Technology Park.
 Met by Sir John Clark (Chairman WTP Company)

BEMACJ

CONFIDENTIAL

- 1140 SPEECH and Open "Meet the Buyers" event
Tel: 051 228 5006.
- 1200 Depart for
- 1230 Graeme House, Derby Square (Merseyside Task Force Office - tel. 051 236 1635)
Meeting with four representatives of the City Council
- 1300 Depart for
- 1315 International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane Entrance). Tel: 051 727 1742
Met by Sir Leslie Young, Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation
- Lunch at the British Pavilion
- 1430 Tour of International Garden Festival site
- 1555 Depart for
- 1600 Albert Dock Tel: 051 236 6090 Ext. 307
Met by Sir Leslie Young, Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation
Mr. Donald Forster (Successor to Sir Leslie Young in November)
Mr. Basil Bean (Chief Executive, M.D.C.)
- 1630 Depart for
- 1700 Huyton Park Conservative Club (Party engagement)
The Park, Tarbock Road, Huyton, Merseyside
Tel: 051 489 2315
- Met by Mr. Eric Taylor, O.B.E., J.P.,
Chairman of the North-West Area
- On behalf of Knowsley South Conservative Assn.
the Prime Minister will be received by
Mr. Philip Ford, Chairman
Mr. Mark Seddon, Deputy Chairman
Mr. Peter Eva, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Ian Bailey, Treasurer
Mr. Matt Armstrong, Club Secretary
- 1815- Depart for Airport (approx. 15 mins. journey)
1830
- 1830- Take off from Liverpool (Speke) Airport
1845

BEMACJ

CONFIDENTIAL

1940- Land at Northolt
1955

Drive to No. 10

Car 1 (Tom Savage)
Prime Minister
Mr. Alison
Detective

Car 2 (Paul Blackaby)
Mr. Ingham
Mr. Turnbull

Car 3 (GCS car)
Mrs. Moore
2 Detectives

2015- Arrive No. 10
2030

Circulation:

S/S for the Environment
Mr. Alison
Mr. Ingham
Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Ballard
Mrs. Moore

Mrs. Gaisman
Detectives (3)
Drivers (4)
Duty Clerk
GR file

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

PROGRAMME:

- 09.30 Arrive Speke Airport. Met by David Renshaw (Director, Merseyside Task Force)
- 10.00 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative at start of tour of housing sites in Liverpool
- 11.10 Finish of tour at Minster Court. Depart for
- 11.25 Wavertree Technology Park (Plessey Crypto building), Met by Sir John Clark (Chairman, WTP Company)
- 11.35 *Walk to nearby mosque for.*
- 11.40 Speech/open Technomart (Meet the Buyers) exhibition
- 12.00 Tour of exhibition
- 12.10 Depart for
- 12.30 Graeme House, Derby Square
 - (a) brief word with Merseyside Task Force personnel
 - (b) meeting with representatives of Liverpool City Council
- (13.00 press facility - if needed)
- 13.10 Depart for
- 13.20 International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane entrance) Met by Sir Leslie Young - Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation
 - Lunch at the British Pavilion
- 14.45 Tour of IGF site
- ~~15.00~~ *15.55* Depart (Herculaneum exit) for
- ~~16.00~~ *16.15* Albert Dock
- ~~16.45~~ *16.15* Depart for
- ~~16.35~~ *16.35* Huyton Park Conservative Club *(Liverpool Echo interview)*
- ~~17.25~~ *17.20* Join Party engagement
- ~~18.20~~ *18.20* Depart for Speke
- ~~18.40~~ *18.40* Depart Speke

TP has a reply been sent?



Andrew PEARCE

MEMBER FOR CHESHIRE WEST



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

30 Grange Road
West Kirby
WIRRAL
Merseyside
GREAT BRITAIN
L48 4HA

AT

Telephone 051-625 1896

AP/BBJ.

28th September 1984.

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
10, Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.

8/10

Dear Prime Minister,

Merseyside industry and commerce - some of the good news.

There is so much bad publicity about Merseyside that the Merseyside Chamber of Commerce, at my suggestion, asked its members for some of the good news about industrial and commercial life in the area, to demonstrate that many good things happen here as well as the bad things featured in the press.

Attached is a selection of comments from local firms, which you might care to bear in mind when next visiting the area.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Pearce.

MERSEYSIDE INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE - SOME OF THE GOOD NEWS.

ALEX STEWART LTD. - Assayers. - "The firm is based on Merseyside because the owner is a Merseysider and has built up a workforce second to none in the industry."

EDMUND KIRBY & SONS. - Architects and Surveyors. - "We have, whenever possible, appointed local contractors and sub-contractors who, in turn, have employed local labour. Not once, over the whole of this period, have we suffered a local stoppage and even in the National Building Trades Strike in the early '70s, efforts were made by employers and some employees to continue working."

FEATHERS HOTELS GROUP. - "The productivity of our Liverpool workforce is exceptionally high. Having had hotels around the country, without a doubt, a Liverpoolian's ability to change working practices and to adapt to new machinery and techniques is far better than any other industrial area that we have ventured into."

SYNECTIC COMPUTERS LTD. - "We are naturally pleased with the rapid growth of the company We have some new packages and enhancements due out in the new year Synectic see themselves achieving a permanent place in the computer industry in 1984."

BDL CONTRACTS - Shopfitting and building. - "The record of our company since we have been on Merseyside is that the turnover every year has practically doubled. We do not, as a company, plan to be as good as anybody else on Merseyside in our field, we plan to be better."

MANPOWER LTD. - "A 40% increase in demand for our temporary staff in Merseyside over the next 12 months is encouraging news. By far the most vigorous growth is in information technology, with a 25% increase in demand for word processing and data entry operators."

VACTITE LTD. - "The company enjoys a good relationship with its 190 employees and there have been improvements in productivity and profitability which is supporting the future plans to continue to invest at an increased rate in new specialised capital plant and facilities."

OCEAN TRANSPORT AND TRADING PLC. - "In 1981 our ship repair establishment in Birkenhead was forced to close. It was decided to let the buildings as small industrial units. As The Odyssey Centre, it has been turned into a Merseyside success story, with the majority of the place occupied by enterprising people who are turning their businesses into flourishing concerns."

ASSOCIATED OCTEL. - "We supply approximately 70% of all anti-knock compounds used in oil refineries around the world outside of North America."

I.C.I. PLC - Runcorn. - "Mond Division gained a Queen's Award for export in 1981 and 1984 and awards for technological achievement in 1978 and 1968."

"The first full-scale application of new membrane cell technology to produce chlorine and caustic soda has exerted worldwide interest."

SINGAPORE AIRLINES. - "There exists in the Liverpool travel trade a very high degree of professionalism."

HUGHES & TRELEAVEN - Manufacturers of filter fabrics. - "We think that Merseyside is an excellent place to be situated primarily because the workforce is second to none and secondly due to its central position for international communications and transport. We have never had a strike"

AIDE MEMOIRE FOR PRESS BRIEFING
AFTER MEETING WITH COUNCIL. *File*

HOUSING CONDITIONS

Condition on Council Estates in inner Liverpool and some outlying estates are appalling. It is a legacy of unpopular high density building and inadequate management and maintenance.

Solutions

Public expenditure must be controlled. The city's approach of substantial demolition and major municipal building is expensive. Council should look more to refurbishment and better maintenance. They should harness the resources of the public and private sector and of the local community. The partnership at Stockbridge Village does not rely solely on the public sector.

Opportunities should be given for more home ownership and tenants involvement in management.

BUDGET - THE COUNCIL MAY CLAIM THAT:

a) The RSG targets system discriminates against Liverpool

No; they are treated like all other authorities:- their GRE assessment is the second highest of all Met districts taking County Council GRE into account.

b) Audit Commission Report supports the City's claim

The report is still being considered by Secretary of State, he will respond in due course.

c) The proportion of RSG has fallen over the years

This is to shift the burden from the taxpayer to the rate-payer and thus increase the accountability of authorities to their electorate.

d) The Council must increase its budget - it will not increase its rates to allow for inadequate RSG

The City has a duty to balance its budget like all authorities.

e) The City will not cast employees on the dole to meet Government targets

High rate increases undermine the efforts of the private sector and thereby help create unemployment. An efficient authority sets the right environment for real job creation.

f) The Council is not prepared to cut services dramatically

It is incumbent upon the council to be efficient and to obtain value for money for their ratepayers. There are many areas where savings could be made:

1. Liverpool have budgeted to spend 3 x more per head on environmental health;
 - and 2. 40% more per head on waste collection
 - and 3. 30% more per head on social services
- than the Met district average last year

EFFICIENCY

The Council could be reminded that

- a) A study into improving the operation of the City Cleansing Department carried out in 1982 has yet to be implemented.
- b) The capacity of the Direct Labour Organisation exceeds that necessary to undertake the work it is able to win through competitive tendering and is widely criticised for inefficiency and poor workmanship.
- c) The Council does not have a policy for asset disposal.
- d) The Council has no policy to encourage early retirement or voluntary redundancy.

There is little sign that these or any other ideas have been seriously considered.

OFFICIAL PARTY - CAR PLACING

| CAR | ROUTE | OCCUPANTS | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| | | 1 (Driver) | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| A Daimler Sovereign | a. Speke - Minster Court | Dennis Orton | PM | Ray Parker | David Renshaw | - |
| | b. Minster Court - Wavertree - Graeme Hse - IGF site | " | " | " | S of S | - |
| | c. IGF - Albert Dock | " | " | " | Sir Leslie Young | - |
| | d. Albert Dock - Huyton Speke | " | " | " | S of S | - |
| B Ford Granada | a. Speke - Minster Court | Pat Smythe | S of S | Bernard Ingham | Andrew Turnbull | Roy Bunce |
| | b. Minster Court - Wavertree - Graeme Hse - IGF site | " | David Renshaw | " | " | David McDonald |
| | c. IGF site - Albert Dock | " | S of S | " | " | David Renshaw |
| | d. Albert Dock - Huyton - Speke | " | " | " | " | David McDonald |
| C Ford Granada ULS963X | Full journey | Marjorie Strong | Michael Allison | Bill Hairsnip | Dennis Morrison (to Albert) | John Ballard |
| D Morris Ital | a. Speke - Minster Court | Henry Purcell | Brenda Low | Eileen Jones | Photographer | Reporter |
| | b. Minster Court - Wavertree - Graeme Hse - IGF site | " | " | " | | |
| | c. IGF site - Albert Dock | " | " | " | David McDonald | |
| | d. Albert - Huyton - Speke | " | " | " | Barbara Moore | |

CONFIDENTIAL

Order of cars

1. Unmarked police car
2. " " "
3. Car A
4. Unmarked police car
5. " " "
6. Car B
7. Car C
8. Car D
9. Police car

(10. Malcolm Thornton MP - Blue Mercedes - from Wavertree JRN83S)

(11. Jeff Hinchcliffe - Green Datsun + David McDonald to Minster Court).

CONFIDENTIAL

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

PROGRAMME:

- 08.20 Depart Northolt
- 09.30 Arrive Speke Airport. Met by David Renshaw (Director, Merseyside Task Force)
- 10.00 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative at start of tour of housing sites in Liverpool
- 11.10 Finish of tour at Minster Court. Depart for
- 11.25 Wavertree Technology Park (Plessey Crypto building), Met by Sir John Clark (Chairman, WTP Company)
- 11.35 Walk to nearby marquee for
- 11.40 Speech/open Technomart (Meet the Buyers) exhibition
- 12.00 Tour of exhibition
- 12.10 Depart for
- 12.30 Graeme House, Derby Square
- 1232 (a) brief word with Merseyside Task Force personnel
1232 (b) ^{part of} meeting with leader of Merseyside County Council
- 1237 (c) meeting with representatives of Liverpool City Council
- {13.00 (d) Press facility - if needed)
- 13.10 Depart for
- 13.20 International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane entrance)
Met by Sir Leslie Young - Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation
- Lunch at the British Pavilion
- 14.45 Tour of IGF site
- 15.55 Depart (Herculaneum exit) for
- 16.00 Albert Dock
- 16.15 Depart for
- 16.35 Huyton Park Conservative Club (party engagement)
(interview with Echo)
- 18.25 Depart for
- 18.40 Speke Airport

CONFIDENTIAL

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

DETAILS OF PROGRAMME:

- 0930 Andover arrives at Speke Airport carrying official party from No 10 (5) and DOE (2)
- Met on tarmac by MTF (4) and Central Office (3) staff
(^{per Mr. ...} to ring Alfred Stocks re nature of meeting at Graeme House)
- Board official cars (4) + police escort (5 cars)
- 0940 Depart
- 1000 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative scheme
- Walk through development and, if desirable, call on resident(s)
- 1015 Depart
- 1017 Arrive Beaufort St (Hill St/Prince William St area)
- Walk up Langley Way and ~~down Prince William Street~~ to view area of run-down Council housing
- 1032 Rejoin cars ~~in Hill Street~~. Depart
- 1042 Arrive Anglican Cathedral precinct (Cruden site office at old school)
- Walk up stairs to roof of building for view of development
- 1057 Depart
- 1100 Arrive Minster Court
- View development and, if desirable, meet resident(s)
- 1115 Depart
- 1125 Arrive Wavertree Technology Park (Plessey Crypto building)
- Brief presentation of project in foyer. Refreshments
- 1135 Walk/Drive to nearby marquee housing Technomart exhibition
- 1139 Sir John Clark to introduce Prime Minister. Secretary of State to share the platform.
- 1140 Speech

CONFIDENTIAL

- 1200 Tour of exhibition
- 1210 Depart
- 1230 Arrive Graeme House for
- 1232 (a) brief word with MTF personnel - in reception area
1232 (b) possible meeting with head of Merseyside CC - Room 407
- 1237 (b) meeting with representatives of the City Council -
in Conference room (401). Refreshments.
- 1300 (d) Press pool facility in Room 404
- 1310 Depart
- 1320 Arrive International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane
service entrance)
- Walk directly to UK Government Pavilion past International
Pavilion, French Garden, and German garden
- 1330 Lunch in UK Government Pavilion
- 1445 Depart pavilion for tour of IGF site
- Walk past Turkish and Dutch Gardens, Gardener's Bazaar to
Festival Hall station
- 1500 Board train. Front 3 carriages reserved for official
party - see separate seating plan
- 1520 Alight at Festival Hall station
- Walk to and through Festival Hall
- 1535 Leave Festival Hall for Herculaneum exit via various
gardens
- 1555 Depart
- 1600 Arrive Albert Dock (Block D)
- Tour of shopping area. View dock basin
- 1615 Depart (MTF officials take leave)
- 1635 Arrive Huyton Park Conservative Club

CONFIDENTIAL

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

REVISED GUEST LIST FOR LUNCH AT THE BRITISH PAVILION,
INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL SITE

1. Prime Minister
2. Secretary of State
3. Michael Allison MP
4. Malcolm Thornton MP
5. Bernard Ingham
6. Andrew Turnbull
7. John Ballard
8. David McDonald
9. David Renshaw
10. Supt Parker
11. Sir Leslie Young, Chairman MDC
12. Lord Aberconway - Commissioner General of the IGF
13. The Most Reverend Derek Warlock - Roman Catholic
Archbishop of Liverpool
14. The Rt Reverend David Sheppard - Anglican Bishop of Liverpool
15. Donald Forster - Chairman (designate), MDC
16. Sir John Clark - Chairman, Plessey PLC
17. Leonard Eppel - Chairman, Arrowcroft Group
18. Cllr Hugh Dalton - Chairman, Liverpool City Council
19. Alfred Stocks - Chief Executive, Liverpool City Council
20. Barry Marsh - Chairman, Merseyside Chamber of Commerce

16 r train journey - seatings

COACH 1

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|---|
| X | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 13 | 14 | X |
| X | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 11 | 12 | 15 | 16 | X |

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1 - Sp. Branch | 5 - Lord Abercromby | 9 - D. Fowler | 13 - B. Ingham |
| 2 - D. Penchar | 6 - Sep S | 10 - M. Thovnan | 14 - Sp. Branch |
| 3 - B. Hainnes | 7 - P M | 11 - B. Bean | 15 - A. Turnbull |
| 4 - Sp. Branch | 8 - Sir h. Young | 12 - M. Allisan | 16 - Sp. Branch |

COACH 2

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|---|
| X | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 13 | 14 | X |
| X | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 11 | 12 | 15 | 16 | X |

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------|
| 1 - B. have | 5 - | 9 - | 13 - |
| 2 - B. have | 6 - T. Ballard | 10 - R. Madden | 14 - |
| 3 - | 7 - | 11 - | 15 - |
| 4 - D. McDonald | 8 - D. Morrison | 12 - E. Jones | 16 - |

COACH 3

Kept vacant

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICIAL PARTY

No 10

1. Prime Minister
2. Parliamentary PS/PM (Rt Hon Michael Allison MP)
3. APS/PM (Andrew Turnbull)
4. Press Secretary (Bernard Ingham)
5. Secretary (Barbara Moore)

DOE

6. Secretary of State
7. PS/S of S (John Ballard)
8. Director of Information - David McDonald

MTF

9. Mr D C Renshaw
10. Mr D Morrison
11. Mr R Bunce (Housing tour only)
12. Mr R Madders

Central Office

13. Brenda Lowe - NW Regional Secretary
14. Henry Pursell (driver)
15. Bill Hairsnip - Press Officer

COI

16. Oliver Prince-White
17. Eileen Jones
18. Photographer (housing tour only)
19. Reporter (housing tour only) + Special Branch (10+)

CONFIDENTIAL

Meeting with Liverpool City Council

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Prime Minister | 1. Tony Byrne |
| 2. Secretary of State | 2. Tony Mulhearn |
| 3. Michael Allison | 3. John Hamilton |
| 4. Andrew Turnbull | 4. Derek Hatton |
| 5. John Ballard | 5. Alfred Stocks |
| 6. David Renshaw | 6. <i>Jim Preston</i> |
| 7. Dennis Morrison | |
| 8. Roy Bunce | |
| 9. Bernard Ingham | |

PRIME MINISTER

LIVERPOOL VISIT

I attach the programme and briefing for the Liverpool visit. Although you do not need to read the briefing yet, I would like the opportunity to go through the programme with you. I draw your attention to the following:-

- (i) the housing tour;
- (ii) the speech engagement;
- (iii) the meeting with City Council representatives.

On (i), the map in Part II of the briefing shows the itinerary. You will be shown a mixture of good, bad and improving properties. The outstanding question is at what points you should get out of the car. The Task Force recommend points 1, 2 and 7, but a decision on this should await the outcome of Sheenagh Wallace's reconnaissance tour and Ray Parker's advice. The current plan is to inform Council representatives as soon as you arrive at Speke and invite them to join you on the housing tour if they wish.

On (ii), your speech is formally to open the Meet the Buyers Exhibition which has been arranged to allow 300 or so small companies in the electronics, computing and telecommunications field to meet 10-12 major companies with whom they might do business. I attach a draft of a speech which is intended to last around 15 minutes and to be a brief though substantial statement of Government's policy and record on Liverpool. It would be helpful to have your initial reactions so that I can do more work on Friday.



Visit to Liverpool on 2 October 1984

PROGRAMME:

- 09.30 Arrive Speke Airport. Met by David Renshaw (Director, Merseyside Task Force)
- ① 10.00 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative at start of tour of housing sites in Liverpool
- 11.10 Finish of tour at Minster Court. Depart for
- ② 11.25 Wavertree Technology Park. Met by Sir John Clark (Chairman WTP Company)
- 11.40 Speech/Open "Meet the Buyers" event
- Probably have 11.55 Press facility
- 12.10 Depart for
- 12.30 Graeme House, Derby Square
- ③ Meeting with ④ representatives of the City Council (④ has to take 30 mins)
- 12.50 Depart for
- ④ 13.00 International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane entrance) Met by Sir Leslie Young, Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation
Lunch at the British Pavilion
- ⑤ ④ 14.15 (Possible) meeting with the Archbishop and Bishop of Liverpool
- 14.30 Tour of IGF site
- ⑥ 15.55 Depart for
- 16.00 Albert Dock
- 16.30 Depart for
- ⑦ 17.00 Huyton Park Conservative Club (party engagement)

Probably have

④ Too late here

I think there is too much
me

DRAFT SPEECH FOR THE PRIME MINISTER: WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY

PARK: 2 OCTOBER 1984

I. Introductory Remarks

II. The Problems of Liverpool

Let me quote - "The present prosperity of Liverpool has evidently arisen from a combination of causes and among these may be chiefly noticed its natural situation, its free water carriage with the numerous manufacturing towns, and mines of the County, and the enlightened policy of its civil government. (Quote from John Brittan's Description of Lancashire in 'Beauties of Britain' c. 1810).

You will gather that this description was not written recently. It was made at the beginning of the Nineteenth century. There have been a few changes since!

The problems experienced in the latter part of the Twentieth century by cities which grew rapidly in response to the burgeoning demands of the first industrial revolution are not unique to Liverpool. They are being experienced in many places both in this country and elsewhere in Europe.

But Liverpool's decline has been particularly steep. Even before the world recession the city was losing 11,000 jobs a year. Over the last 20 years it has lost a third of

its population and often these have included a disproportionate share of the able and energetic.

The shifting patterns of industry and trade have worked against Liverpool, for example the long term decline of the port - and with it the traditional industry and commerce which were the source of so many jobs. [Though I cannot resist observing, as an aside, that a port where dockers are the first to join a strike and the last to return cannot be helping itself to compete.]

III. The Government's Response

The Government recognises fully the impact which these fundamental changes in our society and our economy have had on Liverpool. In 1981 I asked Michael Heseltine to take a special interest in the area. This responsibility is now with Patrick Jenkin. In this work they have been supported by the Task Force which has played a major part in coordinating the Government's efforts.

The Government has made available substantial resources to help Liverpool tackle the problems it faces. But as important as the amount of money, is the way it is spent. Since it came into office in 1979, the Government has fought a long battle of ideas about how jobs and prosperity can be created. Over many years, the view had grown up that the key lay in Government spending and borrowing. Quite wrongly

the name of Keynes was invoked in support.

Increasingly it is being appreciated that high Government spending and ambitious public sector programmes led inevitably to high taxes, high inflation, high interest rates. All of which will destroy jobs. This battle of ideas is now being won, not just in Britain, but in socialist countries abroad.

But we see in a number of our cities, and particularly here in Liverpool, a municipal version of the big Government thesis.

But it will fail for much the same reasons. High rates will drive away businesses that provide jobs and the lion's share of the council's rate income. Restrictive planning controls will inhibit new developments. The process of economic decline will not be arrested but will be accelerated.

The Government seeks to break away from these failed and outmoded remedies. Our goal is to create the climate in which enterprise will flourish, by keeping taxes down and interest rates down. Where special help is needed it should come through public expenditure programme which encourage the energies and enterprise of the private sector rather than supplant them.

The resources available to Merseyside are substantial. ? They are not the monopoly of ~~in~~ the public sector. Local people, the business community, and voluntary effort all have a part to play.

At the heart of the Government's inner area policy lies the concept of partnership with the private sector. Liverpool was built on the motivation, energy and resources produced by individual initiative and enterprise. These qualities must again be harnessed to play an essential part in the process of revitalisation.

The Government is prepared to play its part in full. The highest level of regional assistance to industry and commerce is available here in Liverpool. The Inner City Partnership Programme seeks to stimulate the economy of the inner area by reclaiming derelict land, improving the environment and by supporting voluntary effort. Over £120 million has been made available to the Partnership since we took office in 1979.

In 1981 we established the Merseyside Development Corporation to tackle 840 acres of rundown dockland on the Liverpool and Birkenhead waterfront. Later today I shall be visiting the Development Corporation's most spectacular achievement to date - the International Garden Festival - seen already by over three million visitors. Many said it

E. R.

could not be done in the time available when the event was announced in late 1981. They were proved wrong. The Festival has demonstrated what can be done in Liverpool, by Liverpool people.

We have designated an Enterprise Zone at Speke and a Freeport, the largest in the UK, in the Northern Docks.

English Estates are reclaiming the old Tate and Lyle site and are constructing new office accommodation on the site of the old Exchange Station which lay derelict for so long.

In 1981 17,000 places under the Youth Training Scheme have been sponsored in Merseyside by the Manpower Services Commission.

Working both with the private sector, local authorities and Government Agencies, the Task Force has helped to establish a wide variety of innovative schemes - many conceived and implemented here on Merseyside for the first time anywhere.

Let no one say the Government is not playing its part. The facts speak for themselves.

IV CONTRIBUTION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

And there has been an encouraging response from the private sector.

I am looking forward later this afternoon to seeing the refurbishment scheme that is taking place on the Albert Dock. £20 million of public money is being matched with £30 million of private funding to convert this famous building into offices, shops and flats.

British American Tobacco have converted an old warehouse on the South Docks into a small firms centre and another is proposed.

Ten Information Technology Centres have been established on Merseyside with considerable support from the private sector.

The famous Adelphi Hotel is emerging from years of neglect in a major refurbishment scheme financed with the aid of an Urban Development Grant.

V HOUSING

Today I have seen some housing areas in Liverpool. They illustrate clearly the problems and the opportunities. Much of the housing reflects immediate post-war policies

which we now see were ill-conceived. We are left with a legacy of poorly planned, poorly constructed and badly managed housing. Improvements are needed urgently but in a way which is not only cost-effective but also provides housing choice and involves the private sector and the energy of local people. One cardinal lesson of the past is the foolhardiness of assuming that public authorities always know best - they don't.

Encouraging owner occupation is the surest way of gaining lasting improvements in living conditions. I am justly proud of my Government's record on that.

But in the cities like Liverpool there will always be a substantial role for council housing. But building more council houses will not improve conditions for the tenants of that housing. What is needed is better management of the existing stock, with an effective maintenance service, which is more responsive to the needs of the tenants.

There are many examples on Merseyside of partnerships with the private sector: Stockbridge Village, Edge Lane in Sefton and Woodchurch in Wirral. There are now twelve community refurbishment schemes across Merseyside. Local tenants are at work in improving their own housing. Over six thousand dwellings are benefiting.

Barratts, Wimpeys and others have been active for some

years in building housing for sale in inner Liverpool. I saw this morning the result of an imaginative scheme at Minster Court where Barratts have converted rundown tenement blocks into much sought after private flats.

I commend these initiatives and examples to Liverpool and to other authorities which face similar housing problems.

The Government recognises its obligations and its objectives are clear. We will not falter in our determination to secure a better future for the nation as a whole - and it is only in the context of a national improvement that the problems of Liverpool can be fully resolved.

VI WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK

But I say again that it is the people of Liverpool who must seize the opportunities that are offered.

We stand today on one of the most dramatic regeneration projects in the heart of Liverpool. For years the site of this Wavertree Technology Park presented a depressing spectacle of rundown buildings and abandoned railway sidings. Less than two years ago work started on the transformation we now see in progress. Government have provided £6 million to the County Council in Derelict Land

Grant - to remove the eyesores, level the site and provide roads and services - and you can see the transformation which will provide an attractive location for high technology industry.

A Technology Park Company involving Plesseys, English Estates and the City and County authorities has been set up under the Chairmanship of Sir John Clark. And I know I can rely on Sir John and his colleagues to support the continued development of this emerging centre of high technology.

Already you can see a 40,000 square foot factory which has been occupied by 300 people. Work has started to provide further smaller units.

[And I am happy to announce that Powell and Schofield, a local company in the exciting field of Biotechnology is to establish itself here shortly bringing up to 190 jobs on to the site.]

The creation of the Wavertree Technology Park is an example of what can be achieved by the private and public sector working together. This must represent the future direction for Liverpool.

VII "MEET THE BUYER" EXHIBITION

But, at the end of the day, it is for the producer,

whether of goods or services, to sell them where there is a market. Many smaller firms, however good technologically, find it difficult to make contact with the large companies. And the reverse is true. By bringing them together we can make the best use of the creative potential of the small, thrusting company and the massive resources of the well-established household names in the fields of electronics and telecommunications.

I therefore take pleasure in opening this "Meet the Buyer" exhibition. I hope that everyone who attends it will make the most of the genuine opportunities which it presents.

