



Government Chief Whip

12 Downing Street, London SW1

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

8 February 1984

Dear Bernard,

LIAISON COMMITTEE

You might wish to have the attached up-dated note I have received from Nicholas True, the Special Adviser at the DHSS.

I am copying this to Stephen Sherbourne.

Yours sincerely,
Alison Ward,

Alison Ward

Bernard Ingham Esq.,
10 Downing Street.

MISS ALISON WARD

Forthcoming events

Could I amend my minute of 23rd January - and add to it as follows:

February

Debate on revised
Housing Benefit regulations

Pension inquiry
open meeting (14th)

Organ Donor Card
Campaign (22nd)

"No smoking day" - provokes
discussion of prevention

End?

Report and PQ on
helping mentally
handicapped people
with special problems

February/March

Announcement on health service
charges (dental/optical
prescriptions)

March

Binder Hamlyn

Griffiths report
implementation (in
force from 1st April)

April 1st

NHS pay settlement date

March/April

Decisions on deputising services
- first proposals opposed by BMA

Announcement on
prevention of
drug abuse

May

DDR - doctors' and dentists'
pay review announced



NICHOLAS TRUE

7th February, 1984

MISS ALISON WARDForthcoming events

You asked at the Advisers' Meeting for a list of some forthcoming events which might attract press comment. I list a first batch below, and will send a subsequent and amended list, as may be necessary, within the next fortnight. I try to separate them into broadly 'good' and 'bad' categories.

	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>BAD</u>
24th January	First open session of <u>pensions inquiry</u>	
Week of 23rd January?	Future of heart transplants	
Late Jan/ early Feb.		Housing Benefit regulations laid/SSAC report published (subject to discussions with Treasury)
February	<u>Binder Hamlyn</u> (subject to 'H' discussion) (control of family practitioner costs)	(Row with BMA)
Week of 6th February	Launching of donor card campaign (featuring record figures on kidney transplants)	
8th February	S of S to give evidence to Social Services Select Committee on <u>Griffiths Report</u>	

X I SOCIAL SERVICES

There will be a number of running issues:

- the pensions inquiry will continue to hold meetings - further public sessions are planned for 14th February and 21st February. It is hoped to complete consideration of issue of personal and portable pensions by Easter;

- the debate on the Griffiths Report and improved management and use of resources in the NHS will continue. Some professional organisations (e.g., BMA and RCN) have said they are unhappy with the report;

- discussions on NHS pay will come into higher prominence. The TUC are threatening to launch a public campaign following the next meeting with ministers at the end of January. Labour are seeking to draw attention to the 3 per cent pay fact allowed in the p.e. settlement;

- the Health and Social Security Bill will be in committee - the main features are good news - the Special Disablement Allowance and the liberalisation of optical services. Labour will seek to present the S.O.A. as mean and the optical services decision as against the public interest. (On the optical services they will be assisted by Mrs Jill Knight.)

(NB, her husband is an optician)

N. Darlington
PP NICHOLAS TRUE

23rd January, 1984