

PRIME MINISTER'S DAY

The Prime Minister is working in No 10 most of the day.

CABINET

At 9.30am the PM chaired a meeting of the Cabinet. Parliamentary Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Community Affairs, Northern Ireland - Constitutional Development, Public Expenditure Survey 1982. All present except Lord Carrington in Israel, Mr Jenkin in the USA and Mr Walker in Brussels.

MEETING OF MINISTERS

The PM is due to chair a Meeting of Ministers at 11.30am.

OD: Statement on the Defence Estimates, Falkland Islands, Belize - garrison withdrawal.

QUESTIONS

At 3.15pm the PM will be in the House for Questions.

WINDSOR

Late this afternoon the PM will depart for Windsor where she will dine and stay the night. This is a regular annual "dine and sleep" at Windsor. The Queen invites a number of notables.

IN THE HOUSE

There are no Statements today apart from BUSINESS.

ANSWERS OF INTEREST

None identified as substantive.

LE SOIR INTERVIEW

Copies of the PM's written interview for Le Soir, published on Monday, are available.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Northern Ireland would be discussed in Cabinet. If there was to be a statement it would not be made this week but early next week. We were on course for a pre-Easter White Paper and draft legislation. On rolling devolution we indicated that legislation would be needed from the outset. The Prime Minister's reference to the Irish Free State had been a slip of the tongue. No significance to be attached to this. No guidance could be given on the detailed changes that were being considered in the Northern Ireland package but obviously after last week's meeting it was decided that more work needed to be done to it. Whether elections should be held this year for any new assembly would be one of the issues being looked at. It would be possible to pass legislation by the summer to allow elections this year.

FALKLANDS

Prime Minister unlikely to have anything more to say on this at present. We could not confirm that submarines - nuclear or otherwise - had been dispatched to the Falklands.