VSCAAZ



File referred to Chequer
(annex only)

(a)

B. CONTENTS OF BRIEF

1. Objectives of the Visit.
2. Background notes on Liverpool and Merseyside - including annexes on:-
 - a. Government Expenditure on Merseyside 1983/84.
 - b. Liverpool - facts and figures.
 - c. Merseyside Economy - recent good and bad news.
 - d. Urban Programme.
 - e. Outline of Merseyside Task Force.
 - f. Current Local issues.
3. Housing - Background note
 - Outline of proposed tour
4. Wavertree Technology Park - Annex A - Members of the Board
 - Annex B - Background to Technology Park
 - Annex C - Note on Technomart (Meet the Buyers) Exhibition
 - Annex D - List of invitees to Technomart Exhibition
5. Merseyside Development Corporation
 - Annex A - Guest list for lunch
6. Meeting with City Council leaders
 - Annex A - aide memoire for possible press conference
7. Biographical details of those personalities to be introduced during the course of the day and including those invited to lunch at the British Pavilion.
8. Note on possible meeting with the Archbishop and Bishop of Liverpool.

LIST OF INVITEES TO WAVERTREE TECHNOMART EXHIBITION

Mr. J. Anthony Brown
Treasurer
Merseyside Chamber of Commerce

Mr. A. R. Burnip
Plant Manager
Vauxhall Motors Ltd

Mr. J. Cansley
Managing Director
Microdata Information Systems Ltd

Mr. I. M. Chapman
Assistant Regional Director (Operations)
Midland Bank PLC

Mr. Wilf Clark
Managing Director
GEOC Insulation Equipment Ltd

Mr. G. L. Corlett
Chairman and Managing Director
Higsons Brewery PLC

Mr. E. H. H. Crawford
Regional Director
Midland Bank PLC

Mr. Bc Fisk
General Manager
Plessey Crypto Wavertree

Mr. Jim Fitzpatrick
Chairman
Mersey Docks and Harbour Company


Mr. Geoffrey Hague
Managing Director
Welwyn Garments

Mr. Derek Henderson
Director
BICC PLC

Mr. John Higham
Plant Manager
A C Spark Plug Overseas Corporation

Mr. A. E. Kelly
Group Chairman
Aughton Group of Companies

Mr. John McKenzie
Rector of Liverpool Polytechnic
Byrom Street



Sir Edwin Nixon
IBM UK Ltd

Mr. Philip Preece
Senior Partners
Ormrod and Partners

Miss Cathy Pridgeon
Chief Executive
Merseyside Youth Association

Mr. Terry Rose
Managing Director
Dista Products Ltd

Mr. K. J. Rushton
Divisional Secretary
ICI PLC Mond Division

Mr. G. Shingles
Managing Director
Digital Equipment Co. Ltd

Mr. M. J. Sutherland
Director and Head of Estimating
Sir Alfred McAlpine & Son Ltd

Mr. Geoffrey Thompson
Vice Chairman
J Bibby & Sons Ltd

Mr. Malcolm Thornton
MP

Mr. R. F. Whelan
Professor VC
University of Liverpool


Mr. Willacy
General Manager
Shell UK Materials Services

Mr. Peter York
Regional Managing Director
Norwest Holst Construction Ltd

Sir John Moores CBE
Littlewoods Organisation PLC
J M Centre

Mr. Richard de Zouche
Partner
Messrs Wilson, de Zouche and Mackenzie (Chartered Accountants)

Rev David Sheppard
The Right Reverend Bishop of Liverpool



The Most Reverend David Warlock
Arch Bishop House

Linda Grant
English Estates

Susan Brocklebank
English Estates

Mr. Aidan Manley
Wavertree Technology Park Co Ltd

Mr S. F. Fuller
Wavertree Technology Park Co Ltd

Mr. G. Forshaw
Wavertree Technology Park Co Ltd

Sir John Clark
Chairman
Wavertree Technology Park

CONTENTS OF BRIEF

Part I Objectives of Prime Minister's Visit

Introductory Brief

- Annex A: Government Expenditure in Merseyside
- Annex B: Liverpool, Facts and Figures
- Annex C: Merseyside Economy - Good News
Merseyside Economy - Bad News
- Annex D: Liverpool Partnership Programme
- Annex E: Merseyside Task Force
- Annex F: Current Local Issues

Part II Housing Tour

Part III Wavertree Technology Park

- Annex A: Members of Policy Board
- Annex B: Technology Park
- Annex C: Meet the Buyers Exhibition
- Annex D: Invitees to speech

Part IV Merseyside Development Corporation

- Annex A: Garden Festival
- Annex B: Albert Dock Warehouses
- Annex C: South Docks
- Annex D: New Enterprise Workshop
- Annex E: Current MDC Issues
- Annex F: Garden Festival Itinerary

Part V Meeting with Liverpool Council Representatives

- Annex A: Housing Issues
- Annex B: Budget Issues

Part VI Meeting with Bishops (over lunch)

Part VII Biographical Details

OBJECTIVES OF THE VISIT

To give the Prime Minister the opportunity to see at first hand

i) the problems of run down housing, poor environment and the effects of a declining economy in inner Liverpool;

ii) some of the initiatives being implemented under the Urban, Housing and Derelict Land Programmes - many in collaboration with the private sector - to tackle these problems; and

iii) to fulfill her promise? that she would visit the International Garden Festival before it closes and see some of the other projects being sponsored by the Merseyside Development Corporation /especially the Albert Dock refurbishment7.

The PM will wish to publicly reiterate the Government's commitment to tackle the problems of the older urban areas and emphasise the central importance of working in collaboration with the private sector.

LIVERPOOL BRIEF

CONTENTS:

- ANNEX A: BACKGROUND
- ANNEX B: GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE IN MERSEYSIDE
1983/84
- ANNEX C: LIVERPOOL FACTS AND FIGURES
- ANNEX D: MERSEYSIDE ECONOMY 'GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS'
- ANNEX E: LIVERPOOL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME
- ANNEX F: MERSEYSIDE TASK FORCE
- ANNEX G: LIVERPOOL HOUSING
- ANNEX H: CURRENT LOCAL ISSUES

LIVERPOOL

INTRODUCTORY BRIEF

In the past 25 years Liverpool has lost about 30% of its population. Unemployment has risen from 3% to almost 19% over the same period. This despite extensive Government support over a number of years (£1 billion in each of the past 3 years has been spent on Merseyside as a whole - Annex A).

HOUSING

Considerable parts of the city display poor housing conditions, high level of social stress and poor living environment. A separate housing brief is at Flag 3.

ECONOMY

The local economy has been relatively weak for decades. During most of the post-war period local unemployment rates have been twice the national average. The main reasons are:-

- run-down of the port and port-related activities.
- Over representation of low value added businesses (e.g. food processing) operating in highly competitive markets and under-representation of new technology industries.
- High proportion of manufacturing employment in large branch plants particularly vulnerable to rationalisation (e.g. British Leyland) and retrenchment during the recession.
- Manchester is the regional centre and provides strong competition for development of white collar service employment.
- Poor industrial relations image.

The economic prospects for the area remain very difficult. Many successful companies remain however, new investment is going ahead and there are examples of good co-operation between management and trade unions.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The proposed abolition of Merseyside Metropolitan County Council and the activities of the politically extreme Liverpool City Council are major issues. Both the County and City Councils are refusing to co-operate over abolition arrangements.

Following the making of a balanced budget in July, the City Council has continued its campaign to elicit more Government resources. There is no sign of any real attempt being made to reduce expenditure. Indeed initial bids for capital and revenue expenditure in 1985/86 are expected to be well in excess of provisional allocations and targets. Merseyside County Council is also a high spender. It is to be "rate capped" in 1985/86.

GOVERNMENT MEASURES

The thrust has been to create the right climate for investment and to improve living conditions, tackle physical dereliction and upgrade the environment. The principal measures taken by Government are:-

- Designation of Merseyside Special Development Area - considerable aid to industry over many years
- Support for local authority programmes through Rate Support Grant and other subsidies with specific grants to tackle derelict land and the Urban Programme.
- Creation of the Merseyside Development Corporation to be responsible for regenerating the derelict docklands.
- Designation of Enterprise Zone and Freeport.
- Manpower Services Commission activity aimed at improving skill levels and enhancing employment opportunities.
- Creation of the Merseyside Task Force to co-ordinate activity of Government Departments and carry through new initiatives.

The main examples of Government financial assistance to Liverpool are at Annex A and B.

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE IN MERSEYSIDE 1983/84

| <u>Government Departments & other Public Bodies:</u> <u>Main Programmes</u> | <u>£M cash*</u> |
|---|-------------------|
| DHSS Hospitals & Community Health Services | 294 |
| Dept of Industry Grants & Expenditure towards Industrial Investment | 88 |
| Manpower Services Commission | 90 |
| Housing Corporation | 59 |
| Merseyside Development Corp'n | 35 |
| Dept of Transport Grants, loans & guarantees to Mersey Docks and Harbour Company | 40 |
| New Towns (Skelmersdale & Runcorn) gross capital investment | 16 |
| Historic Buildings & Conservation Grants | 3 |
| Voluntary Schools: expenditure eligible for DES Grant | 2 |
| Sports Council Grants | 1 |
| <u>Exchequer Support for Local Authority Expenditure:</u> <u>Main Grants</u> | |
| Rate Support Grant | 383 |
| Transport Supplementary Grant | 31 |
| Housing Subsidies | 24 |
| Derelict Land Grant | 10 |
| Urban Programme Grant | 18 |
| | <hr/> 1,094 <hr/> |

* Estimated out-turn

LIVERPOOLFACTS AND FIGURESLocal Authorities - Political Control

| | <u>LAB</u> | <u>CON</u> | <u>LIB/SDP</u> | <u>OTHERS</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Liverpool City Council | 58 | 13 | 28 | - |
| Merseyside County Council | 54 | 27 | 17 | 1 |
| | <u>1961</u> | <u>1971</u> | <u>1981</u> | |
| <u>Liverpool Population (000)</u> | <u>746</u> | 610 | <u>510</u> | |
| | <u>1961</u> | <u>1971</u> | <u>1981</u> | <u>1984</u> |
| <u>Unemployment</u> | <u>(Aug)</u> | <u>(Aug)</u> | <u>(Aug)</u> | <u>(Aug)</u> |
| Liverpool TTWA (or equivalent) | 3% | 6.5% | 18.4% | 18.8% |
| Merseyside SDA | 3% | 6.1% | 18.6% | 19.1% |

Government Expenditure Programmes in Liverpool (where known)*

| | <u>1983/84</u> | <u>1984/85</u> |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|
| | £m | (Estimated outturn) £m |
| Urban Programme Allocation (*Inner City Partnership + MTF schemes) | 31.9 | 28.1 |
| Merseyside Development Corporation | 35 | 28 |
| Housing Investment Programme (excluding Capital Receipts) | 40 | 38 |
| Housing Corporation | 21.3 | N/A |
| Derelict Land Grants to Public Sector** | 3.5 |) N/A |
| to Private Sector | 0.5 | |
| North West Council for Sport and Recreation | 0.5 | N/A |
| Support for local authority current expenditure via Rate Support Grant*** | 115.8 | 111.8 |

* Principal source = DOE. Other Departments tend to allocate on basis of the wider Merseyside area only (see Annex A)

** Includes County Council schemes in Liverpool

*** Estimates on basis of current information. Both figures less than maximum due to penalties. Excludes County Council Grant.

MERSEYSIDE ECONOMY: GOOD NEWSFORD, HALEWOOD

Halewood has two plants; Assembly and Transmission and employs in total nearly 11,000. There are signs of improved performance and growing company confidence in Halewood. Over the last three months Ford have announced three major investment programmes; an £11M injection moulding plant, a £65M gearbox programme and an £11.25M primer coat paint facility. However, no increase in employment is expected and Ford continue to look for voluntary redundancies to maintain the improvement in efficiency.

VAUXHALL, ELLESMERE PORT

Ellesmere Port has shared in the upturn in G.M's fortunes in the UK and, as with Ford, there have been a number of announcements of major investments at Ellesmere Port. Major investment programmes planned or in progress include the Astra replacement (£50M), a new paint facility (£20M), press shop (£15M) and the Astra van (£15M). Vauxhall have recently started recruiting (12), for the first time since 1978. The company has expressed some concern about the impact of change in the regional development grant scheme on investment plans - particularly a £57M project for replacement of the colour paint system at Ellesmere Port.

CONTISOYA

The company has announced a new £21M integrated edible oil refinery at Seaforth (North Docks) to handle both soya and rapeseed. The plant will be set up next to the existing seed crushing operation; within the proposed Free Port Area. The new investment will create 30 additional jobs on top of the existing 105.

J. BIBBY EDIBLE OILS

The company was recently taken over by Bunge (an international commodity company). Bibby operates in outdated premises behind the North Docks in Liverpool and has announced a £30M project to construct a new integrated refinery with downstream activities at a site further north in the docks. The project will safeguard 160 of the 600 jobs at the present outdated refinery.

METAL BOX, SPEKE

The company has announced a £6.1M investment in new plant and machinery at the Speke carton printing plant. The investment will secure jobs at Speke.

PLESSEY CRYPTO, WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK

On 13th July the Secretary of State for the Environment handed over the new factory in the Technology Park. The company is moving from central Liverpool and will employ about 200 on the Wavertree site. The availability of the Wavertree site has enabled the company to remain in Liverpool.

MERSEYSIDE ECONOMY - BAD NEWS

Since the beginning of 1980 there have been almost 90,000 confirmed redundancies.

- 1982 - 19,250 - almost $\frac{1}{2}$ of which in Liverpool travel to work area.

1983 - 14,570 - 64% of which in Liverpool TTWA

1984 - 9,885 (to end July) - about $\frac{1}{2}$ of which in Liverpool TTWA

MAJOR REDUNDANCIES - 1984

BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO, LIVERPOOL

The company announced in May that 1,100 of the 1,600 workforce at the Kirkdale factory were to be made redundant; 460 immediate with the remainder over the following 15 months.

SYNTHETIC RESINS SPEKE

The company is part of the Scott-Bader Group. In June the group announced that the Speke factory is to close with the loss of 120 jobs.

MERSEYSIDE FOOD PRODUCTS, BOOTLE

The company which manufactures margarine was closed on 7th September with the loss of 250 jobs. The plant and machinery has been purchased by Acatos and Hutcheson, which has also taken a one year lease on the buildings and re-engaged 100 workers. The business will be moved from Bootle if it does not prove possible to operate efficiently there.

CAMMELL LAIRD

In the last twelve months employment in the Birkenhead Shipyard has fallen from 3061 to 1700 (permanent workforce on nationalisation in 1977 was 5300). Part of the workforce is staging a sit-in on the only vessels left in the yard - an accommodation rig for British Gas and a type 42 destroyer - and this has resulted in the remaining workforce of some 1500 being laid-off. The British Gas rig was scheduled for delivery in January of this year and cancellation is becoming increasingly likely. British Shipbuilders has taken steps

through the High Court to evict those sitting-in but this dispute will not have helped CL in their attempts to win an order from MOD for a type 22 frigate. The decision to sell off the war ship yards including CL has heightened local uncertainty regarding the yards future.

LIVERPOOL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMMERESOURCES

The Partnership allocation in both 1983/84 and 1984/85 was £24.1M. Of this, over £20M has gone to Liverpool City Council and the remainder to Merseyside County Council and Liverpool Health Authority.

Liverpool has also benefited from additional Urban Programme resources made available through the Task Force.* The County Council has been a major recipient and is carrying out major schemes at Lime Street Station, Albert Dock (Maritime Museum) and Liverpool Airport. However, the City also spent £1.5M from this source in 1983/84 and some £½M has already been earmarked¹ for 1984/85 to complete certain existing schemes and fund new expenditure relating to the Wavertree Technology Park.

CHARACTER OF PREVIOUS LIVERPOOL PROGRAMMES

Up until the change in control of the City Council in May 1983, Liverpool's Programme was generally in line with Ministerial guidelines and with those of other Partnership authorities.

Distinctive features were:-

- a programme of support for work in Industrial Improvement Areas;
- an actively promoted scheme of grant support for investment by local firms;
- an extensive programme of environmental improvements to empty or vandalised sites (including many in Housing Action Areas);
- the initiation of a programme to improve the appearance and viability of run down secondary shopping areas;
- enhancement of recreational facilities;
- a substantial proportion of the available funds channelled into support for schemes mounted by voluntary groups.

Examples of many of these will be seen during the tour.

*Total UP expenditure 1983/4 = £31.9m - £24.1m Partnership + £7.8m MTF special projects

Merseyside Task Force

Following the riots in 1981 the Prime Minister gave the then Secretary of State for the Environment a remit to take special interest in Merseyside. The Merseyside Task Force was set up to support him.

The Task Force has no special powers, it is not an agency, nor is it a traditional Government regional office (though it performs some of these functions). Particular emphasis is placed on inter departmental co-operation and good links are established with the private sector including the secondment of staff on specific initiatives.

The main job of the Task Force is to work with local authorities, Government agents such as English Industrial Estates, and with the private sector to carry forward initiatives and projects which help regenerate the area. In addition to influencing Government Department's main programmes it has a reserve of funds available for specific projects (£35M in 1983/4).

Some examples of successful Task Force initiatives in Liverpool are:-

Key Sites A number of vacant sites have been the subject of action to bring them back into use. The PM will visit the Anglican Cathedral Precinct site, other examples are the former Exchange Station and Tate and Lyle Refinery sites being redeveloped for offices and industry respectively. She will open the Meet the Buyers Exhibition at Wavertree Technology Park, where 64 acres of derelict land are being transformed into a centre for high technology industry.

Training Ten Information Technology Centres and four Commercial Business Centres have been set up in locations throughout Merseyside.

CURRENT LOCAL ISSUES*A. LIVERPOOL

1. Budget - To achieve a legal Budget Liverpool have resorted to once and for all measures that cannot be used again. This has provided a breathing space, but not solved the problems. The Council must now make fundamental changes to put its finances on a firmer footing.
2. Rate Support Grant - Liverpool's provisional expenditure target for 1985/86 is £222M; the 1984/85 budget estimate is £221M. The target is a tough one because likely outturn for the current financial year could be about £240M.
3. St George's Hall - There is wide interest in the future of this prominent Liverpool landmark, owned by the City Council, and which will have closed by the 2nd October. Many proposals have been made for future uses. It is for the Council to consider these ideas although they have been reluctant to do so. Financial assistance could be available from the Department of the Environment, but first the City must provide a package of proposals.
4. York House Liverpool Settlement - This is a voluntary organisation which has been active in Toxteth for some 70 years. It has run a Youth/Sports Club on the Anglican Cathedral precinct site which is currently being developed for housing. The Club must be relocated to enable the development to be completed as planned. Compensation has been offered by the developers (Housing Corporation) and an alternative site, in City Council ownership, found. Agreement to purchase this site had been reached and contracts arranged for the construction of new premises when the City Council decided to go back on their agreement and hang on to the site. Their reasons are that the Sport and Community facilities proposed for the land would not fit into their strategy. They have said that they want the public sector resources which would have gone into the project to be directed elsewhere. They have been told that this is not possible. The City Council stance has given rise to much local controversy.

B. MERSEYSIDE

1. Merseyside County Council: Abolition - The County Council have mounted a strong campaign against their abolition. They have received support from the Labour Councils of Liverpool, St Helens and Knowsley as well as many local organisations ^(including) including the Chamber of Commerce. *The Chamber have recently changed their position, and no longer support abolition of the County*
2. Merseyside County Council: Rate-capping - Merseyside have been selected for rate limitations in 1985/86. Their expenditure level for that year has been set at £205M, which is a cash standstill from this year's budget. The County claim that the level of expenditure set will mean a cut of about 16%. They have been told that they can make a case for redetermination.

* Not covered elsewhere in the briefing.

3. Capital Spending Restraint 1984/85 - Of the six Merseyside authorities the only one known not to be co-operating is Liverpool, but Wirral face difficulties because of commitments to housing improvement grants.

4. Miners Strike - Merseyside County Council is proposing to give £5,000 per week to the Miners Welfare Centre in St Helens. Liverpool are making Council facilities available for food collections etc. In the context of the strike local authorities are unjustified in placing an extra burden on their ratepayers to support the strikers.

5. Drug Abuse - This is a serious problem on Merseyside. Under the Urban Programme Wirral are providing £140,000 for a Drug Counselling Service. The Government is committed to playing its part in concerted action by Health Authorities, Local Authorities, Government Departments and the voluntary sectors.

6. Tunnel Tolls - There is considerable pressure in the area to have these tolls scrapped and the outstanding debt on the two tunnels, which could reach £115M by the end of 1989, written off by the Government.



LIVERPOOL HOUSING TOUR

The Prime Minister will see examples of the problems and potential which exist in the City Council's housing stock. Examples of pre and post-war housing will be covered. The tour will cover also private sector initiatives and older private housing in housing action areas. The route passes a number of schemes funded through the Urban Programme including sports and health and community provision and landscaping works. Security considerations prevent a close look at some of the more run-down areas, particularly high-density modern estates which are poorly designed, badly managed, particularly unpopular with tenants.

9.50am Grafton Crescent Housing Cooperative

An example of a housing cooperative scheme funded by the City Council. The scheme provided an opportunity for local residents to remain together as a community following demolition of the poor quality 1930's Council tenement in which they lived.

There will be an opportunity here for the Prime Minister to walk through the completed scheme and to call on residents.

10.00am Hill Street/Prince William Street

An area of run-down and neglected public housing, which demonstrates the effects of poor housing management and maintenance.

There will be an opportunity here to leave the car for a short walk

10.20am Dickens Street Housing Action Area

Drive through an area of older 2 storey terraced properties improved following declaration of a Housing Action Area in 1979.

10.25am Joliffe Street, Toxteth

A private sector development by Wimpey which was a response to Government efforts to introduce new private sector housing into inner Liverpool. In a controversial move, the estate was municipalised by the incoming Labour Council in June 1983.

10.30am Princes Boulevard

Principal Victorian thoroughfare; part of built heritage of Liverpool. Problems of large houses where private sector will not act. Local protests after environmental improvements led to Michael Heseltine promising that housing would be improved. Action mainly through Housing Associations.



10.35am Anglican Cathedral Precinct

Development of a prominent site in front of the Anglican Cathedral by Crudens Ltd. The site had lain derelict for over 20 years until the then Secretary of State for The Environment took the initiative and proposed a developer/architect competition which was sponsored by the Housing Corporation. The development, which is now under way, is mainly private housing with some commercial facilities and high quality landscaped areas.

10.55am Minster Court, Toxteth

Refurbishment for sale of a derelict and partially demolished local authority tenement block. The flagship of Barratt Urban Renewal Ltd. There will be an opportunity for the Prime Minister to see some of the development and residents.

11.10am Depart for Wavertree Technology Park.



HOUSING TOUR

The people who will meet the Prime Minister during the course of the Housing Tour are:

i) Grafton Crescent Housing Co-op.

Sophie Krajewska, Area Manager for Cooperative Development Services (CDS), the Housing Association which assisted the Co-op with its plans.

Mick Ryan Secretary to the Co-op and Jimmy Pettit Treasurer to the Co-op. Both are residents.

Paul Lusk CDS Development Officer.

ii) Minster Court.

James Keery, Managing Director Barratt Urban Renewals (Northern) Ltd.

LIVERPOOL HOUSING

Characteristics

- Current housing stock in Liverpool : 190,000 dwellings
- 69,000 are in Council ownership (36%), 15,000 are owned by Housing Associations
- Housing conditions on many council estates are appalling. 25,000 dwellings (36%) of the City's stock are unsatisfactory
- No overall shortage of dwellings
- Major social/housing problems on post-war estates particularly in unpopular and unsatisfactory flats and maisonettes
- A high level of dissatisfaction amongst tenants
- Weak, centralised and inefficient management and maintenance of the Council stock
- A lack of effective demand in the private sector
- A relatively successful programme of improvement of older private housing, mainly through Housing Association activity funded by the Housing Corporation

The City Council's approach

The City argues that poor housing conditions reflect inadequate capital housing allocations over many years.

The City Council has produced a 5 year Urban Regeneration Strategy. The aim is to bring together capital resources of the Housing and Urban Programmes to tackle housing and living conditions in 17 Priority Areas and covering 14,000 dwellings.

The strategy envisages demolition of 5,000 dwellings and a loss of a further 1,000 through conversions of flats to 2 storey houses. Families displaced would be rehoused through a programme to build 4,000 new council houses. Other dwellings would be improved.

Government response

Ministers have taken the view that housing problems in Liverpool merit attention and action. The issues confronted are not unique, it is the scale which sets the City apart.

Whatever the reasons for the present housing conditions, the fact is that much public money will need to be spent to give large numbers of Liverpool people the opportunity of decent housing. There are no cheap solutions: the objective must be to get the best value for every pound spent.

The response should not be rooted in the replacement of unpopular

municipal stock; the aim should be the most cost-effective approach which provides housing choice and uses all available resources, including the private sector and the resourcefulness of local communities.

The City's reliance on a physical solution underplays the social problems on estates and the extremely poor record on management and maintenance. The municipal solution is very expensive and rides roughshod over people's aspirations to own a home of their choice or to be involved in the management of their own housing.

Ministers have set out these views consistently. The Secretary of State has made clear that Government support will need to take account of the nature of the programmes put forward. Our current assessment is that the City Council is unlikely to modify its the approach. Bad housing conditions would be allowed to remain with the Council blaming Government for the frustration of local expectations.

Action elsewhere on Merseyside

There are many examples of improved Council estates in other Merseyside authorities which have not relied on municipal action. Through the Merseyside Task Force initiatives have been set in hand covering more than 10,000 dwellings. Housing choice has been widened through the privatisation of the 3,000 dwelling Stockbridge Village estate in Knowsley and smaller estates in Wirral and Sefton.

Through a package of Urban Programme and MSC funds improvements to run-down estates are being secured by tenants themselves on Community Refurbishment Schemes. 12 schemes are now underway covering 6,500 dwellings.

Private builders are taking part in an initiative to develop sites which would not normally have attracted private funds, over 800 new homes are being provided.

None of the major initiatives are in Liverpool. The previous Liberal Council ran a successful build for sales programme and sought opportunities to involve the private sector in the refurbishment of problem housing. Barratts successful renovation for sale of a derelict 1930's tenement block: Minster Court, is a fine example. There was also active support for housing co-operatives to be formed. The present Council has municipalised those co-op schemes in the pipeline and has adopted a much less encouraging stance on joint initiatives with the private sector.

Part III

Visit to Wavertree Technology Park

The Prime Minister will be met at the Plessey Crypto building entrance by Sir John Clark, Chairman of Plessey PLC as well as the Wavertree Technology Park Company. The Prime Minister will then be shown inside the building and introduced to members of the Park Company's Policy Board (Annex A). A short explanation of the Technology Park (Note at Annex B) with the aid of a display and model will be given. Sir John Clark will then escort the Prime Minister to a nearby Marquee which will house a "Meet the Buyers Exhibition" (Note at Annex C) as well as provide a suitable forum for the speech. There may be an opportunity to see something of the exhibition and meet some of the exhibitors after the speech and press conference. A list of those invited to meet the Prime Minister together with those invited to the speech is at Annex D (to follow).

Wavertree Technology Park Company: Members of the Policy BoardBiographical details

1. Sir John Clark (Chairman)

Age 58, Chairman and Chief Executive, Plessey plc, since 1970. Educated Harrow and Cambridge. Has been associated with Plessey since 1949 and been involved with various subsidiaries within the group. Director Banque Nationale de Paris, Vice President of Institute of Work Managers and Engineering Employers Federation.

2. Leader, Merseyside County Council

Councillor Keva Coombes, Leader since March 1982. Aged 34, Solicitor (formally partner) in Liverpool practice. Born in Kent, educated University of East Anglia. Resident in Liverpool since 1971. Liverpool City Councillor 1976-80. Merseyside County Councillor from 1981. Chairman of Passenger Transport Committee 1981/82, heavily involved in reducing transport fares. Elected Leader in March 1982 when previous Leader (Councillor Stuart-Cole) resigned during lead up to budget 1982/83. Bearded. Not very forceful in private company though is capable of making rousing political speech. Appears to be soft left. County Council are a high spending authority and could be caught by legislation to curb excessive rate increases. Fare subsidy policies very expensive.

3. Leader, Liverpool City Council

Councillor John Hamilton, Retired Liverpool Schoolmaster. Served on City Council since 1959. Said to be in the hands of the left wing.

4. Chief Executive, English Estates

Tony Pender. Age 42. Since qualifying as a chartered surveyor in 1964 has had a career in the public service. Appointed Chief Executive of English Estates in 1979.

