



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

19 February 1981

The Prime Minister has seen the Lord President's minute of 9 February, about the proposed BBC radio series on the Civil Service. The Prime Minister is content in principle for Ministers and senior officials to take part in the series. She wishes to ensure that a close watch is kept on events. She would therefore expect CSD to co-ordinate the programme, providing a common overall brief for those taking part. She has asked that CSD should keep her Chief Press Officer closely informed as the series develops, and she would want him to know who is taking part in which programme. She would expect him to be particularly closely involved in liaising on the programme which examines whether the Civil Service should be more political.

Subject to these points, she believes that the balance of advantage lies in co-operating, despite the risks involved.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mary Scott (Office of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster).

M. A. PATTISON

Jim Buckley, Esq.,
Lord President's Office.

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