

PRIME MINISTER

COMMUNITY CARE: MEETING ON 4 MAY

We have arranged the next meeting of your group on the Community Care for next Thursday.

I really don't see how we can have this meeting until we have a better paper from DoH. All it says is that more detailed work requires to be done. They are right - it does!

The papers commissioned from DOE and DOH have arrived late this evening; as a result briefing from the Cabinet Office and Policy Unit will not be available until next week. Given the other demands on your time this weekend you may therefore prefer to defer looking at any of the papers on this until next Tuesday evening when the full set is available.

But if you do want to have a first glance at what is now available over the weekend, the enclosed papers are:

Flag A - DOE paper on the local authority options.

My immediate impression is that this is disappointingly thin.

Flag B - DOH paper analysing which of Roy Griffiths' original proposals can be accepted and which should be either rejected or considered further. There is more substance in this paper, although it is not easy to follow.

Flag C - A further letter from DOH reporting on the outcome of further discussions with the Treasury about the mental illness paper Kenneth Clarke circulated before the last meeting. (In the event there was not time at that meeting to consider it.) This latest letter only makes sense if read in conjunction with:

Flag D - The earlier DOH mental illness paper.

Paul

(PAUL GRAY)

28 April 1989