5. Geoffrey Forshaw (Chief Executive)

Age 61. Whole life devoted to telecommunications manufacturing industry with extensive home and overseas experience. From 1973 has held various staff positions within the H.Q. function of Plessey Telecommunications, culminating in the post of Director of Technology.

WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK

In December 1982 Mr Heseltine announced a collaborative venture between the public and private sectors to establish the Wavertree Technology Park on 64 acres of derelict land in Liverpool. Sir John Clark, Chairman of Plesseys, together with the Chairman of English Estates and the leaders of Merseyside County and Liverpool City Councils agreed to set up a management company to control and market the development. The concept is to create an environment in the city attractive to high technology industry because of the planned physical development, the proximity of Plessey Telecommunications and the commitment by the Plessey company to provide a measure of professional and technical assistance to companies locating on the Park, plus the link with the University and Polytechnic through the Merseyside Innovation Centre. No such location exists in Liverpool today. Experience shows that potential high technology inward investors have been unwilling to consider the sites currently available.

For his part the Secretary of State for the Environment agreed to provide Merseyside CC with £6.5M, via derelict land grant, to purchase, reclaim and service the site. This work is due for completion in 1987 but parts of the site have already been prepared and sold for development. Plessey Secure Products recently occupied a 40,000 sq. ft. building (Plessey Crypto) and English Estates are constructing an additional 35,000 sq. ft. of space on adjacent land. Discussions with potential tenants are well advanced.

CONFIDENTIAL:

[] Powell and Schofield, a local biotechnology company operating from outdated premises, has taken a decision to move to Wavertree but they have been reluctant to make an announcement because there has been some pressure to impose on them union recognition. It is thought that once it becomes known that the Prime Minister is to make a speech the company may well be agreeable to include an announcement in that speech. 7

When the project is complete a further 525,000 sq. ft. of lettable space will have been made available with the potential of providing 2,000 high technology jobs overall. There can be no certainty that such a relatively large number of jobs will materialise and even if they do it may take up to 10 years to secure them all. All central and local government can do, with the help of Plesseys, is to create the right sort of conditions to attract high technology investment; a desirable commodity, especially in a City like Liverpool. The Technology Park has now reached the stage at which it can be actively marketed. The "Meet the Buyers" event on the 2nd October is part of that process.

"Meet the Buyers Exhibition"

The aim of the Wavertree Technology Park is to provide a suitable location for high technology industry. Many of the companies are likely to be relatively small and an important consideration for them is to be able to sell their products and services to major companies. For this reason Wavertree Technology Park set up a "Meet the Buyers Exhibition" at which 10-15 major purchasers, in the electronics, computing and telecommunications field, will be represented to display and discuss the products and services of interest to them. It is expected that upto 300 small companies will visit in order to make contact with the major buyers. This is seen as commercially advantageous to both the Buyers and Sellers and an important marketing tool for the Park itself. A schedule of the major companies and their representatives will be provided nearer the date.

LIST OF INVITEES TO WAVERTREE TECHNOMART EXHIBITION

Mr. J. Anthony Brown
Treasurer
Merseyside Chamber of Commerce

Mr. A. R. Burnip
Plant Manager
Vauxhall Motors Ltd

Mr. J. Cansley
Managing Director
Microdata Information Systems Ltd

Mr. I. M. Chapman
Assistant Regional Director (Operations)
Midland Bank PLC

Mr. Wilf Clark
Managing Director
GEOC Insulation Equipment Ltd

Mr. G. L. Corlett
Chairman and Managing Director
Higsons Brewery PLC

Mr. E. H. H. Crawford
Regional Director
Midland Bank PLC

Mr. Bc Fisk
General Manager
Plessey Crypto Wavertree

Mr. Jim Fitzpatrick
Chairman
Mersey Docks and Harbour Company

Mr. Geoffrey Hague
Managing Director
Welwyn Garments

Mr. Derek Henderson
Director
BICC PLC

Mr. John Higham
Plant Manager
A C Spark Plug Overseas Corporation

Mr. A. E. Kelly
Group Chairman
Aughton Group of Companies

Mr. John McKenzie
Rector of Liverpool Polytechnic
Byrom Street

Sir Edwin Nixon
IBM UK Ltd

Mr. Philip Preece
Senior Partners
Ormrod and Partners

Miss Cathy Pridgeon
Chief Executive
Merseyside Youth Association

Mr. Terry Rose
Managing Director
Dista Products Ltd

Mr. K. J. Rushton
Divisional Secretary
ICI PLC Mond Division

Mr. G. Shingles
Managing Director
Digital Equipment Co. Ltd

Mr. M. J. Sutherland
Director and Head of Estimating
Sir Alfred McAlpine & Son Ltd

Mr. Geoffrey Thompson
Vice Chairman
J Bibby & Sons Ltd

Mr. Malcolm Thornton
MP

Mr. R. F. Whelan
Professor VC
University of Liverpool

Mr. Willacy
General Manager
Shell UK Materials Services

Mr. Peter York
Regional Managing Director
Norwest Holst Construction Ltd

Sir John Moores CBE
Littlewoods Organisation PLC
J M Centre

Mr. Richard de Zouche
Partner
Messrs Wilson, de Zouche and Mackenzie (Chartered Accountants)

Rev David Sheppard
The Right Reverend Bishop of Liverpool

The Most Reverend David Warlock
Arch Bishop House

Linda Grant
English Estates

Susan Brocklebank
English Estates

Mr. Aidan Manley
Wavertree Technology Park Co Ltd

Mr S. F. Fuller
Wavertree Technology Park Co Ltd

Mr. G. Forshaw
Wavertree Technology Park Co Ltd

Sir John Clark
Chairman
Wavertree Technology Park

MERSEYSIDE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

ORIGINS AND ESTABLISHMENT

The Merseyside Development Corporation was formally established in March 1981. Its prime purpose is to secure the regeneration of its area, particularly by attracting private sector investment. To this end its powers have been modelled on but are wider than those of the New Towns. In particular it has powers to acquire, reclaim, and service land and to carry out development either directly or with private developers.

AREA

MDC's designated area covers 865 acres in three separate parcels in the districts of Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral. The area consists largely of disused docks and the immediately surrounding lands, formerly used for dock-related activities. With the exception of one small housing estate in the Sefton area there is at present no resident population.


ORGANISATION AND STAFFING

MDC consists formally of a Chairman, Deputy Chairman and up to eleven other members, all appointed by the Secretary of State. The current Chairman is Sir Leslie Young, Chairman of J Bibby & Sons. He is due to become Chairman of the British Waterways Board and will leave his MDC position in October 1984. His successor will be Donald Forster, currently Chairman of Runcorn and Warrington Development Corporation.

MDC have as small permanent staff of just over 50 headed by the Chief Executive Basil Bean.

RESOURCES/EXPENDITURE

Although it is MDC's aim to attract private investment it was always envisaged that substantial public funding would be required particularly in the early years to stimulate economic activity in these severely depressed areas. Most of MDC's expenditure is supported by Government grant in aid, supplemented by loans and a limited amount of income from the leasing of land and buildings.



Expenditure in the first year of operation (1981/82) was £5m, in 1982/83 £21m and in 1983/84 £34m. This was the peak year for expenditure on the International Garden Festival (see below) and their allocation for 1984/85 is £28m.

PROGRESS

MDC have so far acquired some 600 acres of land. They are now pressing ahead with the implementation of an agreed Development Strategy. Progress in the various parts of the designated area has been varied:

In Sefton small industrial units have been built by a private developer and sites have been reclaimed and are being marketed.

In Wirral the former Western Ship Repairers site is being reclaimed for residential, light industrial and shipbuilding use. Much of the area, however, although derelict remains within the ownership of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company and this has prevented substantial progress in reclamation and development (see below).

The Liverpool South Docks which the Prime Minister will visit, have been the focus of much of MDC's activity. By the time that MDC was established, nine years after their closure, contaminated silt up to 30 feet deep had built up throughout the system. The large historic buildings in the north had fallen into neglect and dereliction whilst further south small, under capitalised businesses provided valuable employment but failed to maintain premises which suffered from lack of services to deal with waste disposal and other needs. The land presented the most difficult engineering and accessibility problems in the urban development area but, at the northern end, provided the most exciting investment opportunities for commercial, recreational and related uses.

The Corporation's strategy for the regeneration of the South Docks includes: the restoration of the water to much of the docks system; the renewal of main services and other infra-



structure; the "opening up" of the area through new transport links; and the conversion of old buildings to new use. A major example of the last of these is the grade II listed Wapping Warehouse which lies adjacent to the newly constructed ring road. Although it does not have the same potential as Albert Dock, the Corporation feels that there is scope for successful mixed residential and commercial development. The Department has approved a £4.6m joint venture between MDC and a private developer which is expected to begin early in 1985.

Separate briefing on the four major South Docks projects; the International Garden Festival, New Enterprise Workshop, Albert Dock and Restoration of the Water Regime is at (A) - (D) below.



A. INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL LIVERPOOL 1984

BACKGROUND

1. The Liverpool Festival is the first of its kind to be held in this country and the biggest event in this country since the Festival of Britain in 1951.
2. The technique of staging garden festivals as a means of improving and revitalising rundown areas has been developed with great success in Europe, particularly in Germany to tackle the problems caused by wartime damage.
3. the basic purpose of a Festival is to reclaim a large piece of urban derelict land, mount a major horticultural event, and leave a permanent legacy of high quality public park and recreational area.
4. The idea was first considered in this country in 1979 when sixteen potential sites were identified. These were examined in detail and in September 1981 Michael Heseltine invited the Merseyside Development Corporation to mount the first festival.
5. The timetable allowed just over 2½ years for the reclamation, design and construction of the Festival, less than half the period usually allowed for Continental Festivals.

THE SITE

6. The site chosen for the Festival was part of a 250 acre stretch of disused and severely degraded land at Riverside on the banks of the River Mersey.
7. The site was chosen because of its proximity to the city centre and the excellent location close to the main road and rail links. The existing station at St Michaels and the airport at Speke were also considerable advantages. An important factor was the setting of the site with its fine views over the River Mersey.
8. The site included an abandoned and silted dock, disused oil storage tanks and a municipal refuse tip. The reclamation programme which began in December 1981 was one of the largest urban



reclamation schemes ever undertaken in this country.

9. Among the problems that had to be overcome were the removal of two large oil jetties, the movement of over 3 million cubic feet of material and the control and extraction of methane produced by decaying material on the former tip.

FESTIVAL CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN

10. Once the reclamation work was substantially underway the task of constructing the actual 125 acres of the Festival began. Pre-commencement works started in October 1982 and construction began in January 1983. The co-ordination of over 200 packages of work carried out by 50 different firms was handled by the management contractors, Norwest Holst Projects Ltd.

11. Major construction works involved the movement of six and a half million tons of material on to the site and included the construction of the River Esplanade, the arena, theatres and various buildings including the Festival Hall. One and a half miles of railway had to be laid and seven miles of footpaths, walkways and aqueducts provided.

12. The design of the Festival was handled by a team of consultants led by Design Co-ordinator Rodney Beaumont of William Gillespie and Partners. Their task was to produce a design to meet the needs of both the Festival and its after uses and to incorporate the plan of all the countries and organisations who wished to be represented in the Festival.

FESTIVAL FEATURES

The Festival consists of six main elements:

- The Esplanade which ~~fulfills two~~ roles. It is a pleasant place to walk or sit and enjoy the seafront entertainments. It is also a vital link in a permanent riverside walk which will eventually extend 4½ miles from Otterspool Promenade to the Pier Head in the City Centre.



- The Water Feature design by Derek Lovejoy & Partners includes all the elements of a river; a spring source feeds a lake from where water runs through rapids and waterfalls, then through a series of meanders and terminates in a river and pool near the Festival Hall.

- National Gardens are the 37 gardens provided by UK organisations. These range from specialist horticultural gardens such as the rose, alpine and kitchen gardens to a collection of fun plots including the Jam Garden, Beatles Maze and Liverpool Quiz gardens.

- International Gardens alongside the domestic gardens are the 21 gardens reflecting the many different horticultural traditions of the participating countries. These include the British Gardens, sponsored by the Horticultural Trades Association, and the spectacular Chinese and Japanese Gardens. Other countries are providing indoor displays in the International Pavilion or the Festival Hall.

- Homes and Gardens Feature consists of a small village of houses constructed by different firms of builders in a range of styles together with a number of garden settings. After the Festival these houses will be the nucleus of a large private housing scheme planned for this section of the site.

- Exhibition Hall is the centre-piece of the Festival. Built to Arup Associates winning entry in a national design competition this hall offers 80,000 sq ft of floorspace. It is the venue for a programme of exhibitions and displays including the major indoor show programme.

BENEFITS

13. Some of the benefits of the Festival are already apparent. A major eyesore in a prominent position close to the city centre has been removed and replaced with a very high quality landscaped area in a very short time. The Festival work has also provided a stimulus to a large number of other environmental improvements throughout the City.

14. The Festival has also been a major boost to local employment. During its construction up to 600 people have been employed at any one time and a further 900 jobs will have been created directly in the operation of the Festival.

15. Except for a few specialised services that were not available locally the vast majority of contracts let for the Festival have gone to Merseyside firms and the MDC have a very good record in this respect. 96% of their contracts have gone to firms in the Merseyside region.

16. Many other jobs have been generated throughout Merseyside by the need to cater for the more than 3 million visitors to the Festival, many of them from overseas. A large number of visitors have extended their stay in the area to sample the other attractions of Merseyside. This constitutes a considerable boost to the development of the area as a tourist centre.

17. The long term benefits of the Festival will extend beyond this in generating the confidence and investment which is essential to the regeneration of Merseyside.

COSTS

18. The gross expenditure on the Garden Festival is expected to be £19.996M. [This does not include the basic reclamation works, which are estimated to cost £12.8M for the whole 250 acres of the Riverside area, of which the IGF site forms about half.⁷ The cost of construction including fees has been roughly £14M and the costs of operating the Festival will be £6M.

19. The £19.995M is offset by £1M private sponsorship (against the target of £1.5M); but the private sector is also paying for additional features, which brings the total private sector input to £2.6M. Also additional is the £1.125M spent by foreign governments on their gardens.



GOVERNMENT ROLE

20. Garden Festivals are just one of the main initiatives that have been introduced by the Government to regenerate older urban areas.

21. When Michael Heseltine, who was already aware of the success of European festivals, was appointed Secretary of State in 1979 approaches made to the Department by the British Association of Landscape Industries, supported by the Joint Council for Landscape Industries, found a ready response. Lord Bellwin met the two organisations and subsequently visited the Kassel show as part of the Department's study of garden festival experience in Europe.

22. The Department then invited urban local authorities to consider staging a festival. Sixteen sites were identified from this first approach and these were quickly sifted down to two, in Liverpool and Stoke. The Liverpool site was within the area of the MDC which was established by the Government in March 1981 to tackle the wider problems of derelict dockland on both sides of the Mersey. In the same month studies of the two sites were commissioned by the Department. The studies were completed within six months and in September 1981 Michael Heseltine invited the MDC to mount the first Festival.

23. Since then the Department has continued to take a keen interest in ensuring the success of this first festival, not least by providing the grant-in-aid support to the MDC. The Department has been represented throughout by officials on the Festival Executive Committee which has supervised all the preparations for the Festival.

VISITOR NUMBERS


It was predicted that 3 million visitors would attend the Festival; this target was in fact reached on 18th September, and the final number will be well in excess of this by the time the Festival closes on 14th October.



FUTURE FESTIVALS

The next Garden Festival will be held in Stoke on Trent in 1986. The festival is being financed jointly by the Department of the Environment and the two local authorities, City of Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire County Council.

There are three possible sites for the 1989 Festival, Gateshead, Glasgow and Swansea, currently the subject of detailed feasibility studies.



B ALBERT DOCK WAREHOUSES

Situated at the northern end of the disused South Docks of Liverpool, the warehouses and associated buildings surrounding the Albert Dock comprise the largest collection of Grade 1 listed buildings in the country. A plan of the complex is attached. Despite their outstanding architectural merit the buildings had, until recently, lain idle and derelict for many years.

Merseyside Development Corporation purchased the Albert Dock complex from Mersey Docks and Harbour Company in May 1982. Since that time the dock basin has been dredged, removing the silt and returning the area to water, a full structural survey of the warehouses has been undertaken, and the Corporation has negotiated a joint venture with property developers (the Arrowcroft Group) to develop and market the site for new uses.

The Secretary of State for the Environment announced his approval to the project during his visit to Liverpool on 29 July 1983. The first phase consists of structural repairs, external treatment and provision of basic services undertaken by the Corporation together with refurbishment by the Arrowcroft Group of quayside/mezzanine levels for use as restaurants, boutiques, wine bars etc. Work is well advanced and, indeed, the first shop units opened for business this summer. The total cost of the first phase of the project is some £29 million.

Phase two provides for the subsequent development and marketing of the warehouses - using private sector capital and under Arrowcroft's management - for commercial and residential use. The official launching ceremony for the joint venture took place in September 1983. It is expected that total private investment in the project will be some £50 million.

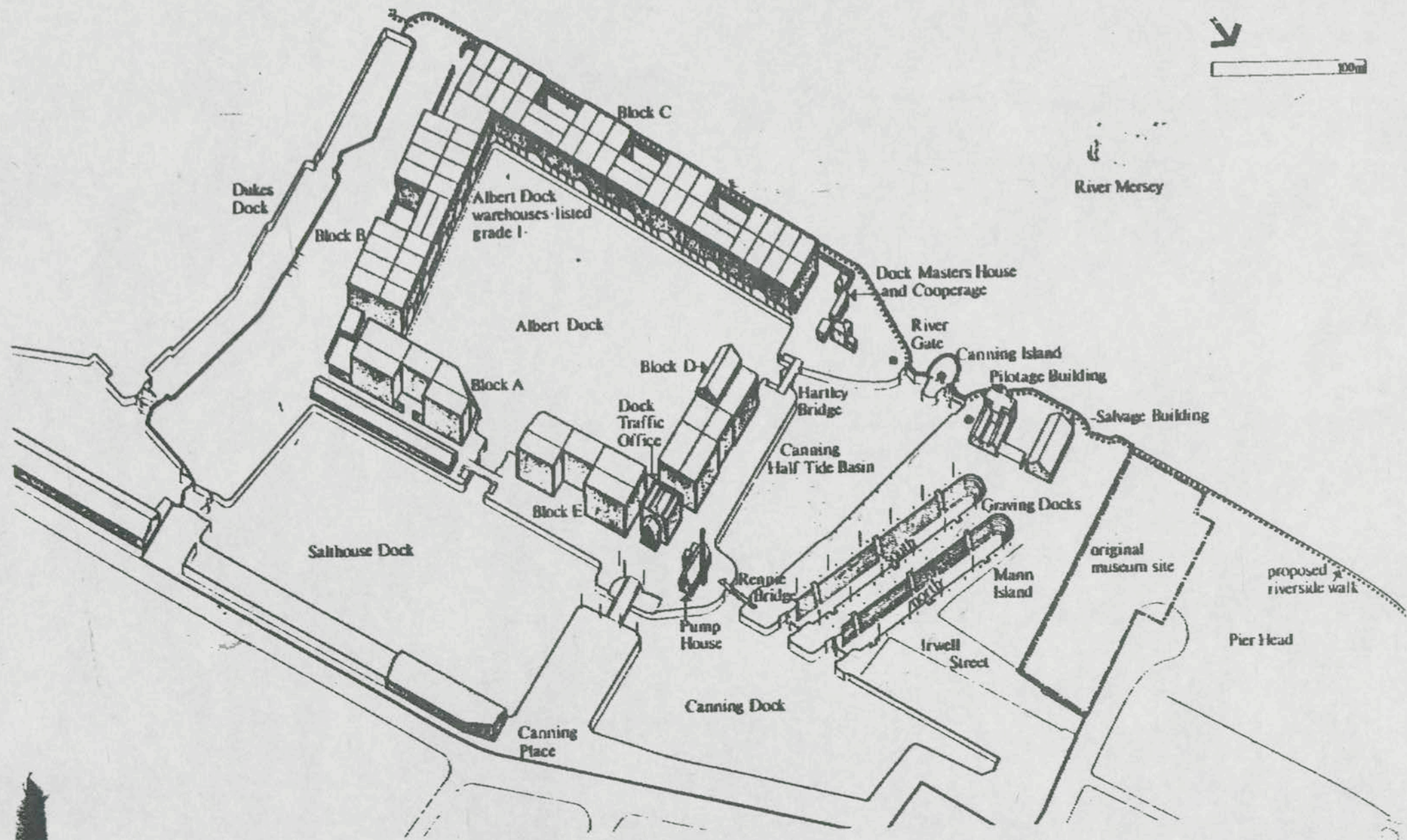
Apart from the MDC/Arrowcroft venture, the northern part (Block D) of the warehouses is being developed as an extension to the County Council's Maritime Museum - this project is receiving additional support through the Urban Programme - whilst it is hoped that a "Tate in the North" art gallery will occupy part of



the western (Block C) warehouses. Granada TV are, at their own expense, currently converting the interior of the Dock Traffic Office to house an advanced news gathering centre.

It is envisaged that the Albert Dock Warehouses project will not only result in a massive environmental uplift to an outstanding conservation area and produce renewed economic activity but will provide the impetus for further private sector investment in the development of the whole South Docks area.

The Albert Dock and Mann Island areas





C RESTORATION OF THE WATER REGIME TO THE SOUTH DOCKS

The project to restore water to a large part of the docks system is a key element in the Corporation's strategy; it will provide an immediate and enduring improvement to the physical environment, permit water based activities and enhance the proposals for redevelopment.

The dredging of the Canning, Albert and Canning Half Tide Docks at the northern end of the system to a depth of about 18 feet (to provide a deep water regime) has been completed. The dock system from Salthouse to the south as far as Brunswick is to be dredged to about 9 feet to provide a shallow water regime, and work is well under way. The Canning river entrance gates came into operation this summer whilst construction of the Brunswick entrance will commence next year and be completed in 1987.

During the next twelve months the availability of some 65 acres of water space within seven dock basins will be marketed for water-based recreation and related marine activities which may include marinas, sailing, canoeing and wind surfing.

Restoration of a permanent water regime throughout the South Docks is expected to be completed in 1987 at a total cost of some £24 million, a less expensive exercise than the filling of these docks.



D. NEW ENTERPRISE WORKSHOP

This £1.3m project, sponsored by BAT Industries Ltd, to convert the South West Brunswick transit shed has been carried out in two phases. The first phase, involving conversion of 35,000 sq ft in units ranging from 50 - 2,500 sq ft, was primarily private sector funded but received financial support from MDC and the Department of Industry. The second phase, wholly funded by the private sector, converted a further 22,000 sq ft with the emphasis on units of 600 sq ft or less where demand is at its highest. There is now a total of 125 units.

The units, many of which are intended for people starting their own business are available on monthly licences, if required. BAT provide central business and support services. The average occupancy rate is 70%. Currently there are 300 people employed in the workshops with a further 300 working in firms which successfully established themselves there and have now expanded to larger premises (2/3rds of firms leaving the workshops have done so to expand).

BAT are also using the New Enterprise Workshops as the base for a project - receiving MSC and European Social Fund support - designed to develop business and entrepreneurial skills amongst the young unemployed in Toxteth.




E CURRENT MDC ISSUES

FUTURE OF THE GARDEN FESTIVAL SITE

The success of the Festival has led to a surge of feeling from local people, now joined by the City and County Councils, that the Festival should be retained. This is not practical; exhibits, hired equipment etc have to be returned, there are commitments to developers, and there would be substantial costs falling on the public sector instead of receipts from the disposal of land. MDC are therefore pressing ahead, with the encouragement of the Secretary of State, in marketing to housebuilders and other developers the northern half of the site in line with the long term proposals for the area. At the same time MDC are seeking to retain flexibility in dismantling the Festival, with the objective of preserving some of the best gardens for opening to the public next summer at least, to the extent that this is compatible with meeting the demand for development.

It has always been the intention that the southern half of the site, including the Festival Hall and the arena, should be retained as a permanent public leisure and recreational facility. MDC and the then Liberal controlled City Council signed an agreement in November 1982 whereby the Council would take on responsibility for this area early in 1985, converting the Festival Hall to a sports hall. However, the present City Council have made it clear that they do not regard this as a high priority. At a meeting with MDC and DOE officials on 4 September Councillor Byrne, the Chairman of the Council's Policy and Finance Committee, stated that the Council would require extra capital and revenue allocations sufficient to meet the great majority of their own priorities in the City before they would consider taking on the Festival site. As decisions on their 1985/86, allocations will not be made before the end of the year, the City's attitude is leading to damaging uncertainty. The Secretary of State therefore issued a statement



on 6 September effectively setting the City Council a deadline of the end of the year to decide whether they would accept their portion of the Festival site. This was mis-interpreted, probably wilfully, by City Council leaders as a refusal to grant them the resources they had requested. In fact, discussions on Liverpool's allocations for next year are continuing and will be announced, along with those for all other local authorities, later in the year. /IN CONFIDENCE: It is extremely unlikely that Liverpool's allocations will be sufficient to satisfy Councillor Byrne's criterion. If Liverpool do fail to honour their commitment to take on the site, MDC could continue to maintain it in the short term while seeking private sector involvement in a leisure-oriented development7.

TATE OF THE NORTH

The Tate Gallery have proposed the establishment of a gallery in part of the Albert Dock warehouses. Discussions have taken place on possible sources of funding of this scheme. While the Tate intend to raise part of the cost from private sources, substantial public sector funding would also be required. MDC have the financial powers to contribute to a development of this nature, and they are now engaged in detailed discussions with the Tate on the options. MDC will then decide whether they wish to give financial support to the scheme, and if so, whether they accord it sufficient priority to undertake it within their existing expenditure allocations. The project will need the approval of DOE and Treasury. /IN CONFIDENCE: Informal indications are that MDC will support the project within their expenditure allocations7.

POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF THE MDC AREA

MDC's existing area is relatively small (865 acres compared to the 8 square miles of the London Docklands Development Corporation). Since MDC's designation, the operations of the Port of Liverpool have continued to contract, and there is now a substantial disused area in the Liverpool North Docks. It will be important to avoid this area falling into dereliction,



as occurred with the South Docks in the 1970s. One way of avoiding this would be to give MDC the responsibility for this area to undertake the necessary maintenance and work towards future development. Reclamation and development would almost certainly be phased over a longer period and with much lower public expenditure than in the South Docks area. The issue will shortly be the subject of a submission to DOE Ministers.

WIRRAL LAND

There is a long-running dispute between MDC and the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company over the terms on which MDC might acquire MDHC land in the Wirral part of MDC's area. This dispute has meant that MDC have made comparatively little progress there. The essence of the dispute is that MDC wish to acquire the freehold, while MDHC are prepared to grant only a leasehold interest. The two parties are now considering a proposed compromise involving land exchange.

F VISIT TO INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL, 2 OCTOBER

1.00 Arrive Dingle Lane entrance. Walk to UK Government Pavilion via:

Gardeners Bazaar 32 chalet style shops grouped around colourful canopied area. Permanent 'shops' include official souvenirs as well as wide range of commercial units with horticultural themes or connections.

International Pavilion 350 square metres under glass for temperate, semi tropical and tropical displays. Includes exhibits from various countries including Singapore, Thailand and Australia as well as the City of Liverpool. Sponsored by Robinsons of Winchester and Pilkingtons.

INTERNATIONAL GARDENS

Holland Distinguished by glass houses and modern wind power generator. Concentrates on Dutch nursery business with close involvement of commercial interests.

Federal Republic of Germany The first international garden to be undertaken on the site. A walled garden with a brick footpath and a central pond.

Italy A formal Italian renaissance design featuring two smaller gardens and copies of fountain and temple from Rome.

Lunch in UK Government Pavilion.

Designed by Francis Machin with a landscape setting by Dame Sylvia Crowe featuring work by British sculptors. The greater part of the pavilion contains an exhibition entitled "Changing Places", the theme being the manipulation of landscape. The exhibition has been designed by Robin Wade Design Associates for the COI. The plant material within the pavilion is provided from the Royal Parks.

2.30 Walk to Fulwood Station via:

Model Forest A model forest built by the Forestry Commission at model railway scale representing an actual landscape of 7 square kilometres. Based on a section of the Dyfi Forest in North Wales, it contains over $\frac{1}{4}$ million tiny trees.

