talk AT JR Tcama.

## PRIME MINISTER

Sir James Goldsmith has sent you a copy of his speech at the Small Business Bureau Conference which I attach.

He makes a number of points:-

- (a) This is the first Conservative Government to be genuinely committed to the individual businessman.
- (b) That one of the advantages of small businesses is that they prevent power being divided between large companies and State bodies.
- (c) He floats the possibility of introducing laws to give small businesses an "even break" both vis-a-vis Government and big businesses.
- (d) He has various views about the Loan Guarantee Scheme and the Business Expansion Scheme.

I have drafted a reply for you to send. - This is attached.

It might be helpful to elicit from David Trippier his views about Sir James's specific proposals. Would you like me to do this?

We plean we see the see that the

STEPHEN SHERBOURNE

17th February 1984



## 10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

17th February, 1984

Jours simuly Margane Shaleter

la Su James.

Thank you for sending me a copy of your speech at the Small Businesses Bureau Conference on February 8th.

I read it with very great interest and found some of the ideas most stimulating. I want to consider some of them carefully.

I am only sorry I was unable to hear your speech in person but, as you know, I had an extremely crowded day. Nevertheless your ideas are on the record so that they can act as a spur to those of us in Government.

Sir James Goldsmith



Government Chief Whip also W 12 Downing Street, London SW1

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

6 March 1984

Lea Stephen LIAISON COMMITTEE

Further to this morning's meeting, you will remember that you referred to a paper by Sir James Goldsmith on similar lines to that presented by Chris Lawson to the meeting. Could you let me know more about this paper, so that I can obtain a copy before the Chief Whip gets the Small Business people in the House to work on it?

Your Sweney

Alison Ward