

Note

Agreed in Carolin-
Sinclair that she would
pass on the PM's reaction
to LCD. REC6
6/3

PRIME MINISTER

LEGAL REFORM IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Carolyn Sinclair's minute attached reports on the latest manoeuvres over the Lord Chancellor's proposals. This is all developing into quite a dirty fight. The Bar are now pressing for an extension to the three month consultation timetable, and have got the Attorney General on their side. It seems pretty clear that this is no more than a spoiling tactic.

Carolyn suggests the options are either to resist any extension, or to offer a very short extension which would still ensure that legislation could go ahead in 1989/90. She recommends the firmer line, but rightly points out that this will require squaring the Attorney General.

Would you like me informally to let the Lord Chancellor's office know that you would support sticking to the existing three month timetable?

REC6.

I will support whichever the Lord Chancellor decides.

PG

3 March, 1989.

I have the following comments

1. 3 mths extra for research is withholding it is a dubious spoiling tactic.
2. Would an extension to the end of May put us in any difficulty? If not I would do that. If it would make

JD73

it's difficult - should do the present timetable.
m.