Homes and Gardens A range of houses built by leading private companies - Barratt, Broseley Homes, Norwest Holst, Wimpey and Abbey National. After the Festival closes the houses will remain and form the first phase of the residential development planned for this part of the site.



TRAIN TO FESTIVAL HALL

The Miniature Railway is a 15" gauge using engines hired from the Romney Hythe and Dymchurch railway and coaches specially built and sponsored by National Westminster Bank.

The route includes views of:

Japanese Garden A strolling landscape garden typical of the Edo Era (17th Century). Main features include hill, stream and pond representing mountains, valleys and lakes. Buildings include an 'azumaja' for resting and viewing the pond.

Chinese Garden The only Royal Garden to be constructed outside China, features replicas of two ancient imperial buildings: the Quin Quan corridor and the Zhen Buan pavilion. Main pagoda built from sections shipped over from China and constructed by Chinese workmen using traditional methods.

Indian Garden A miniature example of a Mogul Garden in three terraces with a central water feature cascading down.

Water Feature A system of water and rocks constructed to represent the various stages of a river system. Designed by Derek Lovejoy and Partners after a national competition, it is 500 metres long and holds 10,000 cubic metres of fresh water.

FESTIVAL HALL

Exhibition hall and centre-piece of the Festival. Designed by Arup Associates of London, winners of a national competition. Steel vaulted superstructure clad with translucent polycarbonate; provides 80,000 sq ft of column-free floorspace. The two half-domes of the building feature the indoor shows. The central hall is largely devoted to permanent exhibitions including:

- British Telecom. An electronic office for the Festival.
- General Motors. Sponsors of the Hall.
- Post Office. Special features including urban renewal stamps.
- MDC exhibition of plans and projects.

Walk (or train if wet) to Herculaneum exit via:

INTERNATIONAL THEME GARDENS Including

Great Britain Designed by Ray Bird winner of a design competition sponsored by the Horticultural Trades Association to 'illustrate the national character and build upon the



British garden tradition.' Over 300 different kinds of plants used in a series of inter-connecting spaces showing the variety of British gardens. Includes a gazebo giving panoramic views of the site towards the river.

Australia Represents the range of Australian scenery from arid deserts to lush coastal vegetation. Recordings of native animals are played on site.

Belgium A circular bedding area dominated by a slatted rope swing bridge.

Spain Features an olive grove bounded by a dry stone wall.

Greece A symbolic garden drawing parallels between living plants and those from mythology.

Egypt Of Pharonic design including a replica of the Temple of Isis.

NATIONAL THEME GARDENS including

Scottish Garden Miniature highland landscape including woodland and upland locks. Includes pavilion displaying Scottish crafts, tourism etc. Financial support from Scottish Development Agency and local authorities.

Victorian Garden An attempt to evoke the atmosphere of a small pleasure of the sort which evolved in the more prosperous industrial towns during late Victorian times. Sponsored by Unilever.

Rose Garden A joint effort by the Royal National Rose Society and the Rose Growers Association including more than 5,000 roses. Sponsored by the Post Office.

Granada Television A garden studio from which numerous broadcasts have been made including the Gardener's Calendar Roadshow a regular feature throughout the summer.

Heather and Conifer Garden Designed and stocked by Blooms Nurseries one of the leading commercial growers who have done much to popularise those types of plants.

'Typhoo Tug' One of the many play areas around the Festival site to accommodate the large number of younger visitors. Sponsored by Cadbury Typhoo.

3.55 Depart by car from Herculaneum entrance for Albert Dock

MEETING WITH LIVERPOOL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES : HOUSING ISSUES

There can be no dispute that housing conditions on Council estates particularly in inner Liverpool and also on some outlying estates, are appalling. The current conditions are the legacy of unpopular high rise and high density buildings and totally inadequate and insensitive management and maintenance. Rents are high and the service to tenants is poor.

The issue is not whether there is a problem but how it should be tackled. The present Council take the view that all available resources should be concentrated on a major programme of physical works. The approach is dominated by municipal activity. Substantial demolition and major new Council house building is proposed. The private sector contribution and tenants views are largely ignored.

Liverpool's bid for Housing Capital Resources (HIC) for 1985/6 is £132.45m. £108m relates to new build refurbishment and repair of the public sector stock. The bid is unrealistic; the City does not have the capacity to sustain a programme of that size.

The allocation for 1984/5 was £38.5m. Estimated expenditure this year is £67m. This will be achieved by using to the full accumulated capital receipts. The Council does not intend to comply with the Government's call for voluntary restraint on the use of such receipts.

Line to take: The Prime Minister may wish to draw on the following points:

- i) clearly there is a problem. The issue is not whether conditions in the housing estates need to be improved, but how.
- ii) public expenditure must be carefully controlled and that includes housing and the urban programme. The City's approach is expensive. There is always a need to develop the most cost-effective approach.



- iii) demolition of stock should be a last resort. Other options including refurbishment; better maintenance, the potential private sector contribution should be considered first.
- iv) there is a need for the local authority to harness all available resources, public and private and the resourcefulness of the local community in tackling housing problems.
- v) physical improvements alone will not secure lasting benefits. There is an urgent need to improve management and maintenance. (Liverpool are known to be considering how to improve those services which they recognise are very poor.)
- vi) there are dangers in an approach rooted in municipal action. There are many examples on Merseyside and elsewhere on ways to improve Council housing which do not rely solely on the public sector. Many, such as Stockbridge Village, involve partnership between the public and private sectors. Community Refurbishment Schemes exemplify the provision of a much better service to tenants. Others meet people's aspirations for home ownership.
- vii) there are great advantages in providing people with a choice of tenure; the wish of many to own their own homes does not preclude the need for rented accommodation in the public sector. That provision must be carefully managed and where possible opportunities should be given to tenants to become involved in the management of their homes. The value of having a stake in your home whether it is rented or owned should not be under-estimated.

BUDGET ISSUES


1. Liverpool's expenditure target for 1984/5 was £216m. After threatening to introduce a budget of about £261m whilst increasing rates by 9% (over 100% would have been needed to balance budget) the City Council finally agreed on one of £223 and a rates increase of 17%. The reduction was, for the most part, achieved by various accountancy and funding devices (many of them useable only once) rather than real cuts in expenditure. The Urban Programme was increased by £2.5m as part of the settlement; RSG and Targets were not.

2. Next year's provisional target is £222, an increase of 0.5% over the approved 1984/5 budget after technical adjustments. This infers a reduction of about 4% - 5% after inflation. There appears little likelihood Liverpool will achieve anything like this.

3. Notwithstanding their tight targets the City Council have made little effort to effect economies; 1984/5 expenditure is likely to outturn considerably higher than the budgeted figure (£223m) resulting in a deficit to carry over; and there are few reserves, funds or devices left to produce another artificially low budget. /In confidence: early indications are that next year's budget will fall somewhat between £250m and £260m7

4. The City Council's case for continuing to spend above target is that their Rate Support Grant assessments do not adequately reflect their needs and this is compounded by the setting of unrealistic targets and grant penalties. In fact Liverpool's assessments do reflect their difficulties. Their Grant Related Expenditure Assessment for 1984/5 is the 4th highest of any Metropolitan District and any grant losses have been a direct result of their decisions to spend above target.

5. The evidence available suggests that there are many areas where savings could be effected and efficiency improved without harm to basic services. (The annexed table compares Liverpool's



nit costs with the average for Metropolitan Districts). The following examples came out of the discussions held with officials during May and June:

- a) a study into improving the operation of the City Cleansing Department carried out in 1982 has yet to be implemented;
- b) the capacity of the Direct Labour Organisation exceeds that necessary to undertake the work it is able to win through competitive tendering and is widely criticised for inefficiency and poor workmanship;
- c) the Council does not have a policy for asset disposal;
- d) the Council has no policy to encourage early retirement or voluntary redundancy.

There is little sign that these or any other ideas have been seriously considered.

The following points are likely to be made by the City Council:

a The RSG/Targets system has consistently discriminated against Liverpool since its introduction. As a result the City has lost £120m

Line to take: This is not so. Liverpool has been treated like every other local authority. The intensity of its problems are reflected in its very high GRE assessment (2nd highest of all Met. Districts when County Council GRE taken into account). Any grant which has been lost is the result of the Council deciding to spend over target. This amount is nothing like the £120m claimed. /The latter figure is based on the assumption that grant should be fixed for all time at the level set for 1979/80.7

The Secretary of State is always prepared to consider proposals put to him for improving the system. But Liverpool can have no special favours.

b The recent Audit Commission Report supports Liverpool's claim

Line to take: The report is still being considered by the Secretary of State. He will respond in due course.

c The proportion of Rate Support Grant has fallen consistently over recent years. Local Government is being singled out for harsh treatment

Line to take: This is a trend the Government intends to continue. By shifting the burden away from the taxpayer and towards the

ratepayer local authorities' accountability to their local electorate is increased.

Controlling public expenditure is vital. Local Government must play its part.

d The City Council has no alternative but to increase budget in line with its spending requirements. It will not increase rates simply to replace Rate Support Grant lost as a result of inadequate Targets

Line to take: As was the case in 1984/5 the Government will not be blackmailed. The City Council has a duty to balance its budget, like every other local authority. The City Council's target for next year will be announced towards the end of this year. In the meantime any proposals which they make to the Secretary of State will be considered along with those from other local authorities.

e If it is not to exceed its Target the City Council will be forced to drastically cut services. It is not prepared to do this

Line to take: It is incumbent upon the Council to be as efficient as possible. To obtain for their ratepayers value for money. The evidence suggests that there are many areas where savings could be made without cuts in services. Why did Liverpool budget to spend almost three times more per head on environmental health, over 40% more per head on waste collection and 30% more per head on social services than the Metropolitan District average last year?

f The City Council is not prepared to cast employees on the dole simply to meet Government Targets

Line to take: High rate increases undermine the efforts of the private sector and thereby help to create unemployment. An efficient, cost-effective local authority will be of far more benefit in setting the right environment for real job creation than a wasteful one.

AIDE MEMOIRE FOR PRESS BRIEFING
AFTER MEETING WITH COUNCIL.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

Condition on Council Estates in inner Liverpool and some outlying estates are appalling. It is a legacy of unpopular high density building and inadequate management and maintenance.

Solutions

Public expenditure must be controlled. The city's approach of substantial demolition and major municipal building is expensive. Council should look more to refurbishment and better maintenance. They should harness the resources of the public and private sector and of the local community. The partnership at Stockbridge Village does not rely solely on the public sector.

Opportunities should be given for more home ownership and tenants involvement in management.

BUDGET - THE COUNCIL MAY CLAIM THAT:

a) The RSG targets system discriminates against Liverpool

No; they are treated like all other authorities: - their GRE assessment is the second highest of all Met districts taking County Council GRE into account.

b) Audit Commission Report supports the City's claim

The report is still being considered by Secretary of State, he will respond in due course.

c) The proportion of RSG has fallen over the years

This is to shift the burden from the taxpayer to the rate-payer and thus increase the accountability of authorities to their electorate.

d) The Council must increase its budget - it will not increase its rates to allow for inadequate RSG

The City has a duty to balance its budget like all authorities.

e) The City will not cast employees on the dole to meet Government targets

High rate increases undermine the efforts of the private sector and thereby help create unemployment. An efficient authority sets the right environment for real job creation.



f) The Council is not prepared to cut services dramatically

It is incumbent upon the council to be efficient and to obtain value for money for their ratepayers. There are many areas where savings could be made:

1. Liverpool have budgeted to spend 3 x more per head on environmental health;
- and 2. 40% more per head on waste collection
- and 3. 30% more per head on social services
than the Met district average last year

EFFICIENCY

The Council could be reminded that

- a) A study into improving the operation of the City Cleansing Department carried out in 1982 has yet to be implemented.
- b) The capacity of the Direct Labour Organisation exceeds that necessary to undertake the work it is able to win through competitive tendering and is widely criticised for inefficiency and poor workmanship.
- c) The Council does not have a policy for asset disposal.
- d) The Council has no policy to encourage early retirement or voluntary redundancy.

There is little sign that these or any other ideas have been seriously considered.

LIVERPOOL

UNIT COST STATISTICS 1983/4 (BUDGET)

| Net cost per head (except where stated) | Average Met. Districts | Liverpool (£) | % + - |
|--|------------------------|---------------|----------|
| All Services | 397.25 | 499.4 | + 25.7% |
| Education - Primary & Nursery gross cost per pupil | 709 | 810 | + 14.2% |
| - Secondary gross cost per pupil | 947 | 1063 | + 12.2% |
| All education net cost | 245.46 | 272 | + 10.8% |
| Personal Social Services | 52.39 | 68.14 | + 30.1% |
| Housing: Maintenance cost per dwelling per week | 5.16 | 4.45 | - 13.7% |
| Libraries | 7.0 | 9.3 | + 32.8% |
| Planning | 2.83 | 2.64 | - 6.7% |
| Recreation | 11.6 | 15.41 | + 32.8% |
| Environmental Health | 7.47 | 21.99 | +194.4% |
| Refuse Collection | 8.38 | 12.00 | + 43% |

Source: CIPFA Local Government Competitive Statistics 1984



MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL

Alfred Stocks, Chief Executive: Chief Executive since 1973 and immediate past-President of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives. Joined Liverpool City in 1951, appointed Deputy Town Clerk in 1969. Wise and articulate, but in the Town Clerk tradition, not a Chief Executive.

N.B There is now no
separate meeting. You
will be able to talk to
them over lunch.

9)
Part VI

MEETING WITH BISHOPS

The Prime Minister will recall meeting the Bishop and Archbishop of Liverpool on 1st February this year for a private discussion about Merseyside.

The Bishop referred to people in the inner-city parishes who felt alienated, had little part in deciding their own destiny, and who felt also that unemployment was permanent and would not be eased by national efforts. The Bishop himself said that Government schemes such as YTS and the Community Programme were dwarfed by the scale of the problem.

The Archbishop added his dismay that the city council were taking over housing plans being developed on a self help basis. [The Prime Minister will see an example of a successful housing co-operative scheme in the early part of the day.]

The Archbishop also praised the County Council as an able and unifying force which people did not wish to see abolished. Joint Boards involving district councils would find it hard to rise above sectarian interests.

The Archbishop also welcomed the (then) prospect of a Freeport as an economic benefit and a vote of confidence.

The Prime Minister expressed concern about the doctrinaire nature of the city council's decisions and said that support for the County was really a measure of the city's failure to take a proper lead in the area.

The Prime Minister added that even if Merseyside had to live with unemployment for the foreseeable future much could and should be done to improve the physical environment.



The Bishop later wrote a personal letter to the Secretary of State and described movingly the plight of parishioners facing long term unemployment. He described also a week-end forum held in February when the Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on Urban Priority Areas visited Merseyside. The forum stressed again:

the financial and social problems of unemployment;
the problems of funding voluntary bodies;
the effects on those left behind of the 'mobility of the self confident';
the need to press harder for industry to invest in Merseyside;
the need, (despite industry's reduced requirement for manpower) for people to be able to contribute to society and to receive a reasonable wage for it.

The Prime Minister and Secretary of State wrote expressing their deep concern and their gratitude to the Bishop for providing an insight into Merseysiders' personal problems.



Toxteth

1. The Chief Constable's continuing community policing experiment has done a great deal to improve relations between the police and the local black community. The scale of housing improvement in the area is considerable and better training schemes for local young people have been set up under YTS. The rate of unemployment remains high, particularly for younger people, and that represents an underlying and continuing cause for concern. There is no current evidence, however, that a further severe breakdown in law and order can be expected.

Local Government

2. The pressure to retain the County derives from the view that Merseyside's longstanding economic problems mean that one body is required to speak for Merseyside and the County fulfils that role. Second, there is local concern about the approach of Liverpool City Council and whether the necessary co-operation would be achieved at District level given Liverpool's extreme political stance.

Government Assistance to Merseyside

3. Substantial support is being given to the area to make it attractive to investors. Much effort is being devoted to the removal of eyesores, regenerating derelict land, refurbishment of buildings, and to encourage private investment.

Education

4. Statutory proposals for rationalising county secondary schools have been approved by the Secretary of State. These proposals reduce the number of schools (most of which are comprehensive) from 27 to 18. The proposed schools would be 11-18 neighbourhood comprehensives. The proposals would secure significant revenue savings. There is considerable local controversy about these proposals on the grounds that good schools would not be preserved, parental choice would be limited, and that there would be insufficient provision for single sex education.

The proposals are to come into effect next September.

Manpower Services Commission: Community Programme

5. The Bishop is Chairman of the MSC Area Board which advises the MSC on proposed projects.

The national C.P. budget for 1984/85 is £571.2 Million. Locally, quality proposals currently seem to be matching the allocated provisions. However, the situation is fluid and it may not be too surprising to discover demand outstripping available places.



Industrial Image

6. Whilst there are very many Merseyside companies where industrial relations and productivity are good, great efforts still have to be made before Merseyside overcomes what is its perceived image to many outside the area.

At the present time an illegal sit-in in defiance of a High Court ruling of the only 2 vessels left at Cammell Laird has brought the shipyard to a standstill and is quite damaging its prospects of attracting new work.

During the recent disputes in the docks Liverpool was brought to a standstill on each occasion and there are already reports of trade being lost to those ports which managed to operate normally. This loss of trade will do much to damage the position of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Co which with the aid of Government assistance is once again trading profitably.

Coal Dispute

7. On 23 September the Archbishop said that the dispute should not be seen as the intransigence of 2 men but as a symptom of the failure of society to come to terms with the post industrial age. He referred to the effects on whole communities of industries judged no longer effective or economic. The Church has a responsibility to try to create an atmosphere in which reconciliation can take place.

MEETING WITH ARCHBISHOP AND BISHOP

ARCHBISHOP OF LIVERPOOL (RC)

Most Reverend Derek John Horford Warlock (64)

Archbishop of Liverpool since 1976. Educated St Edmunds College, Ware, Herts and ordained RC priest 1944. Private Secretary to Archbishop of Westminster 1945-64. Bishop of Portsmouth 1965-76. Member of the Synod Council 1976-77 and of the Holy See's Council and Committee for the Family from 1977-83. English delegate to the International Synod of Bishops 1974, 77, 80 and 83.

BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL

Rt Reverend David Stuart Sheppard (55) Bishop of Liverpool since 1975. Educated Sherborne; Cambridge (MA) Ridley Hall Theological College. County cricketer with Sussex 1947-62 (Captain 1953). Played 22 times for England 1950-63 (Captain 1954). Warden Mayflower Family Centre Canning Town 1957-69 Bishop Suffragan of Woolwich 1969-75



BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

MF

The following annexes contain lists of those who will be introduced at each of the venues:-

- Annex 1 Housing Tour
- Annex 2 Wavertree Technology Park
- Annex 3 Meeting with the City Council
- Annex 4 Lunch at the IGF
- Annex 5 Meeting with Archbishop and Bishop of Liverpool

1

HOUSING TOUR

The people who will meet the Prime Minister during the course of the Housing Tour are:

i) Grafton Crescent Housing Co-op.

Sophie Krajewska, Area Manager for Cooperative Development Services (CDS), the Housing Association which assisted the Co-op with its plans.

Mick Ryan Secretary to the Co-op and Jimmy Pettit Treasurer to the Co-op. Both are residents.

Paul Lusk CDS Development Officer.

ii) Minster Court.

James Keery, Managing Director Barratt Urban Renewals (Northern) Ltd.

WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY PARK

1. Sir John Clark (Chairman)

Age 58, Chairman and Chief Executive, Plessey plc, since 1970. Educated Harrow and Cambridge. Has been associated with Plessey since 1949 and been involved with various subsidiaries within the group. Director Banque Nationale de Paris, Vice President of Institute of Work Managers and Engineering Employers Federation.

2. Leader, Merseyside County Council

Councillor Keva Coombes, Leader since March 1982. Aged 34, Solicitor (formally partner) in Liverpool practice. Born in Kent, educated University of East Anglia. Resident in Liverpool since 1971. Liverpool City Councillor 1976-80. Merseyside County Councillor from 1981. Chairman of Passenger Transport Committee 1981/82, heavily involved in reducing transport fares. Elected Leader in March 1982 when previous Leader (Councillor Stuart-Cole) resigned during lead up to budget 1982/83. Not very forceful in private company though is capable of making rousing political speech. Appears to be soft left.

3. Leader, Liverpool City Council

Councillor John Hamilton, Retired Liverpool Schoolmaster. Served on City Council since 1959. Said to be in the hands of the left wing.

4. Chief Executive, English Estates

Tony Pender. Age 42. Since qualifying as a chartered surveyor in 1964 has had a career in the public service. Appointed Chief Executive of English Estates in 1979.

5. Geoffrey Forshaw (Chief Executive)

Age 61. Whole life devoted to telecommunications manufacturing industry with extensive home and overseas experience. From 1973 has held various staff positions within the H.Q. function of Plessey Telecommunications, culminating in the post of Director of Technology.

MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL

Alfred Stocks, Chief Executive: Chief Executive since 1973 and immediate past-President of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives. Joined Liverpool City in 1951, appointed Deputy Town Clerk in 1969. Wise and articulate, but in the Town Clerk tradition, not a Chief Executive.

LUNCH AT THE INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL

- Sir Leslie Young Chairman of MDC until the end of October. He succeeded Sir Frank Price as Chairman of the British Waterways Board on 1 July this year. A successful Merseyside businessman, Chairman of J Bibby & Sons.
- Mr Donald Forster Will succeed Sir Leslie Young as Chairman of MDC from 1 November. Currently Chairman of Runcorn and Warrington Development Corporation, Chairman and Managing Director of the family textile firm in Leigh, Lancs.
- Lord Aberconway Commissioner General for the Festival. The Government's representative in dealings with other countries. Long-serving President of the Royal Horticultural Society.
- Basil Bean Chief Executive of MDC. Previously General Manager of Northampton New Town. Has shouldered the major organisational burden of the Festival.
- Alfred Stocks, Chief Executive Chief Executive since 1973 and immediate past-President of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives. Joined Liverpool City in 1951, appointed Deputy Town Clerk in 1969. Wise and articulate, but in the Town Clerk tradition, not a Chief Executive.
- Sir John Clark Age 58, Chairman and Chief Executive, Plessey plc, since 1970. Educated Harrow and Cambridge. Has been associated with Plessey since 1949 and been involved with various subsidiaries within the group. Director Banque Nationale de Paris, Vice President of Institute of Work Managers and Engineering Employers Federation.
- Archbishop of Liverpool (RC) Most Reverend Derek John Harford Warlock (64). Archbishop of Liverpool since 1976. Educated St Edmunds College, Ware, Herts and ordained RC priest 1944. Private Secretary to Archbishop of Westminster 1945-64. Bishop of Portsmouth 1965-76. Member of the Synod Council 1976-77 and of the Holy See's Council and Committee for the Family from 1977-83. English delegate to the International Synod of Bishops 1974, 77, 80 and 83.
- Bishop of Liverpool Rt Reverend David Stuart Sheppard (55) Bishop of Liverpool since 1975. Educated Sherborne; Cambridge (MA) Ridley Hall Theological College. County cricketer with Sussex 1947-62 (Captain 1953). Played 22 times for England 1950-63 (Captain



1954). Warden Mayflower Family Centre Canning
Town 1957-69 Bishop Suffragan of Woolwich
1969-75.

Leonard V. Eppel
FSVA

Chairman and founder of the Arrowcroft Group.
Mr. Eppel has been a well known figure in the
property world for 30 years.

The Arrowcroft Group specialise in town centre
developments in areas of architectural sensitivity.

Barry Marsh

New Chairman of Merseyside Chamber of Commerce
and senior partner in Mace & Jones (Solicitors)
Liverpool. Specialist in industrial and
commercial law and former lecturer at Liverpool
University. Member of Solicitors Disciplinary
Tribunal.

Ray O'Brien Chief Executive Merseyside County Council and Cllr Shaw
the County Chairman were also invited to attend but we are told they
will have to decline because of Council business. Cllr Hugh Dalton,
Chairman of Liverpool City Council, has also been invited to the
lunch but it is not yet known whether he will attend.

MEETING WITH ARCHBISHOP AND BISHOP

ARCHBISHOP OF LIVERPOOL (RC)

Most Reverend Derek John Horford Warlock (64)

Archbishop of Liverpool since 1976. Educated St Edmunds College, Ware, Herts and ordained RC priest 1944. Private Secretary to Archbishop of Westminster 1945-64. Bishop of Portsmouth 1965-76. Member of the Synod Council 1976-77 and of the Holy See's Council and Committee for the Family from 1977-83. English delegate to the International Synod of Bishops 1974, 77, 80 and 83.

BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL

Rt Reverend David Stuart Sheppard (55) Bishop of Liverpool since 1975. Educated Sherborne; Cambridge (MA) Ridley Hall Theological College. County cricketer with Sussex 1947-62 (Captain 1953). Played 22 times for England 1950-63 (Captain 1954). Warden Mayflower Family Centre Canning Town 1957-69 Bishop Suffragan of Woolwich 1969-75



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

26 September 1984

Dear Andrew

2 OCTOBER VISIT

We spoke on the telephone. I enclose a revised programme together with revised supplementary briefing material as follows:-

- a. Revisions of Annexes B, D and E. The original material should be destroyed.
- b. A revised outline of the proposed housing tour together with a note on those people who will be introduced during the tour (section 3 of the original brief).
- c. A list of those invited to hear the speech (excluding officials, central office personnel and the media representatives - about 50 people in total), plus a list (to follow) of exhibitors at the Technomart (formerly Meet the Buyers) event. This briefing forms Annex D to Section 4 of the original briefing.
- d. A note on the meeting with the City Council Leaders (section 6 of the briefing).
- e. A note on details of the Merseyside Development Corporation and visits to the International Garden Festival site and Albert Dock (to replace Section 5 of the briefing).
- f. Biographical details of those personalities to be introduced during the course of the day and including those invited to lunch at the British Pavilion.
- g. A supplementary note on the possible meeting with the Archbishop and Bishop of Liverpool. A room will be available for this purpose in the British Pavilion.

John Ballard

JOHN BALLARD
Private Secretary

Andrew Turnbull Esq

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL

Alfred Stocks, Chief Executive: Chief Executive since 1973 and immediate past-President of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives. Joined Liverpool City in 1951, appointed Deputy Town Clerk in 1969. Wise and articulate, but in the Town Clerk tradition, not a Chief Executive.

Cllr Tony Byrne, age mid 40s, has been a member of the Council since 1980. He is Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, the Performance Review and Financial Control sub-committee, and the Allocation and Services sub-committee. He is a member of the Housing and Building Committee, the Policy and Finance Committee and the Social Services Committee.

He is also a member of HANDS - a voluntary organisation offering advice on people's rights and particularly welfare benefits.

Cllr John Hamilton; leader of the Council and retired headmaster he has served on the Council since 1959. He is Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee and member of Planning and Land Committee, Economic Development Committee and the Education Committee.

He is said to be in the hands of the left wing.

Councillor Derek Hatton (35) Deputy Leader of Liverpool City Council. A left wing politician who is Chairman of Personnel Committee and Deputy Chairman of Policy and Finance. He is employed by Knowsley MBC Social Services Department.

Councillor Tony Mulhern (45) Chairman of the District Labour Party. A left wing politician active in the current dispute at Cammel Lairds shipyard in Birkenhead. He is a member of the Policy and Finance Committee, the Housing and Building Committee and the Personnel Committee. Although holding no official position higher than committee membership he is a very influential figure in the City policies.

Councillor Ken Stewart (61) has served on the Council since 1964. He is Chairman of the Housing and Building Committee, was unemployed until recently elected as Euro MP for Merseyside West and sits on Policy & Finance, Planning & Land and Economic Development Committees. Though extreme left he is not an originator but sees himself as a hard man in the Party.

DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
DENVER, COLORADO

-2 OCT 1984



Visit to Liverpool on 2 October 1984

Guest list for lunch at the British Pavilion,
International Garden Festival Site

1. Sir Leslie Young - Chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation
2. Lord Aberconway - Commissioner General of the IGF (the Queen's representative)
3. The Most Reverend Derek Warlock - Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool
4. The Rt Reverend David Sheppard - Anglican Bishop of Liverpool
5. Donald Forster - Chairman (designate), Merseyside Development Corporation
6. Sir John Clark - Chairman, Plessey p.l.c.
Chairman, Wavertree Technology Park Company
7. Ian Pearce - Chairman, Arrowcroft (developers of Albert Dock)
8. Cllr. Ben Shaw - Chairman, Merseyside County Council
9. Cllr. Hugh Dalton - Chairman, Liverpool City Council
10. Basil Bean - Chief Executive, Merseyside Development Corporation
11. Ray O'Brien - Chief Executive, Merseyside County Council
12. Alfred Stocks - Chief Executive, Liverpool City Council
13. Basil Mansel - Chairman Merseyside Chamber of Commerce and Industry

RESTRICTED

3 OF 3

Visit to Liverpool on 2 October 1984

PROGRAMME:

- 09.30 Arrive Speke Airport
- 10.00 Arrive Grafton Crescent Housing Co-operative at start of tour of housing sites in Liverpool
- 11.10 Finish of tour at Minster Court. Depart for
- 11.25 Wavertree Technology Park
- 11.40 Speech/Open "Meet the Buyers" event
- ~~11.55 Press facility~~
- 12.10 Depart for
- 12.30 Graeme House, Derby Square (*Greet Task Force staff on arrival*)
- a. possible ³⁰(15 min) meeting with (2) representatives of the City Council
- b. ~~15/30 min. meeting with the Archbishop and Bishop of Liverpool~~
- 13.00 Depart for
- 13.30 International Garden Festival site (Dingle Lane entrance)
- Lunch at the British Pavilion (*Possible conversation with Bishop*)
- 14.30 Tour of IGF site
- 15.45 Depart for
- 16.00 Albert Dock
- ~~16.15~~ Depart for
- 16.45 Huyton Park Conservative Club (party engagement)

Local roads

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File



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434
My ref:

Your ref:

2 (September 1984

Dear Andrew

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL ON 2 OCTOBER

I enclose a draft speech together with
background briefing

Yours truly
John Ballard

JOHN BALLARD
Private Secretary

Andrew Turnbull Esq

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DRAFT SPEECH FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO DELIVER AT WAVERTREE TECHNOLOGY
PARK - 2 OCTOBER

Sir John, I am delighted to be here at the Wavertree Technology Park and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you personally for what you have done to get this imaginative project off the ground. But my purpose in coming to Liverpool is broader than that. I must therefore say a few general words about Liverpool before I come back to this morning's ceremony.

Let me quote - "The present prosperity of Liverpool has evidently arisen from a combination of causes and among these may be chiefly noticed its natural situation its free water carriage with the numerous manufacturing towns, and mines of the County, and the enlightened policy of its civil government."

You will gather that this description was not written recently. It was made at the beginning of the Nineteenth century. There have been a few changes since!

The problems experienced in the latter part of the Twentieth century by cities which grew rapidly in response to the burgeoning demands of the first industrial revolution are not unique to Liverpool. They are being experienced in many places both in this Country and elsewhere in Europe.

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Liverpool's decline has been particularly steep. Even before the world recession the City was losing 11,000 jobs a year. Over the last 20 years it has lost a third of its population and often these have included a disproportionate share of the able and energetic.

Shifting patterns of world trade have contributed to the long term decline of the port - and with it the traditional industry and commerce which were the source of so many jobs.

The Government has responded to help Liverpool tackle its problems. In 1981 I asked Michael Heseltine to take a special interest in the area. This special responsibility is now with Patrick Jenkin. I have asked them to consider ways to make the fullest and most efficient use of available resources.

Today I have seen some housing areas in Liverpool. They are a perfect illustration of the problems and the opportunities. Much of the housing reflects immediate post-war policies which we now see were in many ways ill-conceived. We are left with a legacy of poorly planned, poorly constructed and badly managed housing. It is clear to me that the issue is not whether improvement is needed. It is how to achieve that improvement in a cost effective fashion. In a way which provides housing choice and involves the private sector and the energy of local people. One cardinal lesson of the past is the foolhardiness of assuming that public authorities always know best - they don't.

Encouraging owner occupation is the surest way of gaining lasting improvements in living conditions. I am justly proud of my Government's record on that. But in the cities like Liverpool there will always be a substantial legacy of council housing. Building more council houses will not improve conditions for the tenants of that housing. What is needed is better management of the existing assets, providing an effective maintenance service, bringing those services closer to tenants, widening the housing choice, engaging the private sector in tackling problem housing.

There are many examples on Merseyside of partnerships with the private sector: Stockbridge Village, Edge Lane in Sefton and Woodchurch in Wirral. There are now twelve community refurbishment schemes across Merseyside. Local tenants are at work in improving their own housing. Over six thousand dwellings are benefitting.

I commend these initiatives and examples to Liverpool and to other authorities which face similar housing problems.

The resources available to Merseyside are substantial. They are not concentrated in the public sector alone. Local people, the business community, and voluntary effort all have a part to play.

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At the heart of the Government's inner area policy lies the concept of partnership with the private sector. Liverpool was built on the motivation energy and resources produced by individual initiative and enterprise. These qualities must again be harnessed to play an essential part in the process of revitalisation.

The Government is prepared to play its part in full. The highest level of regional assistance to industry and commerce is available here in Liverpool. The Inner City Partnership Programme has been aimed at schemes designed to stimulate the economy of the inner area as well as support for voluntary effort and improvement of the rundown environment. Over £120M has been made available to the Partnership since we took office in 1979.

In 1981 we established the Merseyside Development Corporation to tackle 840 acres of rundown dockland on the Liverpool and Birkenhead waterfront. Later today I shall be visiting the Development Corporation's most spectacular achievement to date - the International Garden Festival. Over three million have already seen the Festival. Many said it could not be done in the time available when the event was announced in late 1981. They were proved wrong. The Festival has

demonstrated what can be done in Liverpool, by Liverpool people.

We designated an EnterpriseZone at Speke in 1980.

English Estates are reclaiming the old Tate and Lyle Site and are constructing new office accommodation on the site of the old Exchange Station which lay derelict for so long.

A Freeport, the largest in the UK, has just been established in the North Docks.

In 1981 17,000 places under the Youth Training Scheme have been sponsored in Merseyside by the Manpower Services Commission.

The Task Force the Government set up in 1981 has a major role in the co-ordination of Central Government efforts. And extra resources have been provided where it has been seen that they can be spent in a cost effective manner. Working both with the private sector, local authorities and Government Agencies a wide variety of innovative schemes has been established - many conceived and implemented here on Merseyside for the first time anywhere.

Let no one say the Government is not playing its part. The facts speak for themselves.

And there has been an encouraging response from the private sector.

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I am looking forward later this afternoon to seeing the refurbishment scheme that is taking place on the Albert Dock. £20M of public money is being matched with £30M of private funding to convert this famous building into offices shops and flats.

Barratts, Wimpeys and others have been active for some years in building housing for sale in inner Liverpool. I saw this morning the result of an imaginative scheme at Minster Court where Barratts have converted rundown tenement blocks into much sought after private flats.

British American Tobacco have converted an old warehouse on the South Docks into a small firms centre and another is proposed.

Ten Information Technology Centres have been established on Merseyside with considerable support from the private sector.

The famous Adelphi Hotel is emerging from years of neglect in a major refurbishment scheme financed with the aid of an Urban Development Grant.

I could go on - these are just a few examples showing how effective public and private sector partnerships are helping to change the face of Liverpool.

The Government recognises its obligations and its objectives are clear. We will not falter in our determination to secure a better

future for the nation as a whole - and it is only in the context of a national improvement that the problems of Liverpool can be fully resolved.

Government both local and central, the business community and the community at large must take up the challenge. Much has been started. We now need to extend the work that has been done. This cannot be done by local and central Government alone, the business community and above all the people of Liverpool working together is what is needed to make it happen. Although there is much to be achieved I am confident of success if all the parties play their full part.

But I say again that it is the people of Liverpool who must seize the opportunities that are offered.

We stand today on one of the most dramatic regeneration projects in the heart of Liverpool. For years the site of this Wavertree Technology Park presented a depressing spectacle of rundown buildings and abandoned railway sidings. Less than two years ago work started on the transformation we now see in progress. Government have provided £6M to the County Council in Derelict Land Grant - to remove the eyesores, level the site and provide roads and sewers - and you can see the transformation which will provide an attractive location for high technology industry.

A Technology Park Company involving Plesseys, English Estates and the City and County authorities has been set up under the

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8.

Chairmanship of Sir John Clark. And I know I can rely on Sir John and his colleagues to support the continued development of this emerging centre of high technology.

Already you can see a 40,000 square foot factory which has been occupied by 300 people. Work has started on smaller speculative units. [And I am happy to announce that Powell and Schofield, a local Company in the exciting field of Biotechnology is to establish itself here shortly bringing up to 190 jobs on to the site]. The creation of the Wavertree Technology Park is a potent example of what can be achieved by the private and public sector working together. This must represent the future direction for Liverpool.

But, at the end of the day, it is for the producer, whether of goods or services, to sell them where they are needed. Many smaller firms, however good technologically, find it difficult to make contact with the large companies. And the reverse is true. We need to encourage and stimulate that sort of contact if we are to make the best use of the creative potential of the small, thrusting company and the massive capability of the well-established househouse name. This is why I am delighted to be here today to open this "Meet the Buyer" exhibition where many large companies in the electronics, communications and telecommunications field have come to tell smaller firms what it is they want, and how best to establish a commercial relationship. Both sides must benefit.

I therefore take pleasure in opening this event, and urge

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everyone who attends it to make the most of the genuine opportunities which it presents.

Before I go, I would like to meet some of the participants, but, meanwhile, if the media want to put any questions, now is the opportunity.



COVERING

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file

Branda Lowe

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

20 September 1984

Dear David

I enclose as promised a copy of the draft programme for the 2 October visit. We agreed that it would be simplest if you discussed directly with David Renshaw how it might be modified to include the meeting with the Bishops and the finite meeting with the Council that the Prime Minister wanted. David's direct line is 051-227-5830. Alternatively the switchboard number is 051-227-4111, and you then need to ask for David Renshaw of the "Merseyside Task Force" as it is a large Government building.

As I said, the Secretary of State has not seen this programme yet.

Yours etc

Alan

A H DAVIS
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq

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PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO LIVERPOOL ON 2 OCTOBER 1984

PROGRAMME:

- 0930 Arrive Speke Airport.
Tour of housing sites in Liverpool.
- 1145 Arrive Wavertree Technology Park. Short presentation
at Plessey Crypto building, meet members of Technology
Park Company.
- 1200 Speech/Open "Meet the Buyers" event.
- 1215 Press Conference followed by tour of exhibits.
- 1245 Depart for
- 1300 International Garden Festival Site
(Dingle Lane entrance)
- Lunch at the British Pavilion.
- 1400 Tour of the International Garden Festival site - with
Chairman and Chief Executive of the Merseyside
Development Corporation.
- 1515 Depart for
- 1525 Albert Dock refurbishment scheme - tour site and meet
representatives of the developers, Arrowcroft Ltd.
- /1555 Meeting with City Council⁷. Provisional arrangements
made for a room to be available in the Albert Dock
complex. Press facility.
- 1615 Depart for
- 1645 Huyton Park Conservative Club (party engagement)

20 SEP 1984

11 12 1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9



Mr Sherbourne

Miss Cains

Superintendent Parker

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

2 Oct.

Following the Prime Minister's meeting this morning and subsequent discussion the draft programme stands as follows:

- 0815 Depart No 10
- 0900 Take-off from RAF NORTHOLT
- 0945 Arrive Liverpool and drive to Merseyside Task Force approx. Office. Telephone call to housing department.
- 1000 to 1115 Housing tour - detailed programme to be supplied by Merseyside Task Force.
- 1115 Wavertree Technology Park - open new Plessey factory. Speech.
- 1210 Possible meeting with Chairman of Housing Committee.
- 1230 Private meeting with Bishop and Archbishop of Liverpool.
- 1245 Lunch at the International Garden Festival, followed by tour.
- 1500 Albert Dock
- 1600 Party tea.
Return to London.

The above will need to be refined in the light of further details promised by the Merseyside Task Force.

David Barclay

20 September 1984

cc Mr Turnbull
Mrs Moore

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1. MR. TURNBULL *AT 18/9*
2. PRIME MINISTER

c. Mr Alison
Mr Ingham

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL:
POSSIBLE MEETING WITH THE CITY COUNCIL

*May we have a
was not
MB*

As soon as you arrive in Liverpool you will be besieged with requests (or more probably "demands") to meet the City Council. We need to decide how best to handle this pressure.

Patrick Jenkin is nervous about your seeing the City Council at all - he knows from bitter experience how unpleasant an ordeal this can be. On the other hand he recognises that your instinct may well be to confront your critics, rather than avoid them.

For that reason, I would favour a meeting with a small group of Councillors, consisting of the Leader, the Chief Executive (who is a restraining influence), and up to four others. The numbers cannot be less than this because the City Labour Party is split into factions, each of which will expect to be represented. The meeting would be unlikely to produce anything, except a statement of two diametrically opposed points of view; but it would deprive the Council of the propaganda advantage which refusing to see them would provide. You could if you wish follow it with a meeting with the Conservative Group (though you will be entertained by the Party in the course of the day).

If you agree to a meeting, we could at this stage ask DOE to make the arrangements as for a meeting with the Secretary of State. We need not divulge the details of your programme in the City. But we would probably need to give the Councillors some minimal advance notice that they will

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in fact be meeting you - a telephone call the night before would be sufficient, and would not give them too long to organise "Rentamob".

No

Agree:

(i) a short meeting with the Leader, the Chief Executive and up to four other Councillors?

No (ii) they should be told the previous night, but not before, that the meeting will be with you as well as the Secretary of State?

Would you like a formal meeting with the Conservative Group as well?

Dmb

DAVID BARCLAY

18 September 1984

- 1) Mr. Higham
- 2) Mr. Butler
- 3) PRIME MINISTER

I am sure the local newspaper would welcome a visit.
 Must find

Mr. Barclay

It makes sense to do "the work" and not undertake things first (so long as the town can be kept secret).

Visit to Liverpool

We are holding Tuesday 2 October for a possible visit to Liverpool.

The provisional programme, which Departments have ostensibly drawn up for Mr. Jenkin, looks like this:-

7:30
 7:45
 8:15
 9:30
 9:45
 11:30
 12:45
 1:30
 15:00
 16:00
 18:00

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 0815 | Depart No.10 |
| 0900 | Depart Northolt |
| c0940 | Arrive Liverpool |
| 1000 | <u>Albert Dock</u> (disused) - future refurbishment undertaken by Merseyside Development Corporation, restored warehouse building, new shops, and Maritime Museum. |
| 1045 | Depart |
| 1100 | <u>Wavertree Technology Park</u> - tour new Plessey factory making cryptographic products, and (if company can change date) perform official opening ceremony. <u>Speech</u> |
| 1215 | Depart |
| 1230 | Lunch at the <u>International Garden Festival</u> , followed by short tour. |
| 1430-1630 | <u>Housing tour</u> - to include a "priority area" of some of the worst housing, as well as a new Housing Association Development, a |

Housing Action Area, and Minster Court (private sector refurbishment, undertaken by Barratts).

1630 Party tea

1745 Return to London

This seems to me to give a fair spread of interest, as between problem areas and new developments, as between public and private sectors, and as between industry and "human interest" stories.

But it would undoubtedly be a difficult day. Apart from the usual left-wing demonstrations and the strained relations with local government, there may still be striking dockers as well as miners to contend with. On the other hand, there must be many in the city who would welcome visible proof that Liverpool has not become a "no-go area" - either for you personally, or for the Government.

You do not need to take an irrevocable decision now, though it will inevitably become more awkward to pull out as the day approaches. It would however be helpful if you could at this stage indicate:

- i) Whether, other things being equal, you are inclined to go ahead with the visit; and
- ii) Whether you think the draft programme set out above is on the right lines.

DMS

5 September 1984



Merseyside Task Force

Graeme House, Derby Square

Liverpool L2 7SU

Telephone 051-227 4111 Ext. 587

Your Reference

Our Reference

Date 29 August 1984

David Barclay Esq.,
Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON.

BB 8/1

Dear David,

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

Thank you for your letter of 20 August 1984. I have been considering the possible content of a housing element to the visit. I am sorry that I have not got my proposals to you earlier.

I have had regard to your advice not to try and pack too much into the time available. I suggest therefore that we should concentrate on the Liverpool 8 area, which is on the route between the Garden Festival site and the City centre. A tour of this area could include

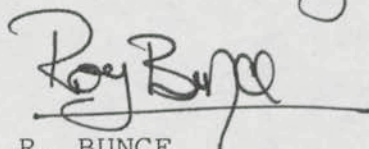
- a "Priority Area" declared by the City Council which, although not the worst housing in Liverpool contains typical examples of tenement blocks, unpopular walk-up flats and maisonettes and high-rise blocks.
- New housing development by housing co-operatives. Where people unable to own their own home have come together as a group and, with help from a sponsoring housing association have been involved in the design and now the running of their own small housing estate.
- A Housing Action area which demonstrates the impact of improvement grants and housing association ^{activity} on older privately owned housing.
- Minster Court: a good example of refurbishment by the private sector of a large tenement block previously owned by the City Council and scheduled for demolition. The work was undertaken by Barratts (Urban Renewal) Limited. Almost next door is another block, Myrtle House, which is in a similar state of dilapidation to Minster Court before Barratts started work. Barratts are interested in Myrtle House, but have been unable to negotiate a deal with the City Council.
- Areas of large Victorian and Edwardian houses, which are an important part of Liverpool's heritage but which are difficult to rescue for present day housing uses at an economic cost.

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This might look like a formidable list, but little travelling would be involved as the examples are all relatively closely grouped. If time permitted we could arrange a short journey to the north of the City centre where some of the very worst examples of bad design, neglect of maintenance and repair, and generally poor management are to be found. These areas, however, have been visited recently by the Secretary of State and the Minister for Housing and Construction.

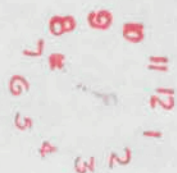
Your suggestions for the other elements of the visit seem quite practicable. My DTI colleague has not, however, been able to make contact with Sir John Clarke, Chairman of Plessey, so for the moment there has to remain a slight question mark over the exact format of the visit to the Wavertree Technology Park. We hope to finalise those details as soon as Sir John returns from holiday.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Roy Bunce', written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

R. BUNCE

PM: PM's visit to Liverpool Sept '81



30 AUG 1984

John ...
[Signature]

MR. BARCLAY

cc. Mr. Alison

LIVERPOOL: Tuesday, 2nd October

1. As you know I agree with your revised programme in your note of 16th August.
2. I have told Brenda Lowe (Central Office Agent in the North West Area) about this visit in strictest confidence. She is now thinking about a venue for the Party tea.
3. One person obviously needs to tie up the whole visit. Normally this needs to be the Area Agent but I presume in this case it will be Eric Sorensen. Can you confirm this?
4. I want soon to be able to let Brenda Lowe talk to Eric about the visit because they will have to co-ordinate plans.
5. I intend to come on the Liverpool visit. I presume Michael Alison will but he will have to be asked on his return from holiday.

S
STEPHEN SHERBOURNE

21.8.84

cc visit file
Mr Sherbourne

- ① ② and ⑤ : noted - thanks
- ③ I agree. It should be Eric Sorensen, or in his absence his deputy Roy Bruce.
- ④ The way is clear for them to talk at any time from now on.

de BSC



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

20 August 1984

Prime Minister's Visit to Liverpool

I am writing to confirm our telephone conversation earlier today, in which I gave you our reactions to the proposals in Eric Sorensen's letter of 14 August about the Prime Minister's visit to Liverpool.

Our feeling is that the programme as proposed is somewhat crowded; and we are not keen to fit in any further official engagement after the Party tea.

With this in mind we suggest the following revision to the draft programme:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| <u>Morning</u> | Albert Dock, Wavertree Technology Park + speech |
| <u>Lunch</u> | On the International Garden Festival site, followed by a brief visit |
| <u>Afternoon</u> | Housing tour - to include "black spots" as well as housing successes. |
| | Party tea. |

BF | I should be grateful for any comments on the above, and for suggestions for the detailed content of the housing tour, as soon as possible. Meanwhile, we agreed that the DTI Regional Director should approach Plessey in confidence to explore the feasibility of their moving the Plessey crypto opening, and their "meeting the buyers" event, to coincide with the Prime Minister's visit. I must, however, stress that the draft programme remains subject to the Prime Minister's approval, which I would hope to obtain soon after her return from holiday next week.

Roy Bunce, Esq.,
Merseyside Task Force.

(David Barclay)

SB

CONFIDENTIAL

MR. SHERBOURNE

MS. CAINES

LIVERPOOL

The Prime Minister has provisionally agreed to visit Liverpool on Tuesday 2 October. This plan has not been announced, and for public purposes the visit is being arranged for the Secretary of State for the Environment, and not for the Prime Minister at all.

I attach a letter from the Merseyside Task Force (part of the DOE) containing some suggestions for the programme.

The following considerations seem to me relevant:

1. The Prime Minister should not just visit show places, such as the International Garden Festival. Her visit should demonstrate a concern for the area's deep-seated problems, as well as its opportunities. (Nevertheless, the Prime Minister has disappointed the Garden Festival organisers once before, and should I think visit them at some point in the day.)
2. The Prime Minister will need to make a public statement of some significance on the Government's policy towards Liverpool, and the future of the city. For media purposes this statement might best be made in the morning. But an alternative would be to make a speech after lunch, say with the Merseyside Chamber of Commerce.
3. We should aim to fit in a Party engagement around tea-time.

With these thoughts in mind I would be inclined to recast the DOE's proposals slightly as follows:

/ Morning

Morning Albert Dock, Wavertree Technology Park + speech

Lunch On the International Garden Festival site,
followed by a brief visit

Afternoon Housing tour - to include "black spots" as well
as housing successes.
Party tea.

Perhaps we could discuss these ideas soon? I need to go
back to the DOE within the next week or so.

16 August 1984

Roy Burre



Merseyside Task Force

Graeme House, Derby Square

Liverpool L2 7SU

Telephone 051-227 4111 Ext.

Your Reference

Our Reference

Date 14th August 1984

David Barclay Esq.,
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON

Dear David,

VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

May I offer some points on this visit following our conversation.

A possible framework is:

Wavertree Technology Park

Albert Dock, with speech

Lunch

Liverpool black spots

Party engagement

International Garden Festival

Wavertree Technology Park

This about 20/25 minutes drive from the Airport. It comprises 60 acres of reclaimed and serviced land with at present 1 new factory to be called Plessey Crypto. The hope is to fill the site with many other factories in the Hi-Tech field. The factory is at present planned to open in late September. I understand that Plessey's are proposing to invite Mr Heseltine to open it because MoD are major customers for the output: cryptographic products.

Separately, but also at Wavertree, the Wavertree Technology Park Company (Plessey, English Estates, City Council, County Council) hope at about the same time to stage a "meet the buyers" event. Major companies in the computer/electronics field will demonstrate what equipment they buy to encourage smaller companies in, for example, the computer peripherals field. This event will help publicise the Technology Park, encourage large company/small company links, and may also lead to factory development on the park company's site.

It is therefore conceivable that the staging of both the factory opening and the "meet the buyers" event could be timed for the visit. It may well be necessary to influence Plessey's and the Park company on the management of these arrangements and this could be done through Sir John Clark as Plessey's Chairman and also as Chairman of the Park company.

Albert Dock

It should be possible to see something of the refurbishment, the new shops, the Maritime Museum (run by the County Council and therefore sensitive) and gather an audience together (eg through the Chamber of Commerce) for a speech starting, at say, 12.00/12.15.

Lunch

If a speech is given at the Albert Dock it may not be thought necessary to arrange an occasion on the scale of the Liverpool Luncheon Club. The hosts could still be Merseyside Chamber of Commerce but with a smaller number of invited guests. The venue could be a private room in one of the city centre hotels.

An alternative would be to have lunch at the UK Government Pavilion on the International Garden Festival site, hosted by the Merseyside Development Corporation.

Liverpool Black Spots

The City Council consider that their main priority is to improve housing conditions through municipal activity. They are likely to take the view that what should be seen are bad housing conditions. Housing successes could also be visited, e.g. Minster Court. Of course, it is not necessary to plan the visit simply according to the Council's priorities.

Party

It should not be difficult to arrange a suitable city centre venue for this engagement before ending the day with the IGF visit.

Such a programme would be a full one interspersed with short car journeys of very roughly ten minutes. It would only comprise Liverpool and have some emphasis on MDC activity: Albert Dock and IGF. It would be possible, if desired, to make the day less peripatetic. For example we might be able to arrange to make the morning speech at Wavertree, cutting out or shortening the Albert Dock visit (possibly going there first). Though there is advantage in ending the day with the IGF visit, lunch at the Festival site could obviously be combined with a visit to the site. Careful thought, in particular, will have to be given to the "black spots" part.

Yours sincerely,

Eiv Sorenson.

K E C SORENSEN



VEHICLE FERRY
FROM LIVERPOOL TO
Belfast 10 hours
Dublin 7 hours

Albert Dock

Wavertree Technology Park

International Garden Festival

Liverpool Airport

Eastham Sands

CONFIDENTIAL



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

2 August 1984

Sorensen

051 227
5830

Dear David

LIVERPOOL

You asked for a note of possible engagements that the Prime Minister might undertake in a visit to Liverpool. A list is enclosed.

My Secretary of State has seen this list and commented that a visit "that did not include at least one Liverpool black spot would be misunderstood. To spend the morning at MDC showpieces and the afternoon for example in Sefton and Knowsley would be unlikely to strike the right balance."

In addition to the engagements on the list arrangements could be made for the Prime Minister to address, over lunch, the Liverpool Luncheon Club. This is essentially an off-shoot of the Chamber of Commerce and meets regularly at the Adelphi Hotel. It would provide a good audience of local business and community leaders if this was desired.

The Liverpool component in the enclosed list could be increased but Stockbridge Village has been referred to several times in correspondence and might appear particularly suitable. The local authority dimension will be sensitive. Merseyside County Council shows no signs of accepting the fact of abolition and is one of 18 rate-capped authorities. I do not think any comment is required on Liverpool City Council.

Yours sincerely

JOHN BALLARD
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq

CONFIDENTIAL

1. The Merseyside County Council area comprises 6 local authorities: the County Council (to be abolished), Liverpool, Knowsley, St Helens, Sefton, Wirral. The framework for the visit includes engagements in Liverpool, Knowsley and Sefton only.

LIVERPOOL (Labour controlled)

Wavertree Technology Park: 64 acre derelict site being reclaimed for high technology industry: £8.3 million land reclamation and infrastructure scheme, mainly financed through Derelict Land Grant. Joint venture between Plessey Ltd, City Council, County Council, English Estates.

Toxteth Sports Centre: built to Sports Council's design. Cost £750,000, funded through the Liverpool inner city Partnership (Urban Programme). The adjoining £310,000 artificial grass football pitch was funded under the £1 for £1 scheme with the public sector contribution (Sports Council) being matched by the private sector.

Water Sports Centre: refurbishment of building funded by Liverpool inner city Partnership to provide centre for canoe club using adjoining canal. Run by Merseyside Council for Voluntary Service. Nearby is example of environmental scheme - the refurbishment of a series of canal locks and restoration of tow path. Funded through the Partnership (County Council scheme). Both the Water Sports Centre and the canal improvement involve the use of temporary labour funded by the MSC.

Education: The Partnership funds a number of Parent Support Units in Liverpool. Their purpose is to encourage closer involvement by parents with their children's schools and to encourage parents to use school facilities to improve their education.

Housing: there are ample examples of poor housing particularly council estates owned by Liverpool. There are also examples of low cost home ownership schemes, and a particularly good example of refurbishment by the private sector of a large tenement block previously owned by Liverpool and scheduled for demolition. This was undertaken by Barratts and is at Minster Court, Toxteth. There are also a number of examples of housing cooperatives. These are housing associations where the responsibility for day-to-day management is undertaken by the occupiers themselves.

Merseyside Development Corporation: the Corporation is responsible for regenerating some 900 acres of disused dock land in the heart of the conurbation. The Corporation's area is in 3 parts, the largest part being in Liverpool. A spectacular project is the refurbishment of the Albert Dock Warehouse, a massive building of historical interest (grade 1). Part of the Albert Dock has just been opened to house the Merseyside Maritime Museum (a County Council project). Another part is being developed for shops and offices and the first shops have just opened.

The Development Corporation are also responsible for the International Garden Festival which is proving very successful. It was opened by The Queen on 2 May and already 1½ million people have visited the Festival. It closes on 14 October.

