

Note

PM decided not to invite
Professor Stroud and Dr. Stirling.

PRIME MINISTER

CHEQUERS HEALTH SEMINAR: 27 MARCH

REC 6

11/3

We have today despatched the invitations you signed last night. You did not sign the enclosed letter to Dr. Pereira Gray (of the Royal College of General Practitioners). I assume this was because it got clipped to the back of another one and, if you are content to invite him, perhaps you could now sign.

I also promised a further report on candidates for the remaining two places. Tony Newton has suggested four names:

- amongst geriatrics, Dr. Nuala Stirling, a consultant at the Southampton General (first choice) and Professor Elaine Murphy of Guy's;

- amongst paediatricians, Professor Eric Stroud of King's College Hospital (first choice) and Professor Catherine Peckham of Great Ormond Street.

DHSS and the Policy Unit have made extensive efforts to check the views of these people. Unfortunately they have been unable to obtain firm information. Contacts with the Conservative Medical Society have not given any clear guide. But Sir John Butterfield suggests that Stroud is a sound and decent chap, and Tony Newton apparently went to school with Dr. Stirling and considers she was still friendly when he last met her.

You will want to consider whether you are content to issue invitations to Professor Stroud and Dr. Stirling against this background. If so, I attach invitation letters for your signature.

REC 6.

(PAUL GRAY)

10 March 1988