

CG.
22 November 1984

PRIME MINISTER

cc Mr Sherbourne ✓
Mr Ingham

GLC/MCC ABOLITION: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

There are likely to be a number of unfortunate developments during the next few days.

The Tory Reform Group is preparing a pamphlet opposing abolition. It will probably appear on Monday 26 or Tuesday 27 November.

Weekend World is planning a programme with Kenneth Baker for Sunday 25 November, which will probably be extremely hostile, portraying the Joint Boards as a flop.

Derek Fatchett MP is intending to put down an all-party early day motion on the recent (unfavourable) PA report.

Charles Morrison MP is attempting to organise a meeting of Conservative backbenchers against abolition.

The MCC campaign liaison committee has engaged the services of Biss Lancaster, a highly professional PR agency. New efforts are being made both to gain media coverage for the MCC case and to brief selected members of the House of Lords.

We are alerting DoE, but you may wish to consider taking action of your own to limit revolts on the backbenches of both Houses, while the propaganda is at its height.

Janet Evison.

pp. OLIVER LETWIN