SEFTON (Conservative controlled)

A visit to Bootle at the southern end of the borough would provide a convenient way of seeing in a compact area three examples of housing problems and initiatives:

Church Street: Typical example of 1950s public sector housing now providing very poor living conditions. The estate is replicated in many areas of Merseyside. An initiative is planned to rescue the estate similar to:-

Marsh Lane Estate: Community Refurbishment Scheme has secured impressive improvement. Scheme involved joint funding by MSC, Urban Programme and Local Authority. Estate based management has been responsible for clearing backlog of repairs, improvement to dwellings, environmental improvements. MSC support has enabled scheme to employ large numbers of local people from unemployment register.

Waverley Park: Example of co-operation between local authority and private sector to rescue dilapidated public sector housing stock. Vacant maisonettes and flats have been sold to Wimpey Construction Ltd who have successfully converted/improved the buildings as houses and flats for sale.

KNOWSLEY (Labour controlled)

Stockbridge Village: Run-down 1960s council estate (3,500 dwellings) sold by Knowsley Council to Trust funded by Abbey National building society, Barclays Bank and Knowsley Council. Now in process of refurbishment with urban programme assistance. Impressive improvement to living conditions, environment, repairs, management. Successful build for sale schemes by Barratts Ltd with some shared ownership.

Knowsley Industrial Park: Very large industrial estate. Sold by Liverpool City Council to Knowsley Council in 1982. Major upgrading initiative using Derelict Land Grant and urban programme funds, MSC and the private sector. On the estate there is an Information Technology Centre providing young people with training in basic computing and electronic skills, funded by the MSC.



five

607

cc: JOE
D. Energy

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

5 July, 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your kind letter of 3 July. Although I am afraid that there is nothing I can add at this stage about the possibility of a visit at another time, it was good of you to renew your invitation so warmly.

(David Barclay)

C. Allday, Esq, CBE.

1

From the Chairman and Chief Executive

British Nuclear Fuels plc



Head Office: Risley Warrington Cheshire WA3 6AS
Telephone: Warrington (0925) 35953 Telex: 627581

3rd July, 1984.

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP.,
10, Downing Street,
LONDON SW1.

Dear Prime Minister,

We were of course all very disappointed that you are unable to open the Company's new Headquarters and Design Offices at Risley on 13 July, but fully recognise the pressures on your time. I was delighted to hear, however, that you have not ruled out the possibility of reinstating the visit at a later date and, therefore, we have not arranged for an alternative opening ceremony for the new building in the hope that you may be able to come to Risley, say, next Spring.

I am sure that you would find the advanced computer techniques which we are using to aid design and project control very interesting. These techniques are of particular importance to the THORP project, which I am very pleased to say is going well.

While the Company has suffered some setback in recent months, we are now recovering. We are all determined to restore public confidence in the Company and in the future of nuclear power.

Yours sincerely


C. Allday

BNFL

Regd. Number: 1002607 England Regd. Office: Risley Warrington Cheshire WA3 6AS

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

RESTRICTED



HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SW1H 9AT

2 July 1984

Dear John,

nbp
JMS
3/7

VISITS TO LIVERPOOL BY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Chief Constable of Merseyside is responsible for any necessary protection arrangements in his police area. In view of the current political situation in relation to the Liverpool City Council, he takes the view that for the time being any visit of any member of the Government is likely to be the subject of demonstrations. Although he would not expect there to be any serious risk to a Minister's safety, he is likely to insist in virtually every case that a degree of police protection would be appropriate. It would therefore be helpful to the Chief Constable if Private Secretaries to Ministers - not only Ministers of the Department of the Environment, but all other Departments in England and Wales - would ensure that the Merseyside Police are informed in reasonable time before any official or political visit to Merseyside, so that the police can consider what arrangements would be appropriate. The Home Secretary hopes that his colleagues will feel able to co-operate with whatever arrangements the Chief Constable feels it appropriate to make. In the case of those few Ministers who normally receive protection from police officers, the necessary arrangements will be made by their protection officers. In all other cases the point of contact for Private Secretaries wishing to notify a forthcoming visit should be the Chief Constable's Staff Officer: Chief Inspector David Wright, Merseyside Police, P.O. Box 59, Liverpool L69 1JD - Telephone No 051 709 6010 Ext 2011.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to Ministers in charge of Departments in England and Wales, and would be grateful if they would arrange for it to be circulated to the Private Offices of other Ministers within their Departments.

Yours ever,
Hugh Taylor

H H TAYLOR

J F Ballard, Esq.



cc D/N [initials]

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 June 1984

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO THE NORTH WEST

The Prime Minister was most grateful to your Secretary of State, and to the Secretary of State for Energy, for their advice on whether she should proceed with her proposed visit to the North West next month.

The Prime Minister has decided that on balance it would be better to postpone both parts of the visit. We have so informed the Merseyside Development Corporation as organisers of the Garden Festival, and British Nuclear Fuels Limited.

Although the Prime Minister's diary for the rest of the year is already quite full, we will keep under review the possibility of visits to Liverpool and to BNFL, since we are conscious that changed circumstances might make either or both highly desirable later this year.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Michael Reidy (Department of Energy).

(DAVID BARCLAY)

John Ballard, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

[initials]



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 June 1984

I am afraid that this letter brings disappointing news about the Prime Minister's proposed visit to Risley on 13 July.

As you know, this visit was to have formed part of a one-day tour by the Prime Minister of the North West region. Unfortunately, the other pressures on the Prime Minister's time next month are now such that she has decided - with great regret - not to proceed with this tour. She has asked me to say how sorry she is not to be visiting Risley as planned, although she hopes that a visit may be possible at another time. If such a possibility does emerge we will, of course, be in touch with you directly.

The Prime Minister would be grateful if you would pass on to your Board her regret at this change in her arrangements.

C. Allday, Esq., CBE.



10 DOWNING STREET

1 June 1984

From the Private Secretary

I am afraid that this letter brings disappointing news about the Prime Minister's proposed visit to the International Garden Festival on 13 July.

As you know, this visit was to have formed part of a one-day tour by the Prime Minister of the North West region. Unfortunately, the other pressures on the Prime Minister's time next month are now such that she has decided - with great regret - not to proceed with this tour. She has asked me to say how sorry she is not to be visiting the Garden Festival as planned, although she hopes that a visit may be possible at another time. If such a possibility does emerge we will, of course, be in touch with you directly.

The Prime Minister would be grateful if you would pass on to Mr. Leslie Young her regret at this change in her arrangements. She hears nothing but good of the Garden Festival, and trusts that it will continue from strength to strength through the summer.

Basil Bean, Esq.

Note: This was overtaken by a conversation between
the PM and Derek Howe, as a result of which
the PM decided to cancel the visit. Pps came out from
box only on 12 June, having gone astray.
Derek 1976

Better for new
would be any
earlier in
September
not

cc: Mr. Sherbourne

2 Oct

PRIME MINISTER

VISIT TO THE NORTH WEST

A decision is needed soon on whether to proceed with your proposed visit to the North West on Friday, 13 July. Provisional arrangements have been made for you to visit the International Garden Festival at Liverpool in the morning, and BNFL at Risley in the afternoon (for the opening of a new headquarters building). But you have already expressed some doubts about the visit because of other pressures on your diary in July.

The possibility of your visit to the Garden Festival has become public knowledge since Mr. Jenkin mentioned it in the House, although Bernard has been doing his best to dampen things down.

Garden Festival

Advice is attached from both Mr. Jenkin and Mr. Walker. Mr. Jenkin favours postponement of at least the Liverpool part of the trip, on the grounds that in the present situation it could be misinterpreted. Certainly, you would face massive demonstrations.

On the other hand, cancellation would be a disappointment for some of the more moderate elements in the city opinion. A leading article in the Liverpool Daily Post on 11 May said:-

"Nothing would do more for the morale of the majority of Liverpool people than to see the Prime Minister personally getting to grips on the spot with the city's problems.

It would not be an easy undertaking but under no circumstances must Liverpool be allowed to become a no-go area".

/Agree

Agree nevertheless to postpone the visit to the Garden Festival?

Risley

Mr. Jenkin also has doubts about the visit to Risley. He points out that it could be awkwardly timed in relation to the publication of Sir Douglas Black's report on cancer incidence in West Cumbria, and possibly in relation to the DPP's decision on prosecution of the company. Mr. Walker, on the other hand, would like the visit to go ahead on the grounds that Risley is sufficiently far removed from the Sellafield site to avoid any serious risk of embarrassment.

A visit to Risley would not make much sense on its own, if the Liverpool engagement is postponed. Agree to put off the visit to Risley as well?

Judy Clerk
PP D. Barclay

23 May, 1984



SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY
THAMES HOUSE SOUTH
MILLBANK LONDON SW1P 4QJ

01 211 6402

David Barclay Esq
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1

22 May 1984

Dear David

Thank you for your letter of 27 April to Michael Reidy about the Prime Minister's plans to open the new BNFL Headquarters building at Risley on 13 July. We have seen John Ballard's reply of 15 May.

Mr Walker is keen that the proposed visit should go ahead, because it should provide a much needed boost to the morale of BNFL staff and help revive the Company's difficult public image. Although the decision by the Director of Public Prosecutions may not be known by 13 July, Mr Walker considers that endorsement of the new offices and facilities at Risley ought to be sufficiently far removed from the problems of Sellafield to avoid embarrassment.

I am copying this letter to John Ballard (Environment).

Yours

John

J S NEILSON
Private Secretary

1984



COMMUNICATIONS

1984

CF7
902



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

15 May 1984

Dear David

You copied to me your letter of April 27 to Michael Reidy (DEn), and sought any views my Secretary of State might have about proposed visits by the Prime Minister to BNFL at Risley and to the Liverpool Garden Festival.

It is of great importance to rebuild confidence and morale both within BNFL and in the west Cumbria area around Sellafield, and my Secretary of State will be putting suggestions to the Prime Minister (in consultation with the Secretary of State for Energy) about some ways of achieving that. A visit by the Prime Minister at an appropriate time would make an important contribution. However a visit to the headquarters offices at Risley on July 13 would be awkwardly timed in relation to publication of Sir Douglas Black's report on cancer incidence in west Cumbria, and possibly also in relation to the decision by the Director of Public Prosecutions on prosecution of the company following the incident last November. The Prime Minister will wish to take these matters into account.

My Secretary of State remains of the view that a visit to the International Garden Festival in Liverpool would be worthwhile. However in the present situation it could be misinterpreted and a visit later in the year, perhaps in September or October would be preferable. If the Prime Minister was disposed to make a visit at that later time it would be desirable to combine a visit to the Garden Festival with other engagements on Merseyside in order to achieve a balanced programme.

I am copying this letter to Michael Reidy.

Yours sincerely

JOHN BALLARD
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

74

My ref:

Your ref:

14 May 1984

Dear David

My Secretary of State is committed, as the Prime Minister is already aware, to visiting Liverpool on 7 June. He will be looking at housing conditions in the City, in the company of the Labour Leadership of the Council. He also wants to take the opportunity to talk informally to the local press to repeat in clear terms the Government's position. My Secretary of State is concerned that every opportunity should be taken to increase local understanding of the consequences of an illegal budget and the duty and capacity of the City Council to draw up a legal budget.

In all the circumstances my Secretary of State considers that he should be seen to have set aside sufficient time to undertake a credible tour of the City and to meet the press. To do so he would need to leave Cabinet on 7 June no later than 11.30. Is the Prime Minister content for him to proceed on this basis.

PS: NOTE

CHIEF CLERK OF THE
SIGNATURE TO:-

- 1 Mr. Heiser
- 2 Mr. Pugh
- 3 Mr. Simpson
- 4 Mr. McDonald

Yours sincerely

John Ballard

JOHN BALLARD
Private Secretary



Leon

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434
My ref:

Your ref:

14 May 1984

Dear Mr Ingham

POSSIBLE VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER TO LIVERPOOL

My Secretary of State has asked me to send you the attached copy of an editorial in Friday's Liverpool Daily Post in case you have not already seen it.

Yours sincerely

A H Davis

A H DAVIS
Private Secretary

Bernard Ingham Esq

Nolo

10F2

VISIT VALUE

IN THE opinion of some political observers, Liverpool is the most difficult of the Government's present problems, with the exception of Northern Ireland. Every step towards a solution therefore deserves an ovation.

Daily
Back-
11/5/84

That is why the report in yesterday's Daily Post that the Prime Minister would shortly be paying Liverpool a visit was so welcome. Unfortunately, within hours, Downing Street seemed to be engaging in a damping-down operation.

- TO: PS/SOS N16/05
- PS/PERM SEC N16/12
- MR HEISER N14/18
- MR PICKUP P1/158
- MR McDONALD PRESS OFFICE

Mrs Thatcher's diary, it was being suggested, was already full. The idea of a Liverpool visit appeared to be receding.

*Behind Jurgon health
see this*

Obviously, allowances must be made for the kind of strict security which must surround the Prime Minister's movements. Although it is sad that the city cannot openly play the part of host, as it could in happier times, security considerations must always be paramount.

But behind the essential secrecy, the hope must be that plans for an unannounced visit will go ahead.

Mrs Thatcher's visit to the Falklands and to Ulster have greatly heartened those troubled communities. Merseyside is no less in need of assurances that the Prime Minister has first-hand knowledge of its immense difficulties. Very positive action is demanded.

It can be argued that Michael Heseltine, when he was Environment Secretary, virtually lived in Liverpool for long periods, and even that did not halt the decline, although the Garden Festival and other Government aid schemes have all been greatly welcomed.

Nothing, however would do more for the morale of the majority of Liverpool people than to see the Prime Minister personally getting to grips on the spot with the city's problems.

It would not be an easy undertaking but under no circumstances must Liver-

20F2

Daily Post 11/5/84

Maggie 'no intention' of meeting city leaders

by David Utting

PRIME MINISTER Margaret Thatcher is not prepared to make talks with Liverpool's Labour leaders part of any trip to the International Garden Festival.

Government sources were last night keen to stress that there is no more than a "remote possibility" that Mrs Thatcher will be able to visit the Garden Festival at all this summer.

And they were adamant that she had no intention whatever of widening such a trip into a tour of the city or a meeting with councillors over the city's budget crisis.

The deliberate attempt to douse speculation was in remarkable contrast to Wednesday's disclosure by Environment Secretary Patrick Jenkin that the Prime Minister was considering a Liverpool visit "including the International Garden Festival."

Mrs Thatcher appears to have decided overnight that Mr Jenkin gave the wrong impression and would have



Mrs Thatcher

done better to say nothing at all. If, however, she does still hope to see the Garden Festival, security reasons dictate that she would prefer her visit to be unexpected.

But Liverpool Labour MPs reacted angrily to the news that talks with the council are out. Mr Terry Fields, MP for Broadgreen, said it was "deeply disappointing."

"She and her Government have a major responsibility for the council's financial position and she is ducking out," he said.

Comment—Page 20

Mr Bob Parry, MP for Riverside, last night wrote to Mrs Thatcher urging her to say if it was true that a visit was now unlikely.

"If the leak is true, it will only confirm my own personal opinion that you have washed your hands of Liverpool with all its grave problems," he told her.

His letter added that it was "unthinkable" that she should miss the festival out as a result of her initiative giving Mr Michael Heseltine special responsibility for Merseyside when he was Environment Secretary.

"If you do come, I trust you will see not only trees and flowers but also flesh and blood," said Mr Parry. "Human beings that are living in fear, misery and suffering caused by the policies of your government."

He said he also hoped she would meet civic and church leaders as well as trade union officials.

Phone
0 12 8001

DEPARTMENT OF THE
ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET
SW1P 3EB



GER
for Liverpool
visit file per.

→
4/8

*With the Compliments of the
Private Secretary to the Secretary of
State for the Environment*

TO ANDREW TURNBULL, No10.
FROM JOHN BALLARD, JAE.

05/10 09:35 P02 *MERSEYSIDE TASK FORCE

2/2

DAILY POST 10/5/84

Labour denies a U-turn on budget

by David Hope

LIVERPOOL'S Labour city council leadership last night strenuously denied claims that they had done a U-turn on their illegal budget.

Following last week's increased majority at the polls, Labour were expected to push ahead with their confrontation plans at next week's annual meeting of the city council.

Nothing now stands between the city's rulers and their avowed intent to introduce a budget between £90 million and £180 million above government targets without levying a big enough rate to pay for it.

But yesterday Labour announced they would now postpone a budget fixing meeting until after Environment Secretary Mr Patrick Jenkin's visit to the city on June 7 in a last ditch attempt to wring more cash from the Government.

Labour leader Councillor John Hamilton said there was



John Hamilton

"total unity" in the party over the decision.

Mr Jenkin had always said Liverpool could be treated no differently to other local authorities. "But the intensity and scale of the problems is higher here in any other area of the country," said Councillor Hamilton.

His deputy Councillor Derek Hatton said: "It may suit the Press and opposition to believe we are backing down. But nothing could be further from the truth.



Chris Hallows

"We are prepared not to be provocative, and see what he has to offer. In no way are we open to a climbdown—the electorate last week gave us an unequivocal mandate."

Finance chairman Councillor Tony Byrne said the authority remained financially sound.

Meanwhile, anger erupted from Liberal and Conservative ranks.

For Labour took 20 seats on major committees, leaving just seven to be divided, five

to the Liberals and two to the Tories.

On a strict ratio basis, Labour should have taken 16 seats according to figures drawn up by council officers.

Liberal leader Sir Trevor Jones described the move as "political spite".

Conservative leader Councillor Chris Hallows accused Labour of "milking the rate-payers" through taking the extra seats and the attendance allowances that go with them.

Conservatives on some committees were allowed just one seat, which meant there would not even be a seconder for Tory proposals. On a number of key committees dealing with the council's staff and workforce Labour took all seats.

"If anyone is going to negotiate with the trade unions we shall do it in the best interests of the Labour movement—we do not need Tories or Liberals," said Councillor Hatton.



Mrs Thatcher—boost for British week

Maggie at the double for festival

by Peter Surridge and David Using

THE two Maggies—the Premier and the Princess—are to visit Liverpool's International Garden Festival in July.

Mrs Thatcher is likely to be flown in to the 125-acre South Docks site by helicopter when she arrives during British Week.

Princess Margaret is expected to represent the Queen on the prestigious occasion.

It is not certain whether the two will attend the festival at the same time, but officials were confident last night that both would attend.

Whitehall sources were last night deliberately vague as to the timing of Mrs Thatcher's trip, confirming the view that it will be shrouded in the strictest security and announced only at short notice.

It is not known whether Mrs Thatcher will meet the city's Labour leaders, like her Environment Secretary Patrick Jenkin next month.

She has paid one visit to Liverpool since becoming Prime Minister, a week after the Toxteth riots.

Even though details of her tour only leaked out as her car reached the city, demonstrators threw tomatoes at her and husband Dennis.

Garden Festival—Page 12

No U-turns—Page 13

A second visit in the present political climate could carry even greater risks but Mrs Thatcher is determined that Liverpool will not become a "no go" area.

Liverpool's deputy leader Councillor Derek Hutton last night welcomed the prospect of a visit by Mrs Thatcher.

"We will take her on the same tour we're planning for Patrick Jenkin and I'm sure she'll see poverty and squalor which she doesn't even know exists," he said.

Mr Jenkin was adamant yesterday that his trip on June 7 would not revolve around the city's illegal budget.

Labour's ruling National Executive yesterday offered Liverpool councillors full support in seeking to "resolve the present impasse," but stopped short of backing an unbalanced budget.

In the Commons, Labour's environment spokesman Dr John Cunningham offered his party's help in any move to resolve the city's crisis. But he added: "The already appalling

→ Andrew Turnbull

Telephone

8001

DEPARTMENT OF THE
ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET
SW1P 3EB



Col
—
for Liverpool
visit file pt.

*With the Compliments of the
Private Secretary to the Secretary of
State for the Environment*

John Ball

Dues
11/5

VISIT VALUE

IN THE opinion of some political observers, Liverpool is the most difficult of the Government's present problems, with the exception of Northern Ireland. Every step towards a solution therefore deserves an ovation.

That is why the report in yesterday's Daily Post that the Prime Minister would shortly be paying Liverpool a visit was so welcome. Unfortunately, within hours, Downing Street seemed to be engaging in a damping-down operation.

Mrs Thatcher's diary, it was being suggested, was already full. The idea of a Liverpool visit appeared to be receding.

Obviously, allowances must be made for the kind of strict security which must surround the Prime Minister's movements. Although it is sad that the city cannot openly play the part of host, as it could in happier times, security considerations must always be paramount.

But behind the essential secrecy, the hope must be that plans for an unannounced visit will go ahead.

Mrs Thatcher's visit to the Falklands and to Ulster have greatly heartened those troubled communities. Merseyside is no less in need of assurances that the Prime Minister has first-hand knowledge of its immense difficulties. Very positive action is demanded.

It can be argued that Michael Heseltine, when he was Environment Secretary, virtually lived in Liverpool for long periods, and even that did not halt the decline, although the Garden Festival and other Government aid schemes have all been greatly welcomed.

Nothing, however would do more for the morale of the majority of Liverpool people than to see the Prime Minister personally getting to grips on the spot with the city's problems.

It would not be an easy undertaking but under no circumstances must Liverpool be allowed to become a no-go area.

Daily
Rock-
11/5/84

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| TO: PS/SOS | N16/05 |
| PS/PERM SEC | N16/12 |
| MR HEISER | N14/18 |
| MR PICKUP | P1/158 |
| MR McDONALD | PRESS OFFICE |

Daily Post 11/5/84

Maggie 'no intention' of meeting city leaders

by David Utting

PRIME MINISTER Margaret Thatcher is not prepared to make talks with Liverpool's Labour leaders part of any trip to the International Garden Festival.

Government sources were last night keen to stress that there is no more than a "remote possibility" that Mrs Thatcher will be able to visit the Garden Festival at all this summer.

And they were adamant that "she had no intention whatever of widening such a trip into a tour of the city or a meeting with councillors over the city's budget crisis.

The deliberate attempt to douse speculation was in remarkable contrast to Wednesday's disclosure by Environment Secretary Patrick Jenkin that the Prime Minister was considering a Liverpool visit "including the International Garden Festival."

Mrs Thatcher appears to have decided overnight that Mr Jenkin gave the wrong impression and would have



Mrs Thatcher

done better to say nothing at all. If, however, she does still hope to see the Garden Festival, security reasons dictate that she would prefer her visit to be unexpected.

But Liverpool Labour MPs reacted angrily to the news that talks with the council are out. Mr Terry Fields, MP for Broadgreen, said it was "deeply disappointing."

"She and her Government have a major responsibility for the council's financial position and she is ducking out," he said.

Comment—Page 20

Mr Bob Parry, MP for Riverside, last night wrote to Mrs Thatcher urging her to say if it was true that a visit was now unlikely.

"If the leak is true, it will only confirm my own personal opinion that you have washed your hands of Liverpool with all its grave problems," he told her.

His letter added that it was "unthinkable" that she should miss the festival set up as a result of her initiative giving Mr Michael Heseltine special responsibility for Merseyside when he was Environment Secretary.

"If you do come, I trust you will see not only trees and flowers but also flesh and blood," said Mr Parry. "Human beings that are living in fear, misery and suffering caused by the policies of your government."

He said he also hoped she would meet civic and church leaders as well as trade union officials.



10 DOWNING STREET

~~GR~~

Please ask DOE and DFEN
how quickly they can
reply to my recent letter
about this visit. We
need to take a final
decision soon.

~~Kay~~: I've agreed with
John Ballard that
they will send a
letter.

~~DMB~~
10/5

~~DMB~~
10/5

DAVID

I spoke to DOE and apparently
the PM's visit to Liverpool was
discussed at Cabinet this morning
do you still require advice from
them?

