

PRIVATE AND  
CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

11th March 1985

*Dear Peter,*

Mr Brian Askew

You will remember that I mentioned this individual to you, as somebody who might be considered as a real outsider for the future Chairmanship of the National Coal Board.

Brian Askew, who is aged 54, is at present Chairman of the Yorkshire Regional Health Authority. Before that, he was Financial Director of Samuel Smith's Tadcaster Brewery, one of the largest private breweries in Britain. At an earlier period in his career he was employed in the steel industry - both before and after nationalisation - and conducted a major PR campaign in the 1960s to save Consett.

He has had specialised industrial experience in personnel and industrial relations.

He fought the York constituency as a Conservative candidate in the General Election of 1970.

He is the son of a Durham miner who lost his life in a mining accident in 1940.

*Yours ever*  
*Michael*

MICHAEL ALISON  
Parliamentary Private Secretary

The Rt Hon Peter Walker MBE MP