

PRIME MINISTER

VAUXHALL AND GLASGOW CENTRAL BY-ELECTIONS

We are expecting the results of both by-elections late tonight. Neither is likely to be before 12.30pm and Vauxhall may be quite a bit later.

As I mentioned to you, John Mackay reports that Labour are likely to retain the ^{Glasgow} seat, but the SNP will run them much closer than the press seem to think. We will just keep our deposit. In Vauxhall, John Lacy reports that the SLD have mounted a major effort today and may force us into 3rd place. Labour are likely to have a slightly reduced majority on the General Election. The Duty Clerk will have the results when they come in. I attach for your interest reports from Central Office of both campaigns.

With regard to the Euro-elections, the news is better. John Lacy has spoken to all of the Central Office Agents who report that there has been a good turn out of our supporters throughout the country; opposition activity does not seem to have been particularly strong. It is possible therefore that your prediction of neck and neck may prove about right - this of course still means the loss of 5 or 6 seats, but might allow us to maintain our majority in the UK.

JW
7

JOHN WHITTINGDALE

15.6.89