RM 10/5

July is a very difficult month and we should refer to it at that time. ¹ ² ³ ⁴ ⁵ ⁶ ⁷ ⁸ ⁹ ¹⁰ ¹¹ ¹² ¹³ ¹⁴ ¹⁵ ¹⁶ ¹⁷ ¹⁸ ¹⁹ ²⁰ ²¹ ²² ²³ ²⁴ ²⁵ ²⁶ ²⁷ ²⁸ ²⁹ ³⁰ ³¹ ³² ³³ ³⁴ ³⁵ ³⁶ ³⁷ ³⁸ ³⁹ ⁴⁰ ⁴¹ ⁴² ⁴³ ⁴⁴ ⁴⁵ ⁴⁶ ⁴⁷ ⁴⁸ ⁴⁹ ⁵⁰ ⁵¹ ⁵² ⁵³ ⁵⁴ ⁵⁵ ⁵⁶ ⁵⁷ ⁵⁸ ⁵⁹ ⁶⁰ ⁶¹ ⁶² ⁶³ ⁶⁴ ⁶⁵ ⁶⁶ ⁶⁷ ⁶⁸ ⁶⁹ ⁷⁰ ⁷¹ ⁷² ⁷³ ⁷⁴ ⁷⁵ ⁷⁶ ⁷⁷ ⁷⁸ ⁷⁹ ⁸⁰ ⁸¹ ⁸² ⁸³ ⁸⁴ ⁸⁵ ⁸⁶ ⁸⁷ ⁸⁸ ⁸⁹ ⁹⁰ ⁹¹ ⁹² ⁹³ ⁹⁴ ⁹⁵ ⁹⁶ ⁹⁷ ⁹⁸ ⁹⁹ ¹⁰⁰ ¹⁰¹ ¹⁰² ¹⁰³ ¹⁰⁴ ¹⁰⁵ ¹⁰⁶ ¹⁰⁷ ¹⁰⁸ ¹⁰⁹ ¹¹⁰ ¹¹¹ ¹¹² ¹¹³ ¹¹⁴ ¹¹⁵ ¹¹⁶ ¹¹⁷ ¹¹⁸ ¹¹⁹ ¹²⁰ ¹²¹ ¹²² ¹²³ ¹²⁴ ¹²⁵ ¹²⁶ ¹²⁷ ¹²⁸ ¹²⁹ ¹³⁰ ¹³¹ ¹³² ¹³³ ¹³⁴ ¹³⁵ ¹³⁶ ¹³⁷ ¹³⁸ ¹³⁹ ¹⁴⁰ ¹⁴¹ ¹⁴² ¹⁴³ ¹⁴⁴ ¹⁴⁵ ¹⁴⁶ ¹⁴⁷ ¹⁴⁸ ¹⁴⁹ ¹⁵⁰ ¹⁵¹ ¹⁵² ¹⁵³ ¹⁵⁴ ¹⁵⁵ ¹⁵⁶ ¹⁵⁷ ¹⁵⁸ ¹⁵⁹ ¹⁶⁰ ¹⁶¹ ¹⁶² ¹⁶³ ¹⁶⁴ ¹⁶⁵ ¹⁶⁶ ¹⁶⁷ ¹⁶⁸ ¹⁶⁹ ¹⁷⁰ ¹⁷¹ ¹⁷² ¹⁷³ ¹⁷⁴ ¹⁷⁵ ¹⁷⁶ ¹⁷⁷ ¹⁷⁸ ¹⁷⁹ ¹⁸⁰ ¹⁸¹ ¹⁸² ¹⁸³ ¹⁸⁴ ¹⁸⁵ ¹⁸⁶ ¹⁸⁷ ¹⁸⁸ ¹⁸⁹ ¹⁹⁰ ¹⁹¹ ¹⁹² ¹⁹³ ¹⁹⁴ ¹⁹⁵ ¹⁹⁶ ¹⁹⁷ ¹⁹⁸ ¹⁹⁹ ²⁰⁰ ²⁰¹ ²⁰² ²⁰³ ²⁰⁴ ²⁰⁵ ²⁰⁶ ²⁰⁷ ²⁰⁸ ²⁰⁹ ²¹⁰ ²¹¹ ²¹² ²¹³ ²¹⁴ ²¹⁵ ²¹⁶ ²¹⁷ ²¹⁸ ²¹⁹ ²²⁰ ²²¹ ²²² ²²³ ²²⁴ ²²⁵ ²²⁶ ²²⁷ ²²⁸ ²²⁹ ²³⁰ ²³¹ ²³² ²³³ ²³⁴ ²³⁵ ²³⁶ ²³⁷ ²³⁸ ²³⁹ ²⁴⁰ ²⁴¹ ²⁴² ²⁴³ ²⁴⁴ ²⁴⁵ ²⁴⁶ ²⁴⁷ ²⁴⁸ ²⁴⁹ ²⁵⁰ ²⁵¹ ²⁵² ²⁵³ ²⁵⁴ ²⁵⁵ ²⁵⁶ ²⁵⁷ ²⁵⁸ ²⁵⁹ ²⁶⁰ ²⁶¹ ²⁶² ²⁶³ ²⁶⁴ ²⁶⁵ ²⁶⁶ ²⁶⁷ ²⁶⁸ ²⁶⁹ ²⁷⁰ ²⁷¹ ²⁷² ²⁷³ ²⁷⁴ ²⁷⁵ ²⁷⁶ ²⁷⁷ ²⁷⁸ ²⁷⁹ ²⁸⁰ ²⁸¹ ²⁸² ²⁸³ ²⁸⁴ ²⁸⁵ ²⁸⁶ ²⁸⁷ ²⁸⁸ ²⁸⁹ ²⁹⁰ ²⁹¹ ²⁹² ²⁹³ ²⁹⁴ ²⁹⁵ ²⁹⁶ ²⁹⁷ ²⁹⁸ ²⁹⁹ ³⁰⁰ ³⁰¹ ³⁰² ³⁰³ ³⁰⁴ ³⁰⁵ ³⁰⁶ ³⁰⁷ ³⁰⁸ ³⁰⁹ ³¹⁰ ³¹¹ ³¹² ³¹³ ³¹⁴ ³¹⁵ ³¹⁶ ³¹⁷ ³¹⁸ ³¹⁹ ³²⁰ ³²¹ ³²² ³²³ ³²⁴ ³²⁵ ³²⁶ ³²⁷ ³²⁸ ³²⁹ ³³⁰ ³³¹ ³³² ³³³ ³³⁴ ³³⁵ ³³⁶ ³³⁷ ³³⁸ ³³⁹ ³⁴⁰ ³⁴¹ ³⁴² ³⁴³ ³⁴⁴ ³⁴⁵ ³⁴⁶ ³⁴⁷ ³⁴⁸ ³⁴⁹ ³⁵⁰ ³⁵¹ ³⁵² ³⁵³ ³⁵⁴ ³⁵⁵ ³⁵⁶ ³⁵⁷ ³⁵⁸ ³⁵⁹ ³⁶⁰ ³⁶¹ ³⁶² ³⁶³ ³⁶⁴ ³⁶⁵ ³⁶⁶ ³⁶⁷ ³⁶⁸ ³⁶⁹ ³⁷⁰ ³⁷¹ ³⁷² ³⁷³ ³⁷⁴ ³⁷⁵ ³⁷⁶ ³⁷⁷ ³⁷⁸ ³⁷⁹ ³⁸⁰ ³⁸¹ ³⁸² ³⁸³ ³⁸⁴ ³⁸⁵ ³⁸⁶ ³⁸⁷ ³⁸⁸ ³⁸⁹ ³⁹⁰ ³⁹¹ ³⁹² ³⁹³ ³⁹⁴ ³⁹⁵ ³⁹⁶ ³⁹⁷ ³⁹⁸ ³⁹⁹ ⁴⁰⁰ ⁴⁰¹ ⁴⁰² ⁴⁰³ ⁴⁰⁴ ⁴⁰⁵ ⁴⁰⁶ ⁴⁰⁷ ⁴⁰⁸ ⁴⁰⁹ ⁴¹⁰ ⁴¹¹ ⁴¹² ⁴¹³ ⁴¹⁴ ⁴¹⁵ ⁴¹⁶ ⁴¹⁷ ⁴¹⁸ ⁴¹⁹ ⁴²⁰ ⁴²¹ ⁴²² ⁴²³ ⁴²⁴ ⁴²⁵ ⁴²⁶ ⁴²⁷ ⁴²⁸ ⁴²⁹ ⁴³⁰ ⁴³¹ ⁴³² ⁴³³ ⁴³⁴ ⁴³⁵ ⁴³⁶ ⁴³⁷ ⁴³⁸ ⁴³⁹ ⁴⁴⁰ ⁴⁴¹ ⁴⁴² ⁴⁴³ ⁴⁴⁴ ⁴⁴⁵ ⁴⁴⁶ ⁴⁴⁷ ⁴⁴⁸ ⁴⁴⁹ ⁴⁵⁰ ⁴⁵¹ ⁴⁵² ⁴⁵³ ⁴⁵⁴ ⁴⁵⁵ ⁴⁵⁶ ⁴⁵⁷ ⁴⁵⁸ ⁴⁵⁹ ⁴⁶⁰ ⁴⁶¹ ⁴⁶² ⁴⁶³ ⁴⁶⁴ ⁴⁶⁵ ⁴⁶⁶ ⁴⁶⁷ ⁴⁶⁸ ⁴⁶⁹ ⁴⁷⁰ ⁴⁷¹ ⁴⁷² ⁴⁷³ ⁴⁷⁴ ⁴⁷⁵ ⁴⁷⁶ ⁴⁷⁷ ⁴⁷⁸ ⁴⁷⁹ ⁴⁸⁰ ⁴⁸¹ ⁴⁸² ⁴⁸³ ⁴⁸⁴ ⁴⁸⁵ ⁴⁸⁶ ⁴⁸⁷ ⁴⁸⁸ ⁴⁸⁹ ⁴⁹⁰ ⁴⁹¹ ⁴⁹² ⁴⁹³ ⁴⁹⁴ ⁴⁹⁵ ⁴⁹⁶ ⁴⁹⁷ ⁴⁹⁸ ⁴⁹⁹ ⁵⁰⁰ ⁵⁰¹ ⁵⁰² ⁵⁰³ ⁵⁰⁴ ⁵⁰⁵ ⁵⁰⁶ ⁵⁰⁷ ⁵⁰⁸ ⁵⁰⁹ ⁵¹⁰ ⁵¹¹ ⁵¹² ⁵¹³ ⁵¹⁴ ⁵¹⁵ ⁵¹⁶ ⁵¹⁷ ⁵¹⁸ ⁵¹⁹ ⁵²⁰ ⁵²¹ ⁵²² ⁵²³ ⁵²⁴ ⁵²⁵ ⁵²⁶ ⁵²⁷ ⁵²⁸ ⁵²⁹ ⁵³⁰ ⁵³¹ ⁵³² ⁵³³ ⁵³⁴ ⁵³⁵ ⁵³⁶ ⁵³⁷ ⁵³⁸ ⁵³⁹ ⁵⁴⁰ ⁵⁴¹ ⁵⁴² ⁵⁴³ ⁵⁴⁴ ⁵⁴⁵ ⁵⁴⁶ ⁵⁴⁷ ⁵⁴⁸ ⁵⁴⁹ ⁵⁵⁰ ⁵⁵¹ ⁵⁵² ⁵⁵³ ⁵⁵⁴ ⁵⁵⁵ ⁵⁵⁶ ⁵⁵⁷ ⁵⁵⁸ ⁵⁵⁹ ⁵⁶⁰ ⁵⁶¹ ⁵⁶² ⁵⁶³ ⁵⁶⁴ ⁵⁶⁵ ⁵⁶⁶ ⁵⁶⁷ ⁵⁶⁸ ⁵⁶⁹ ⁵⁷⁰ ⁵⁷¹ ⁵⁷² ⁵⁷³ ⁵⁷⁴ ⁵⁷⁵ ⁵⁷⁶ ⁵⁷⁷ ⁵⁷⁸ ⁵⁷⁹ ⁵⁸⁰ ⁵⁸¹ ⁵⁸² ⁵⁸³ ⁵⁸⁴ ⁵⁸⁵ ⁵⁸⁶ ⁵⁸⁷ ⁵⁸⁸ ⁵⁸⁹ ⁵⁹⁰ ⁵⁹¹ ⁵⁹² ⁵⁹³ ⁵⁹⁴ ⁵⁹⁵ ⁵⁹⁶ ⁵⁹⁷ ⁵⁹⁸ ⁵⁹⁹ ⁶⁰⁰ ⁶⁰¹ ⁶⁰² ⁶⁰³ ⁶⁰⁴ ⁶⁰⁵ ⁶⁰⁶ ⁶⁰⁷ ⁶⁰⁸ ⁶⁰⁹ ⁶¹⁰ ⁶¹¹ ⁶¹² ⁶¹³ ⁶¹⁴ ⁶¹⁵ ⁶¹⁶ ⁶¹⁷ ⁶¹⁸ ⁶¹⁹ ⁶²⁰ ⁶²¹ ⁶²² ⁶²³ ⁶²⁴ ⁶²⁵ ⁶²⁶ ⁶²⁷ ⁶²⁸ ⁶²⁹ ⁶³⁰ ⁶³¹ ⁶³² ⁶³³ ⁶³⁴ ⁶³⁵ ⁶³⁶ ⁶³⁷ ⁶³⁸ ⁶³⁹ ⁶⁴⁰ ⁶⁴¹ ⁶⁴² ⁶⁴³ ⁶⁴⁴ ⁶⁴⁵ ⁶⁴⁶ ⁶⁴⁷ ⁶⁴⁸ ⁶⁴⁹ ⁶⁵⁰ ⁶⁵¹ ⁶⁵² ⁶⁵³ ⁶⁵⁴ ⁶⁵⁵ ⁶⁵⁶ ⁶⁵⁷ ⁶⁵⁸ ⁶⁵⁹ ⁶⁶⁰ ⁶⁶¹ ⁶⁶² ⁶⁶³ ⁶⁶⁴ ⁶⁶⁵ ⁶⁶⁶ ⁶⁶⁷ ⁶⁶⁸ ⁶⁶⁹ ⁶⁷⁰ ⁶⁷¹ ⁶⁷² ⁶⁷³ ⁶⁷⁴ ⁶⁷⁵ ⁶⁷⁶ ⁶⁷⁷ ⁶⁷⁸ ⁶⁷⁹ ⁶⁸⁰ ⁶⁸¹ ⁶⁸² ⁶⁸³ ⁶⁸⁴ ⁶⁸⁵ ⁶⁸⁶ ⁶⁸⁷ ⁶⁸⁸ ⁶⁸⁹ ⁶⁹⁰ ⁶⁹¹ ⁶⁹² ⁶⁹³ ⁶⁹⁴ ⁶⁹⁵ ⁶⁹⁶ ⁶⁹⁷ ⁶⁹⁸ ⁶⁹⁹ ⁷⁰⁰ ⁷⁰¹ ⁷⁰² ⁷⁰³ ⁷⁰⁴ ⁷⁰⁵ ⁷⁰⁶ ⁷⁰⁷ ⁷⁰⁸ ⁷⁰⁹ ⁷¹⁰ ⁷¹¹ ⁷¹² ⁷¹³ ⁷¹⁴ ⁷¹⁵ ⁷¹⁶ ⁷¹⁷ ⁷¹⁸ ⁷¹⁹ ⁷²⁰ ⁷²¹ ⁷²² ⁷²³ ⁷²⁴ ⁷²⁵ ⁷²⁶ ⁷²⁷ ⁷²⁸ ⁷²⁹ ⁷³⁰ ⁷³¹ ⁷³² ⁷³³ ⁷³⁴ ⁷³⁵ ⁷³⁶ ⁷³⁷ ⁷³⁸ ⁷³⁹ ⁷⁴⁰ ⁷⁴¹ ⁷⁴² ⁷⁴³ ⁷⁴⁴ ⁷⁴⁵ ⁷⁴⁶ ⁷⁴⁷ ⁷⁴⁸ ⁷⁴⁹ ⁷⁵⁰ ⁷⁵¹ ⁷⁵² ⁷⁵³ ⁷⁵⁴ ⁷⁵⁵ ⁷⁵⁶ ⁷⁵⁷ ⁷⁵⁸ ⁷⁵⁹ ⁷⁶⁰ ⁷⁶¹ ⁷⁶² ⁷⁶³ ⁷⁶⁴ ⁷⁶⁵ ⁷⁶⁶ ⁷⁶⁷ ⁷⁶⁸ ⁷⁶⁹ ⁷⁷⁰ ⁷⁷¹ ⁷⁷² ⁷⁷³ ⁷⁷⁴ ⁷⁷⁵ ⁷⁷⁶ ⁷⁷⁷ ⁷⁷⁸ ⁷⁷⁹ ⁷⁸⁰ ⁷⁸¹ ⁷⁸² ⁷⁸³ ⁷⁸⁴ ⁷⁸⁵ ⁷⁸⁶ ⁷⁸⁷ ⁷⁸⁸ ⁷⁸⁹ ⁷⁹⁰ ⁷⁹¹ ⁷⁹² ⁷⁹³ ⁷⁹⁴ ⁷⁹⁵ ⁷⁹⁶ ⁷⁹⁷ ⁷⁹⁸ ⁷⁹⁹ ⁸⁰⁰ ⁸⁰¹ ⁸⁰² ⁸⁰³ ⁸⁰⁴ ⁸⁰⁵ ⁸⁰⁶ ⁸⁰⁷ ⁸⁰⁸ ⁸⁰⁹ ⁸¹⁰ ⁸¹¹ ⁸¹² ⁸¹³ ⁸¹⁴ ⁸¹⁵ ⁸¹⁶ ⁸¹⁷ ⁸¹⁸ ⁸¹⁹ ⁸²⁰ ⁸²¹ ⁸²² ⁸²³ ⁸²⁴ ⁸²⁵ ⁸²⁶ ⁸²⁷ ⁸²⁸ ⁸²⁹ ⁸³⁰ ⁸³¹ ⁸³² ⁸³³ ⁸³⁴ ⁸³⁵ ⁸³⁶ ⁸³⁷ ⁸³⁸ ⁸³⁹ ⁸⁴⁰ ⁸⁴¹ ⁸⁴² ⁸⁴³ ⁸⁴⁴ ⁸⁴⁵ ⁸⁴⁶ ⁸⁴⁷ ⁸⁴⁸ ⁸⁴⁹ ⁸⁵⁰ ⁸⁵¹ ⁸⁵² ⁸⁵³ ⁸⁵⁴ ⁸⁵⁵ ⁸⁵⁶ ⁸⁵⁷ ⁸⁵⁸ ⁸⁵⁹ ⁸⁶⁰ ⁸⁶¹ ⁸⁶² ⁸⁶³ ⁸⁶⁴ ⁸⁶⁵ ⁸⁶⁶ ⁸⁶⁷ ⁸⁶⁸ ⁸⁶⁹ ⁸⁷⁰ ⁸⁷¹ ⁸⁷² ⁸⁷³ ⁸⁷⁴ ⁸⁷⁵ ⁸⁷⁶ ⁸⁷⁷ ⁸⁷⁸ ⁸⁷⁹ ⁸⁸⁰ ⁸⁸¹ ⁸⁸² ⁸⁸³ ⁸⁸⁴ ⁸⁸⁵ ⁸⁸⁶ ⁸⁸⁷ ⁸⁸⁸ ⁸⁸⁹ ⁸⁹⁰ ⁸⁹¹ ⁸⁹² ⁸⁹³ ⁸⁹⁴ ⁸⁹⁵ ⁸⁹⁶ ⁸⁹⁷ ⁸⁹⁸ ⁸⁹⁹ ⁹⁰⁰ ⁹⁰¹ ⁹⁰² ⁹⁰³ ⁹⁰⁴ ⁹⁰⁵ ⁹⁰⁶ ⁹⁰⁷ ⁹⁰⁸ ⁹⁰⁹ ⁹¹⁰ ⁹¹¹ ⁹¹² ⁹¹³ ⁹¹⁴ ⁹¹⁵ ⁹¹⁶ ⁹¹⁷ ⁹¹⁸ ⁹¹⁹ ⁹²⁰ ⁹²¹ ⁹²² ⁹²³ ⁹²⁴ ⁹²⁵ ⁹²⁶ ⁹²⁷ ⁹²⁸ ⁹²⁹ ⁹³⁰ ⁹³¹ ⁹³² ⁹³³ ⁹³⁴ ⁹³⁵ ⁹³⁶ ⁹³⁷ ⁹³⁸ ⁹³⁹ ⁹⁴⁰ ⁹⁴¹ ⁹⁴² ⁹⁴³ ⁹⁴⁴ ⁹⁴⁵ ⁹⁴⁶ ⁹⁴⁷ ⁹⁴⁸ ⁹⁴⁹ ⁹⁵⁰ ⁹⁵¹ ⁹⁵² ⁹⁵³ ⁹⁵⁴ ⁹⁵⁵ ⁹⁵⁶ ⁹⁵⁷ ⁹⁵⁸ ⁹⁵⁹ ⁹⁶⁰ ⁹⁶¹ ⁹⁶² ⁹⁶³ ⁹⁶⁴ ⁹⁶⁵ ⁹⁶⁶ ⁹⁶⁷ ⁹⁶⁸ ⁹⁶⁹ ⁹⁷⁰ ⁹⁷¹ ⁹⁷² ⁹⁷³ ⁹⁷⁴ ⁹⁷⁵ ⁹⁷⁶ ⁹⁷⁷ ⁹⁷⁸ ⁹⁷⁹ ⁹⁸⁰ ⁹⁸¹ ⁹⁸² ⁹⁸³ ⁹⁸⁴ ⁹⁸⁵ ⁹⁸⁶ ⁹⁸⁷ ⁹⁸⁸ ⁹⁸⁹ ⁹⁹⁰ ⁹⁹¹ ⁹⁹² ⁹⁹³ ⁹⁹⁴ ⁹⁹⁵ ⁹⁹⁶ ⁹⁹⁷ ⁹⁹⁸ ⁹⁹⁹ ¹⁰⁰⁰

MR. BARCLAY

PRIME MINISTER

Visit to the North West on Friday 13th July

We now need to tie up the details of this tour. The draft programme at present looks like this (times approx):-

- AM Depart London
Fly to Speke Airport, Liverpool
Visit International Garden Festival (1½ hours)
Conservative Party Lunch

- PM Call in at the end of a Conservative Board of Finance (CBF) lunch
Open new office building of BNFL at Risley
Fly back to London

The questions requiring a decision are:-

1. The CBF
Both Brenda Lowe and Brian Wyldbore-Smith would very much like you to visit the CBF lunch at the coffee stage for half an hour and ^{they} assure me that the senior industrialists attending it (the Duke of Westminster might also be present), far from being offended, would be only too delighted. It would be held at a venue close to the normal Party workers' lunch. It will help raise money for the Party. Do you agree to do the CBF?

.../

Prime Minister: The combination of Liverpool and BNFL makes for a very controversial and difficult day. I think you may like to reconsider this tour in the light of the latest advice from Departments (which I have sought).

DMSB
27/4

2. Should you include another engagement?

Brenda Lowe's advice is that you should not undertake an additional engagement because she is worried about demos which would look bad. However, given the sensitivity of Liverpool and its problems I have a feeling that - important though the Garden Festival is - it would help if you could be seen doing something more substantial. There are two possibilities:-

- (a) You could visit the Albert Dock complex at the northern end of the Merseyside Development Corporation's South Docks area, close to the Liverpool City Centre. This is a fine Grade 1 listed building, the largest such building in the country. Work is now well underway by the MDC to restore the fabric of the building and negotiations are well advanced with potential occupiers. Full restoration and regeneration will necessarily take several years. OR
- (b) A private meeting(although the fact of it taking place would be made known)- with the Bishop of Liverpool, David Shepherd and the Roman Catholic Archbishop Warlock.

The preference of Michael Alison and myself is the meeting with the Bishop and Archbishop.

Do you agree to such a meeting? OR

Would you prefer no additional engagement?

SS

STEPHEN SHERBOURNE

27.4.84

File

15/S

288



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

27 April 1984

You will recall from my letter of 24 November 1983 that the Prime Minister is planning to visit BNFL at Risley on Friday, 13 July.

The Prime Minister will need to come to a firm view soon whether or not to go ahead with these plans. I should be grateful to know whether your Secretary of State has any comments.

I am copying this letter to Alan Davis (Department of the Environment). I should be grateful if he could include in his response any views which his Secretary of State may have on whether we should proceed with the proposed visit to the Liverpool Garden Festival.

David Barclay

Michael Reidy, Esq.,
Department of Energy.

File

358

16 April 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 27 March. I am sorry not to have replied before now.

I am afraid that the Prime Minister has not yet finalised plans for a visit to Merseyside. But if the opportunity does arise to accept your kind invitation to open the new municipal offices and land registry buildings, we will certainly be in touch with you.

David Barclay

Councillor David A. Fletcher, J.P.

6



10 DOWNING STREET

Confidential

13th April, 1984

We have been thinking further about the Prime Minister's visit to the North West on Friday, 13th July and in particular the suggestion of the Prime Minister visiting a Central Board of Finance lunch after the Party lunch.

I am a little apprehensive about the Prime Minister visiting Liverpool and appearing to do two lunches while not visiting anything more "substantial" than the International Garden Festival and the BNFL (which might itself be slightly controversial) - I caricature the arguments which we might encounter.

I would be very grateful for your views as to whether the Prime Minister should include anything else in her programme at the expense of not doing the CBF lunch. It is just such a sensitive part of the country at the present.

I am back in the office after Easter and perhaps we should talk very promptly that week.

STEPHEN SHERBOURNE
Political Secretary

Miss Brenda Lowe



**Metropolitan
Borough of Wirral**

Mr Sherbourne

*Perhaps we
cd discuss ?*

**Leader of the Council
Councillor David A. Fletcher, JP**

Town Hall, Brighton Street, Wallasey,
Merseyside, L44 8ED
telephone 051-638 7070

*Dms
2/6*

date 27 March 1984

R31

to The Prime Minister,
The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher M.P.,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON.

CG/LC/SO'N.

Dear Prime Minister,

I understand that you may be visiting the Garden Festival
of the Merseyside Development Corporation sometime this summer.

You will recall that I have previously been in correspondence
with you, enquiring whether it would be possible for you, in
June 1985 or so to declare open the new Municipal Offices and
Land Registry Buildings in Birkenhead. I understand that your
Diary has prevented you from taking a firm decision but I wonder
if when you are in Liverpool, your engagement would permit you
to spend sometime to visit Wirral - a remaining Bastion of a
Conservative controlled Council in a Metropolitan County area
- and see one of our show pieces, an Enterprise Agency or a Small
Business Work Shop. If so I know such a visit would give tremendous
encouragement to the Governments many supporters in the Borough.
A one hour visit would be very much appreciated indeed.

Yours sincerely,

Leader of the Council

MR. SHERBOURNE

We had a brief word yesterday about the programme for the Prime Minister's visit to Liverpool in July. I am afraid I had forgotten that earlier this month DOE had put forward two suggestions for additional engagements in the morning (see the letter of 10 February from Alan Davis, attached).

I do not think that we need to decide quite yet whether we need to pursue either of these possibilities, but you may like to seek comments in confidence from the local agent.

AB

7 March 1984

13 February 1984

Thank you very much for your letter of 10 February about the Prime Minister's proposed visit to Liverpool.

BH | We will of course bear in mind the two suggestions in your letter as the Prime Minister's programme for the day takes shape. I will let you have an indication of the Prime Minister's view a little nearer the time.

David Barclay

A.H. Davis, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

107



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

*Thanks
have in mind
plus details
have a new find
even a little more like*

10 February 1984

Dear David

We spoke last week about the Prime Minister's visit to Liverpool on 13 July. The Prime Minister is visiting the International Garden Festival in the morning, and has political engagements in Cheshire in the afternoon. You said that she might be able to fit in other Liverpool engagements if we thought it desirable.

There are two other things in Liverpool that my Secretary of State suggests the Prime Minister might like to visit. The first is the Albert Dock complex at the northern end of the Merseyside Development Corporation's South Docks area, close to Liverpool City Centre. This is a fine Grade I listed building, the largest such building in the country. Work is now well underway by the MDC to restore the fabric of the building and negotiations are well advanced with potential occupiers. Full restoration and regeneration will necessarily take several years.

The second suggestion is the Plessey factory at Edge Lane, also near Liverpool City Centre. Plesseys manufacture the System X telephone exchange equipment. They are also participating with English Estates, the County Council and the City Council in creating the Wavertree Technology Park. Sixty acres of previously derelict land adjoining the Edge Lane factory are now being prepared and serviced to provide high quality sites for modern technology-based companies. Plesseys will take part of the site for one of their own companies and it is hoped that with the support of the company others will be attracted so as to improve the industrial base in the heart of the City.

*Yours
Alan*

A H DAVIS
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

30 November 1983

The Prime Minister saw your letter of 25 November on her return from India. Mrs. Thatcher is delighted by your invitation and would very much like to accept.

Action We will, if we may, be in touch with your office a little nearer the time about detailed arrangements for a visit by the Prime Minister on the morning of Friday 13 July. Meanwhile I should be most grateful if the prospect of a visit by the Prime Minister could be regarded as confidential.

MR. D. BARCLAY

Leslie Young, Esq., C.B.E.

Lo

193



cc: DOE

Merseyside Development Corporation

Royal Liver Building Pier Head Liverpool L3 1JH Telephone (051) 236 6090 Telex MDC 627110 CHACOM G

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister and Minister for the Civil Service
No 10
Downing Street
London SW1

R26

25 November 1983

Dear Prime Minister,

INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL, LIVERPOOL '84

I know that you will have heard from the Secretary of State for the Environment of the progress we are making on the site of the International Garden Festival in Liverpool.

It would be an honour for all of us involved with this exciting and unique project if you could find time to visit the Festival - which opens on 2 May 1984 - and it has been suggested to me that Friday 13 July may be convenient for you.

I look forward very much to having the pleasure of showing you what has been created.

Sincerely,

Leslie Young

LESLIE C YOUNG, CBE DL



Chairman - Leslie Young CBE; Deputy Chairman - Sir Kenneth Thompson Bt;
Chief Executive - Basil Bean; Commercial Director - Alex Anderson;
Director of Development - John Ritchie; Director of Finance - David Morse
International Garden Festival Liverpool '84



22/12
lo

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

24 November, 1983.

Liverpool Garden Festival

Roger Bright wrote to me on 8 November about the possibility that the Prime Minister might visit the International Garden Festival at Liverpool next summer. I am most grateful for his advice.

The Prime Minister has now agreed to visit the Garden Festival on the morning of Friday, 13 July. When we had a word about this on the telephone, you kindly undertook to prompt an appropriate invitation.

The visit will constitute the main part of a one-day tour of the North West region. In his letter of 8 November, Roger kindly offered to provide suggestions for an additional engagement. In the event, the day is already more or less full - the Prime Minister has in mind a Party lunch in Cheshire, followed by a visit to BNFL at Risley. If your Secretary of State felt, nevertheless, that an additional call in Liverpool was desirable for diplomatic reasons, and could be fitted into the timetable I have outlined, we should of course be happy to put this to the Prime Minister.

I should be grateful if all these arrangements could be regarded as confidential for the time being.

David Barclay

Alan Davis, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

lo



Gr att

May I have the pps for the possible visit to BNFA at Ridley pce, together with these.

Thanks. Most grateful to you when The PM has agreed to visit the International Garden Festival on the evening of 13 July. 2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB 01-212 3434

My ref: J/PSO/16237/83

Your ref: *Reg. Probably using*

8 November 1983

fly up to be there need to leave soon after meeting to check BNFA Ridley (open office blog). This was done in early '83 but to make full scale for August.

14/11

Dear David

POSSIBLE VISIT BY THE PRIME MINISTER TO THE INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL

Thank you for your letter of 27 October. We would certainly welcome a visit by the Prime Minister to the Garden Festival, and consider that this would be entirely appropriate given that this is such a major international event, and the first of its kind in this country.

On timing, we would like to suggest that the visit might be early in July, when the publicity for the Festival's peak summer season will be building up, and before the burst of publicity which will accompany the Tall Ships Race, which will be finishing in Liverpool in late July or early August.

Of the possible Fridays in early July the 13th may be the most suitable as the 12th - 19th July will be British Week at the Festival. This is one of a number of 'national' weeks taking place during the period of the Festival; the only other one in July is Chinese Week arranged for 3rd - 8th.

If the Prime Minister is content, we will make some suggestions for one other possible visit in the North West on the same day.

*Yours sincerely
Roger Bright*

R BRIGHT
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq



NOV 10 1983



CONFIDENTIAL



10/11

16

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

27 October 1983

Possible Visit by the Prime Minister to the
International Garden Festival

The Prime Minister is giving some thought to her programme of regional tours for 1984, and in particular to the possibility that she might visit the International Garden Festival in Liverpool some time in July. If she were to decide to do this, the likelihood is that the visit would be made on a Friday morning, and combined with Party engagements and possibly one other visit in the North West (not in Liverpool).

