

*But that is what makes people work.* CF  
Rile pl.

PRIME MINISTER

CRIME PREVENTION SEMINAR

You asked that the list of those to be invited to the Seminar should reflect the importance of protecting people - especially young women - against violent crime.

The Home Secretary is concerned to avoid allowing the Seminar to develop a focus on violence. He sees its main purpose as being to encourage people to take the modest and practical measures which could have a significant impact on crimes against property, which make up the bulk of recorded offences. I attach the Home Office letter reflecting his views.

You will see that the Home Secretary offers one extra name who could make a contribution on violent crime: Superintendent Thelma Wagstaff of New Scotland Yard. The letter also proposes that the AMA, the ACC and the ADC be represented at the meeting.

Content that -

(i) Superintendent Wagstaff should be invited to the Seminar?

*Yes no*

(ii) Councillor Layden (Chairman, AMA), Councillor Lovell (Chairman of the Executive Council, ACC) and Councillor Morgan (Chairman, ADC) should also be invited to the Seminar?

*Yes no*

The Home Secretary will be putting up a note with proposals for the subjects to be covered at the Seminar early in December.

*Mark Addison*

Mark Addison  
28 November 1985



*AMB*



HOME OFFICE  
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE  
LONDON SW1H 9AT

28<sup>th</sup> November 1985

*Dear Book,*

PRIME MINISTER'S SEMINAR ON CRIME PREVENTION

We have spoken about the names of additional people who might be invited to the Prime Minister's Seminar on Crime Prevention. You said that the Prime Minister wanted participants reflecting the theme of violence and especially violence against women.

The Seminar is designed to give impetus to activities which will have practical results on the ground. It is with crimes against property - which form the vast majority of recorded offences - that it is possible to take specific measures with discernible results. It is much harder to identify things which will achieve comparable results with offences of violence, or to give impetus to practical measures in discussion of the kind which it is intended to take place at the Seminar and which will focus essentially on industry's contribution. The Home Secretary is anxious that the concentration on practicalities should not be lost sight of, particularly by the media which might be inclined to pay more attention to violent crimes.

The Commissioner and Mr Stanley Bailey, as senior officers with wide experience, will of course be able to deal with the subject of violent crime. If you think it would be helpful to have an additional name you may care to add Superintendent Thelma Wagstaff of New Scotland Yard, who is in the forefront of the Metropolitan Police's efforts to respond sympathetically and sensitively to rape victims. Rape is a crime where the relationship between prevention and detection is particularly close and the police rely greatly on the willingness of victims to come forward. In addition, several of those whom the Home Secretary has suggested might be invited would be able to contribute to the general question of preventing violent crime.

Officials here have already had some discussion with Hartley Booth about the inclusion of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the Association of County Councils. The Home Secretary feels that on balance it would be right to include these bodies and suggests that in addition to those already on the list, invitations should be extended to:-

Councillor Jack Layden,  
Chairman,  
Association of Metropolitan Authorities,  
36 Old Queen Street,  
LONDON SW1H 9JE

Councillor Jack Lovell, CBE.,  
Chairman of the Executive Council,  
Association of County Councils,  
66a Eaton Square,  
LONDON SW1W 9BH.



We also think it right that if these bodies are included an invitation should also go to the Chairman of the Association of District Councils, given the housing responsibilities of those whom that Association represents. The Department of Environment attach particular importance to the ADC, which is well disposed to the Government, being invited if the AMA and ACC are to come. The Chairman is:

**Councillor J C Morgan**  
Association of District Councils,  
9 Buckingham Gate,  
LONDON SW1E 6LE.

Officials have also discussed with Hartley Booth the names of those who should be deleted from the existing list if you have to cut down numbers. You may care to draw on the list which he has to hand if pruning seems necessary.

*Yours,  
S W*

S W BOYS SMITH

Mark Addison, Esq.



Review of law on public order; Hono. A.H.



P.A.  
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