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DB to see

MR BARCLAY

VALUE FOR MONEY TARGETS

1. Sir Robin Ibbs put in a report to the Prime Minister on 2 May about Ministers' value for money targets and the scrutinies identified from MINIS-type systems. I doubt if the Prime Minister will want to pore over the details of what individual Ministers have said, but it would be helpful if she could have seen Sir Robin's cover note at least before his presentation to Cabinet Ministers on 10 May.

2. We have not sent copies of the document round Ministers. But if the Prime Minister agrees with the suggestions in paragraph 15 and paragraphs 17-18, it might be appropriate to record them in whatever note follows the presentation on 10 May. I expect that the points will emerge at the presentation but, if they do not, we may have to think again.

3. Additionally, however, Sir Robin would be grateful for the Prime Minister's approval now to go ahead with announcing the Efficiency Unit's programme of scrutinies - insofar as they are already agreed - in the Financial Management White Paper (paragraph 16 in the paper).

Ibbs

IAN B BEESLEY
4 May 1984

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MR. BEESLEY

Value for Money Targets

Thank you for your minute of 4 May. The Prime Minister saw Sir Robin Ibbs' minute of 3 May about value for money targets over the weekend. She agrees with the suggestions in paragraphs 15, 17 and 18. She also agrees that a list of scrutinies should be published in the Financial Management White Paper (paragraph 16 of Sir Robin's minute).

I am sending a copy of this minute to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

David Barclay

8 May 1984

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