At this stage, I should be grateful for advice on whether you would think a visit by the Prime Minister to the Garden Festival appropriate, together with any advice you may wish to offer on timing within the constraints I have outlined,

Roger Bright Esq
Department of the Environment,

6



Bu 8.6.84 L

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

24 November, 1983.

We had a word on the telephone about the enclosed invitation from BNFL to open a new office building at Risley. This follows an earlier invitation from Sir John Hill which the Prime Minister had to decline.

As I explained when we spoke (with apologies that you were not consulted earlier) the Prime Minister is keen to accept Mr. Allday's invitation, and is indeed quite firmly committed to doing so. The likelihood is that the Prime Minister would spend some part of the afternoon of Friday, 13 July, at Risley as part of a one-day visit to the North West.

I do not think that there is any action that you need take at present, though in due course I should be grateful if you could provide appropriate briefing. Perhaps we could be in touch about the precise form of this nearer the time.

The Prime Minister's proposed visit to Risley has not yet been announced, and I should be grateful if you would regard it as confidential until further notice.

I am sending a copy of this letter and its enclosure to Alan Davis (Department of the Environment).

David Barclay

Michael Reidy, Esq.,
Department of Energy.

40



FILE

JSG

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

4 November, 1983

Dear Mr Allday,

Many thanks for your letter of 25 October.

Action | I should be delighted to accept your kind invitation to open the new building at Risley. I am hoping to visit the North West next summer - probably in July - and I will ask my office to contact yours to find a mutually convenient date and time.

I am afraid that the chances of fitting in a visit to Capenhurst on the same day are not high, since I shall have quite a heavy programme in the region. But I should very much like to try, and perhaps we could postpone a final decision until my other plans have taken shape.

I look forward greatly to seeing your new building, and to hearing about the exciting projects you have in hand, especially of course THORP.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

C. Allday, Esq., C.B.E.

RW

From the Chairman and Chief Executive

British Nuclear Fuels Limited



Head Office: Risley Warrington WA3 6AS
Telephone: Warrington (0925) 35953 Telegrams: NUFUEL Warrington Telex: 627581

Our ref

Your ref

Ext

The Rt. Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP.,
10, Downing Street,
LONDON SW1

25th October, 1983

Dear Prime Minister,

During the summer of next year we will complete construction of a new engineering design office and Company Headquarters building at Risley. It will house some 1800 staff working on design and control of major projects associated with the reprocessing of nuclear fuel and waste management, and in particular the Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant (THORP) which we are building at Sellafield and which was the subject of the Windscale Inquiry in 1977.

The Board of Directors and, I am sure, all employees in the Company, would be delighted if you would formally open the building for us, which we hope will be named "Hinton House" in memory of the late Lord Hinton, who did so much to found our industry.

The new design office and Headquarters, being built for us by Sir Alfred McAlpine and Son, will replace a collection of older war-time buildings and prefabricated structures in which our staff are presently housed, enabling us to bring associated design teams together under one roof. This will help us improve management efficiency and demonstrate the Company's confidence in the future of nuclear power.

The building has a pleasant aesthetic external appearance and houses an extremely efficient internal layout incorporating modern technology, including computer aided design and project control techniques.

We are situated in the centre of what has become the Warrington New Town Science Park, which is in itself an exciting and interesting technological complex.

You may remember that some time ago Sir John Hill, my predecessor as Chairman of the Company, invited you to visit Capenhurst to see something of our contribution to the tripartite Anglo/German/Dutch centrifuge project. This is going extraordinarily well and I would like to repeat the invitation so that if you could spare the time in the North West you could visit both Risley

/and

BNFL

Regd. Number: 1002607 England Regd. Office: Risley Warrington WA3 6AS

Mr BARCLAY

My strong advice is that she should open new building. It might well be possible to do both Risley and Capenhurst, but I think formal opening of building, which identifies PM closely with industry, should have priority

BRITISH NUCLEAR FUELS

[Handwritten signature]

MR. INGHAM

The Prime Minister has agreed in principle to visit BNFL in Cheshire as part of a one day visit to the North West next July (see your minute of 18 October on this subject). BNFL have not yet been told.

The official invitation from BNFL has now arrived. It emerges that they are asking the Prime Minister to open a new office building at Risley. This is not as exciting as one might have hoped. Do you think we should go ahead, or go back to the Prime Minister, or ask BNFL if they can arrange something at Capenhurst?

Alternatively, I suppose we could try to fit in a visit to Windscale when the Prime Minister goes to Penrith and the Borders on her way to Balmoral.

G.R. Hewitt 1/11

Ppps psc

D

1/11

DMB

31 October 1983

4th October, 1983

Thank you for your letter of 29th September. It was most kind to you to send us tickets for your area reception. For my part, I hope - work permitting! - to be able to come.

Thank you also for the information and your views on the International Garden Festival being held in Liverpool next year. This was most helpful.

Stephen Sherbourne
Political Secretary

Miss Brenda Lowe

Conservative Central Office
North West Area

Woolton House 31 Byrom Street Manchester M3 4PJ Telephone: 061-832 6044

Central Office Agent: Miss B. M. LOWE Deputy Central Office Agents: Miss R. D. CATTELL J. M. GOODSMAN H. PURCELL
Publicity Liaison Officer: W. HARENAPE Industrial Organiser: P. DOWLING

BML/BJH

29th September, 1983.

Dear Stephen,

INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL - LIVERPOOL 1984

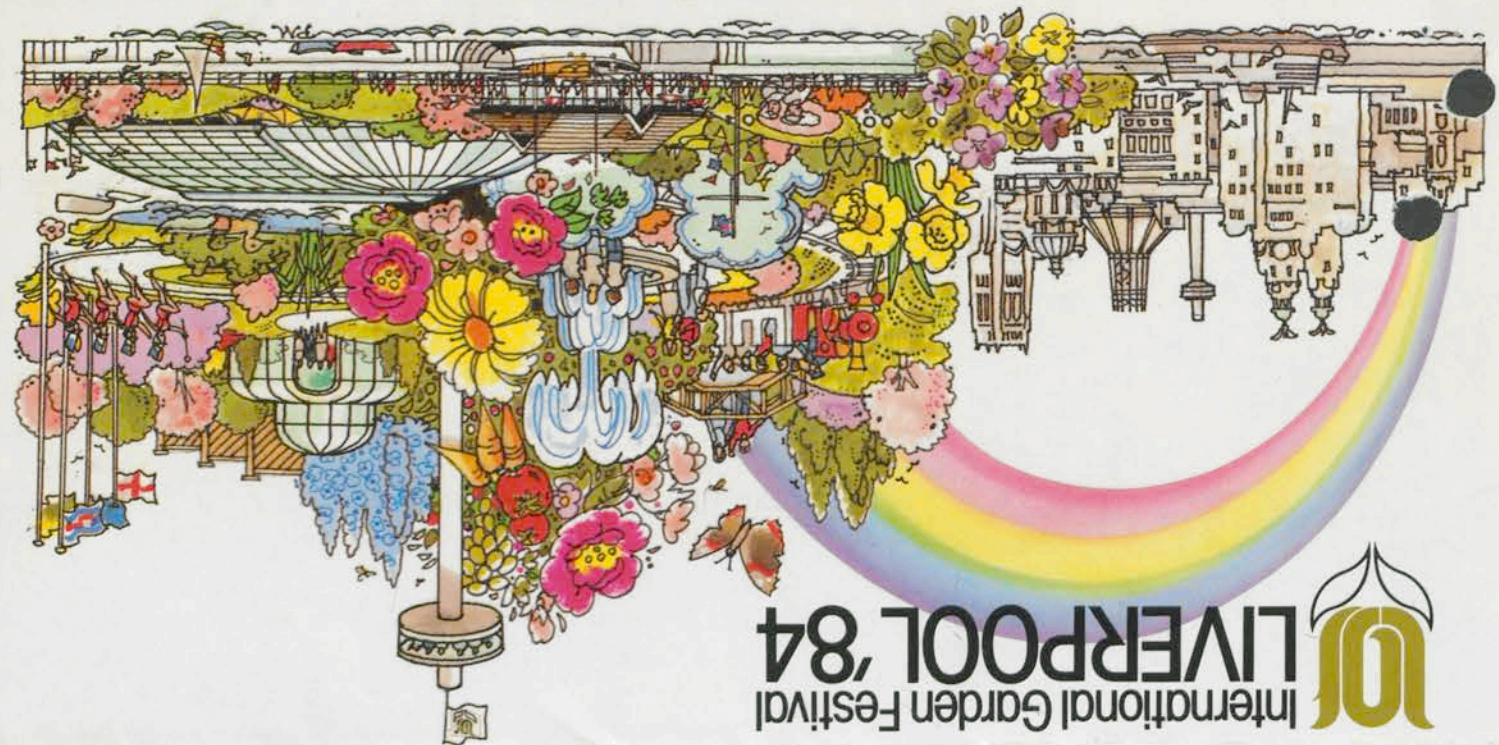
I enclose herewith brochure on the International Garden Festival being held in Liverpool in 1984. I understand that the Prime Minister may have received an invitation to visit this and I would fully support her acceptance.

I will ring you next week in respect of one or two details about the Party Conference and the Prime Minister's attendance at the Y.C. Ball and the Agents' Ball.

I enclose herewith six tickets for our Area Reception for any members of the Prime Minister's staff who are attending the Conference and would like to call in for a drink.

Yours,
John, e
Brenda

Stephen Sherbourne Esq.,
Political Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.



Liverpool 1984, scene of Britain's first-ever International Garden Festival

Between May and October 1984, the biggest Garden Festival ever staged in this country will take place on the banks of the River Mersey – a massive International event of worldwide interest, estimated to attract over 3 million visitors to Liverpool from both home and overseas.

represented in an impressive 125 acre display supplied by the many hundreds of Horticultural Organisations in the United Kingdom and overseas.



Something for all the family

Whatever the weather, there'll always be plenty of entertainment inside the Festival Building – including a regularly changing programme of specialised horticultural events. There's the Water Garden to visit too. Play Areas for the young and the not-so-young. A Gardener's Market, and of course, Leisure and Picnic areas.

Trouble-free travel!

It couldn't be easier to get to the Garden Festival. Whether you're travelling by coach, bus, plane or train, regular services will provide easy access to the site. Whilst a massive car park will be available for up to 10,000 cars.



The world's most beautiful gardens

Every race, every culture has its own very different ideas on what constitutes a beautiful garden. A great deal of course depends on the particular variety of plants and foliage that flourish in individual climates.



Now you can see an endless array of beautiful gardens

Everything from international sporting events to pop concerts

From Theatre to Concerts and Carnivals – the Festival Arena will feature an incredible range of leisure and sporting spectacles and many other outdoor events for up to 20,000 spectators. Smaller events, however, will take place in the nearby Amphitheatre.

HORTICULTURAL SHOW PROGRAMME

The main Floral Competitions and Exhibitions to be held in the Festival Hall during the Festival are grouped in 'themes'. Below is a list of the main theme headings with some of the classes to be included:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2-16 May | SPRING FLOWER SHOW |
| 15-29 May | HORTICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT |
| 30 May - 7 June | MORE COLOUR IN YOUR LIFE |
| 13-26 June | INTERIOR LANDSCAPE |
| 29 June - 8 July | GARDENERS OF THE FUTURE |
| 11-19 July | DISABILITY WEEK |
| 20 July - 3 August | SUMMER FLOWER SHOW |
| 24-27 August | ROSE EVENT |
| 28 August - 13 September | AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW |
| 16-23 September | FLOWER ARRANGEMENT FESTIVAL |
| 27 September - 3 October | AUTUMN ORCHID SHOW |
| 6-14 October | HARVEST FESTIVAL |



International Garden Festival
LIVERPOOL '84

Please send me further details on the INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL, LIVERPOOL '84.

Name _____

Address _____

Company _____

Position _____

INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL '84
Merseyside Development Corporation,
4th Floor, Royal Liver Building,
Liverpool L3 1JH.

A spectacular programme from May to October for exhibitors, sponsors and spectators alike!

The International Garden Festival – the big gardening festival with the big family appeal. There's something of interest for everyone, from toddlers upwards! Take a Miniature Railway sightseeing tour. Or get a birds eye view of the whole festival from the revolving deck of the 220 ft high Observation tower. Don't miss the spectacular music and sporting events in the big Arena, the Exhibition Hall, the Homes and Gardens section and the attractive Esplanade. There are even special play areas for the kids!

With a railway station virtually on site, a regular bus service, Liverpool Airport just 2.5 miles away and a large Festival car park, it couldn't be easier to give the whole family a day out to remember!

The International Garden Festival Liverpool '84 is the biggest event of its kind Britain has ever seen and will provide an unrivalled showcase for the horticultural firms, landscape designers and associated industries who will be participating by means of exhibitions or sponsorship. A full 100 acres of the massive 125 acre site will be devoted to a whole range of different garden themes and magnificent floral displays. There will be a huge Exhibition Hall too for horticultural events, a Gardener's Market and a Homes and Gardens section together with the ultimate in Garden Centres. Altogether an attractive spectacle for the estimated three million visitors!



We've taken over 125 acres of Liverpool's waterfront and transformed it into a Garden Paradise.

Already, work is in progress to transform the vast 125 acre site into a fabulous Garden Festival area featuring displays and exhibits of every conceivable type and description, together with a whole host of other exciting attractions not just for garden enthusiasts, but for all the family!

Liverpool – the perfect host!

Visitors to the International Garden Festival are sure to discover an added bonus in visiting one of Britain's most lively and interesting cities. Liverpool – a city that's proud to entertain its visitors with its ferryboats

and cathedrals, its museums and art galleries, its sportsgrounds and shopping centres, its nightclubs and restaurants. Yet Liverpool too is the ideal base for touring other places in the North West and Wales and for visiting seaside resorts in the Wirral, Southport and nearby Lancashire.

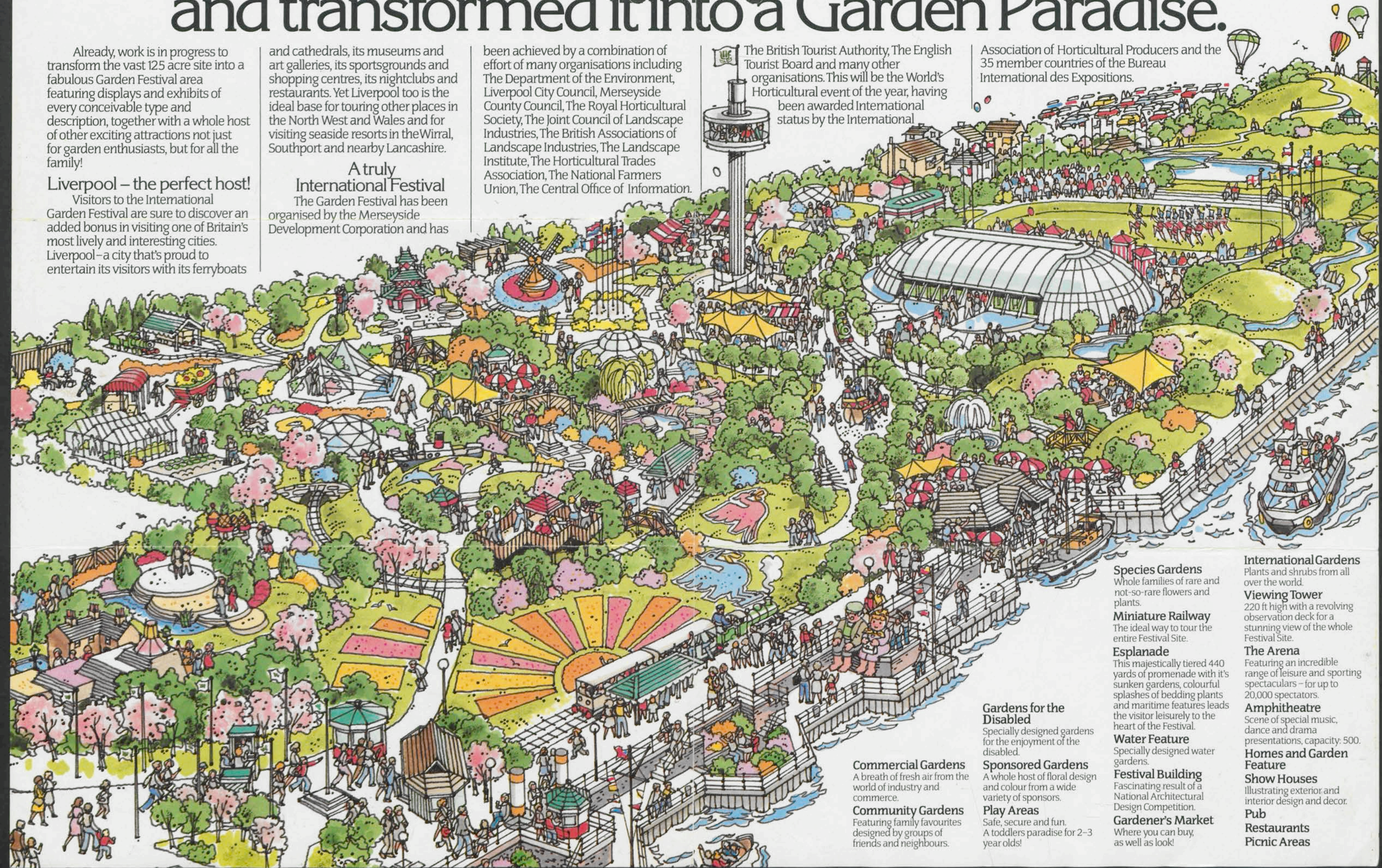
A truly International Festival

The Garden Festival has been organised by the Merseyside Development Corporation and has

been achieved by a combination of effort of many organisations including The Department of the Environment, Liverpool City Council, Merseyside County Council, The Royal Horticultural Society, The Joint Council of Landscape Industries, The British Associations of Landscape Industries, The Landscape Institute, The Horticultural Trades Association, The National Farmers Union, The Central Office of Information.

The British Tourist Authority, The English Tourist Board and many other organisations. This will be the World's Horticultural event of the year, having been awarded International status by the International

Association of Horticultural Producers and the 35 member countries of the Bureau International des Expositions.



Commercial Gardens
A breath of fresh air from the world of industry and commerce.

Community Gardens
Featuring family favourites designed by groups of friends and neighbours.

Gardens for the Disabled

Specially designed gardens for the enjoyment of the disabled.

Sponsored Gardens
A whole host of floral design and colour from a wide variety of sponsors.

Play Areas

Safe, secure and fun. A toddlers paradise for 2-3 year olds!

Species Gardens

Whole families of rare and not-so-rare flowers and plants.

Miniature Railway

The ideal way to tour the entire Festival Site.

Esplanade

This majestically tiered 440 yards of promenade with its sunken gardens, colourful splashes of bedding plants and maritime features leads the visitor leisurely to the heart of the Festival.

Water Feature

Specially designed water gardens.

Festival Building

Fascinating result of a National Architectural Design Competition.

Gardener's Market

Where you can buy, as well as look!

International Gardens

Plants and shrubs from all over the world.

Viewing Tower

220 ft high with a revolving observation deck for a stunning view of the whole Festival Site.

The Arena

Featuring an incredible range of leisure and sporting spectacles – for up to 20,000 spectators.

Amphitheatre

Scene of special music, dance and drama presentations, capacity: 500.

Homes and Garden Feature

Show Houses

Illustrating exterior and interior design and decor.

Pub

Restaurants

Picnic Areas



FILE LPO

Copied to:
D/Energy

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

15 November, 1982

Dear Sir John,

Thank you so much for writing to me about your successes at Capenhurst. I was delighted to hear of the progress which you are making and in particular that you are competing so successfully in international markets. I would very much like to visit Capenhurst, although I doubt whether I shall be able to fit a visit into my programme for next year. Nevertheless, I will keep the possibility very much in mind.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Sir John Hill.

SW

Ⓢ

see despatch 3
+ copy to DEN

JD.

PRIME MINISTER

Attached is a letter from
Sir John Hill inviting you to visit the
British Nuclear Fuels plant at Capenhurst.
Sir John has some successes to report and
the Department of Energy think that if
you can find the time a visit there would
be worthwhile. We are planning to visit
the North West in February next year but
we anticipate that we shall re-instate the
programme which was postponed from October
which would not allow a visit to Capenhurst.
In these circumstances, do you agree to a
"bear in mind for the future" reply; if so,
a draft is attached for your signature.

JD

11 November 1982

1. MR. HOWE
2. MISS STEPHENS

That seems the best course ^{Duff}

*agreed: Min. Dore
please by middle of
1983. C.J. 815*

As you know, Sir John Hill has suggested that the Prime Minister visits British Nuclear Fuels' plant at Capenhurst. The Department of Energy say that this would be a good visit and she should do so if at all possible. I very much doubt if this will fit into next year's programme, so should I reply to the effect that the Prime Minister favours a visit in principle and will keep it in mind for her future programme?

5 November 1982



SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY

THAMES HOUSE SOUTH
MILLBANK LONDON SW1P 4QJ

01-211 6402

Tim Flesher Esq
Private Secretary to
the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

4 November 1982

Dear Tim,

Thank you for your letter of 25 October seeking advice on Sir John Hill's suggestion that the Prime Minister visits British Nuclear Fuels' plant at Capenhurst.

As Sir John says Capenhurst is a successful operation. The Company uses the centrifuge technology for uranium enrichment developed in collaboration with the Dutch and Germans in the URENCO partnership. Recently this has been chosen by the Australian Government as the basis for a feasibility study on uranium enrichment in preference to American, French and Japanese technology.

Sir John Hill wanted to invite the Prime Minister to Capenhurst last year, but the visit did not take place because Ministers had not then decided whether to go ahead with the military centrifuge plant to produce fuel for nuclear submarines. The decision to go ahead was welcomed by the Company, because the civil and military programmes can now share the R and D and other overheads, and redundancies will be avoided. The timing is good, therefore, in this respect also.

The plant is sited near Ellesmere Port in Cheshire and employs over 2000 people in an area of high unemployment. It is popular locally and the risk of an anti-nuclear protest is small.

I therefore recommend that the Prime Minister undertakes this visit.

Jeremy Clayton

JEREMY CLAYTON
Private Secretary

J. H. HILL

8/11

Hc

25 October 1982

The Prime Minister has received the attached letter from the Chairman of British Nuclear Fuels Limited proposing that she visits the BNFL plant at Capenhurst. I should be grateful for your advice on whether the Prime Minister should visit Capenhurst or indeed any other BNFL plant during the course of one of her regional tours next year. Please could I have your advice by Monday 8 November?

Tim Flesher

Jeremy Clayton, Esq.,
Department of Energy.

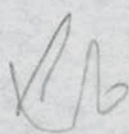
Rb

MR. HOWE

I attach a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from the Chairman of British Nuclear Fuels Limited suggesting that she should visit one of their plants in the North West. I am seeking Department of Energy advice on the letter but you may like to be aware of what has been suggested. The Prime Minister is due to visit the North West in July next year and it might be that a visit to a BNFL plant could be included in the programme if you thought it worthwhile. I will let you know what Department of Energy advise.

Tim Flesher

25 October 1982



file HL

23 October 1982

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to acknowledge your letter of 22 October. This is receiving attention and a reply will be sent to you as soon as possible.

Tim Flesher

Sir John

J.M. Hill, Esq.

No GR pps

From the Chairman

British Nuclear Fuels Limited



1 Hobhouse Court Suffolk Street London SW1Y 4HH
Telephone: (01) 839 4851/2

22nd October 1982

R23

Dear Prime Minister,

Some time ago you expressed interest in visiting Capenhurst to see the new centrifuge plants for the enrichment of uranium. The new technology that we have developed commercially with our German and Dutch partners has been most successful and we are now engaged in building our second commercial plant at Capenhurst to supply overseas customers as well as to support the domestic nuclear power programme. We have been able to offer to supply the Ministry of Defence with enriched uranium at prices no higher than the Americans are able to quote from their huge defence plants and you will know that the Ministry of Defence has recently accepted our offer.

We have recently had another success. The Australian Government intends that at least a proportion of their uranium ore should be upgraded to enriched uranium before export to the world markets. As a first step to this objective they set up some time ago an expert group of industrialists to study all available enrichment processes - the diffusion plants in America and France and the centrifuge plants in America, Europe and Japan. This group has recently recommended to the Australian Government, and the Government have accepted, that for the economic feasibility study that will now be undertaken, our technology should be adopted on grounds of "economic superiority, proven technical and commercial capability and flexibility for modular growth".

At a time when it is so apparent that economic growth is dependent upon the commercial exploitation of new technology, I wonder if you could some time when you are visiting the North West of England, visit us at Capenhurst and see this new and exciting technology growing successfully in a competitive world market.

We would be delighted if you could come.

Yours sincerely

J. M. Hill
J. M. Hill

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M. P.,
10 Downing Street,
London, SW1.

Sir John Hill



Regd. Number: 1002607 England Regd. Office: Risley Warrington WA3 6AS



P/a

10 DOWNING STREET

Mr Buckle

To note.

I have told Mr Ingham
of the (man) Minister's return.

KW

12.12.81

GP

This was a my
papers. Would you add
recent papers on our
recent correspondence with
Sir John Hall

JF

1/12

MR. WHITMORE

Prime Minister

Would you in principle like to visit Capenhurst
and Risley? Yes - when we visit the NW & W
As regards X1, Ministers should have to reach final
decisions. BNFL *Atkl.*

I had lunch this week with Con Allday, Managing Director,
and Harold Bolter, Secretary of British Nuclear Fuels. I know
them well from my energy/journalistic days. They had two
objectives:

- to inquire whether the Prime Minister, on a regional
visit, might visit their plants at Capenhurst and
Risley in Cheshire - a Conservative area, a notable
technology 'park' and, so far as BNFL is concerned,
a technology of the future; they are likely to want
to get the new Secretary of State to Cheshire before
the Prime Minister, but you may well feel there
are the makings of a good visit here (though see
attached note on BNFL redundancy);

X

- their worries about the possibility that the Govern-
ment is about to buy submarine fuel from the USA
instead of developing BNFL at a saving, they say, of
600 jobs (public and private), giving an impetus to
development of a new technology and providing
an indigenous supply of a strategic material, possibly
with not much difference in cost; their case is set
out in the attached note and you may care to let the
Prime Minister see it.

B. Ingham

B. INGHAM

24 September, 1981

mb

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVAL FUEL PLANT - Brief by BNFL

1. In January 1980, the Government decided that the highly enriched uranium required to fuel the Navy's nuclear submarine fleet should be produced in the UK and accordingly a letter of intent was given to BNFL for construction of plant to produce the enriched uranium and fabricate the fuel. This decision followed an earlier BNFL design study for MOD which proposed using the gas centrifuge technology which had already been accepted as the most economic method of producing enriched uranium.
2. The material was to have been produced at the BNFL Capenhurst Works in the Wirral where the new technology was being developed and used as part of the British/German/Dutch Tri-National URENCO programme for the production of low enriched uranium for use in civil reactors. This programme has been very successful and commercial plants have already been built and operated to produce material for nuclear power stations throughout the world. However delays to nuclear power station construction programmes has slowed the expansion of URENCO's plants. The order for the submarine fuel was therefore particularly opportune to BNFL in that it helped the viability of the project.
3. Because BNFL believed that the submarine fuel plant would go ahead on the urgent timescale required by MOD the Company acceded to a request from CEGB/SSEB to close down the old gaseous diffusion plant at Capenhurst in 1982 - some three years earlier than the original contract date. With wastage and retirements virtually the whole of the 600 people involved would have been absorbed by the enlarged centrifuge project.
4. In December 1980 BNFL received an instruction to suspend work on the Submarine Fuel Plant pending a review of expenditure by MOD. That review is still proceeding. It seems that the MOD can purchase the necessary material from the US without having to provide the £100m capital required to build the plant over the next 5 years. The standard contractual terms for supply from the US are open - ended in that the price can change at short notice to take into account increased energy costs. Although the US price for highly enriched uranium is currently lower than for UK supply it is increasing at twice the rate because of its much greater dependence on energy costs. There is the additional uncertainty of £/\$ exchange rates. The final cost to MOD may not therefore be very different from UK supply.
5. If the project proceeds BNFL will save about 300 jobs, provide an equivalent number in outside industry, help continue the development of a new technology and provide an indigenous supply of a strategic material.

