

CONFIDENTIAL



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

ELIZABETH HOUSE, YORK ROAD, LONDON SE1 7PH

TELEPHONE 01-928 9222

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

N J Sanders Esq
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

2 April 1980

Dee Nick

CLEGG: TEACHERS

Thank you for your letter of 2 April.

An important consideration is that, unlike other Standing Commission reports, that on teachers is not a binding award but a base for negotiation in Burnham (and its Scottish equivalents). It must be for the local authorities to decide what to do in the light of the report and of their financial position. DES could veto any offer which the local authorities proposed to make, but my Secretary of State is sure that colleagues would not wish him to do so if the cost were within the area implied by the Standing Commission report (which could mean a small addition to the figures to meet the Standing Commission's recommendation for more promotion opportunities). It is highly unlikely that the local authorities would wish to go significantly beyond the Clegg figures, but if they did, my Secretary of State would consult his colleagues.

Officials from the relevant Departments will be undertaking a detailed analysis of the report. At first sight, the total cost (18.2% overall and 17.8% on 1979 rates for England and Wales) is within the range we expected and is broadly consistent with, for example, last year's civil service PRU and with the Clegg report on nurses. The Standing Commission ran into very heavy weather on the methodology for comparisons, and their report is very largely an intelligent subjective assessment. They provide a useful peg for the local authorities to continue to press for greater definition of the teachers' conditions of service.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

My Secretary of State has particularly asked me to stress the serious risk of a leak between now and publication on 14 April. He is addressing the Easter Conferences of the two main teacher unions next week and leaks could be embarrassing. We are handling the report on a very strict need-to-know basis within the Department and trust that others will do the same.

I attach a simple acknowledgement to Professor Clegg which I understand is the pattern followed in other cases.

I am sending copies of this letter to the recipients of yours.

Yours sincerely

P A Shaw

P A SHAW
Private Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFT LETTER FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO SEND TO
PROFESSOR CLEGG

Thank you for your letter of 31 March covering the Standing
Commission's Report No 7 on teachers.

As you know, arrangements are being made for publication on
14 April. The Report will then be conveyed to the Burnham
Committees and their Scottish equivalents to serve as the
basis for negotiations.

[My colleagues and I are grateful to the Standing Commission
for its work on what proved to be a very difficult reference.]

2 - APR 1940

