CONSERVATIVE & UNIONIST CENTRAL OFFICE, From 32 SMITH SQUARE, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY WESTMINSTER, SW1P 3HH, The Rt. Hon. The Lord Thorneycroft C.H. Telephone: 01-222 9000 9th March, 1981 Thank you for your letter of the 6th February about my having an unofficial PPS. The problem now is that top level opinion, including that of the Chief Whip, is clear that I should not have John Ward. I think that I had better drop the idea, at any rate for the present, of an unofficial PPS and develop contacts with a number of the younger MPs, including William Waldegrave, but not on any exclusive basis. Ian Gow, Esq, MP,

h.T.



10 DOWNING STREET

Private and Confidential. 6th February, 1981

I have had a word with the Prime Minister about you having an unofficial P.P.S. from within the Parliamentary Party.

She is content that you should have John Ward.

I think that we do need to consider how this would fit in with our plans for better communication between the Central Office and Francis Pym, so far as the presentation of Government and Party policy are concerned, and I think that it may be better to defer any final decision about this, until after you have had a talk with Francis.

Ian Gow

The Rt. Hon. the Lord Thorneycroft, CH

cc: The Rt. Hon. Francis Pym, MC, MP. The Rt. Hon. Michael Jopling, M.P.