



Home Office

NEWS RELEASE

50 Queen Anne's Gate London SW1H 9AT
Telephone 01-213 3030/4050/5050
(Night line 01-213 3000)

Coal file

October 9, 1984

FURTHER GOVERNMENT HELP FOR POLICE COSTS IN MINERS' DISPUTE

The Home Secretary today set a new and firm limit on the amount that any police authority will have to find from the rates for policing costs arising from the miners' strike. They will have to contribute no more than the product of $\frac{3}{4}$ penny rate. This is far more generous than the arrangement so far announced. In Nottinghamshire, for example, the police authority will have to find £900,000 from the rates. In Derbyshire the sum is £825,000 and in South Yorkshire £1,050,000. Beyond that, any extra costs incurred in policing the dispute - however long it lasts - will be met in full by the Exchequer.

The Home Secretary had on two previous occasions announced enhancements of the normal Exchequer contribution of 50 per cent towards policing costs. Before today's announcement, the position was that authorities had to find from the rates a maximum of the product of a penny rate for additional expenditure up to August 31, 1984; but this limit did not apply to expenditure after that date. The Home Secretary had, however, promised to keep the position under review if the dispute and the additional policing costs continued.

Today's announcement will enable authorities to plan with a firm knowledge of the total additional costs which they will have to meet however long the dispute may continue.

NOTE TO EDITORS

Although the maximum contribution is clearly defined as the product of $\frac{3}{4}$ penny rate, the basis for determining contributions up to that level is complicated by the normal arrangement of 50-50 share between Exchequer grant and local rates and the earlier decision that the Exchequer would meet 90% of approved additional expenditure above the product of a penny rate. This can be illustrated by the case of Nottinghamshire where the product of 1 penny rate is £1.2m.

| | <u>Nottinghamshire</u> £ | <u>Exchequer</u> £ |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) For the first £1.2m the normal 50-50 split applies | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| (2) For the next £3.0m the split is 10%-90% | 0.3 | 2.7 |
| | ——— | ——— |
| | 0.9 | 3.3 |

This brings the Nottinghamshire contribution to the new maximum contribution of $\frac{3}{4}$ penny rate (£0.9m) therefore:

- (3) All further costs are met 100% by the Exchequer.

Coal

Hotchkiss Expenditure

0.6 0.6

2.7 2.7

3.3 3.3

(1) For the first 21.2m the normal 20-20 split applies

(2) For the next 2.7m the split is 10-90

This is the Hotchkiss contribution to the new system

contribution of 2.7m (20.9m) therefore

(3) All further costs are met 100% by the Expenditure