



PRIME MINISTER

SPECIAL ADVISERS -  
CHRISTOPHER MOCKLER

You will know that I have been looking for a replacement for Stephen Sherbourne to work with me here at the Department of the Environment. Having interviewed and rejected one or two possibilities, I sounded out Peter Cropper as to whether Chris Mockler could be spared by the research department. When I shadowed DHSS (1976-79) Chris was the desk officer at the CRD and I formed a very high opinion of his abilities.

Peter told me that Chris has been at the research department for twelve years. There is some danger of him getting stuck in a rut and if he is to move now is as good a time as any.

I have now spoken to Chris and he would be very pleased to come and work for me here; I am quite satisfied from my previous knowledge of him that he would be an admirable special adviser, mainly to help with speeches and articles. My Permanent Secretary would welcome such an addition to my staff.

If he were to join us it would be as a 'political' special adviser on terms that took into account the terms agreed with Stephen Sherbourne (they are almost exactly the same age). Details would need to be agreed between my Permanent Secretary and Chris Mockler but I would not anticipate any difficulties.

May I have your consent to taking him on as a special adviser?





JEFFREY STIRLING

You will remember Cecil Parkinson has persuaded Jeffrey to continue as a special adviser in DTI, part time and unpaid. Jeffrey has indicated that if there are areas which would not involve any conflict of interest and where he could make a contribution to the work of my Department, he would be very happy to help. Jeffrey has discussed this with Peter Harrop and other officials of the Department and has identified two or three such areas, including the mobilisation of private finance for inner city developments, water services etc., and some aspects of housing policy that bear on improving employment mobility. From the start we have been very conscious of the need to avoid any possible conflict of interest or even the appearance of such a possible conflict. For instance, he will have nothing to do with land-use planning, and care will be taken that he sees no papers on this. Sir George Moseley is satisfied that on the specific assignments on which Jeffrey Stirling will be advising, it will be a straightforward matter to avoid even the appearance of any conflict. The Department will give Jeffrey written guidance on this. May I take it that you would have no objection to Jeffrey helping me in this very important field? It would of course involve much less of his time than his work with Cecil.

PS

P J

- 7 JUL 1983