



Handwritten: AH's IN BOX.

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

6 January 1984

Dear Andrew

RSG: LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET

As requested in your letter of 5 January to Mike Bailey, I enclose:

- a background note on Barnet's position under the 1984/85 RSG Settlement, and on the Audit Commission's profile of Barnet; and
- a draft letter for the Prime Minister to send to Councillor Pym.

Yours sincerely

John

JOHN BALLARD
Private Secretary

Andrew Turnbull Esq



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

5 January 1984

RSG: London Borough of Barnet

The Prime Minister, as an MP in the London Borough of Barnet, has received a number of letters (some via Miss Joy Robilliard, the Prime Minister's Constituency Secretary) from Councillor Pym, Councillor Gibson and Mr. Andrew Thomson, the Prime Minister's agent.

Their arguments can be divided into two:

- (i) The London Borough of Barnet has been harshly treated in the RSG settlement, principally because the GRE formula produces only a small increase whereas the Councillor's claim that Barnet is not a high resource authority in relation to needs.
- (ii) Some of the comparisons produced in the Audit Commission's Profile for Barnet are disputed.

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As Barnet's rate is likely to be discussed in the press in the next few days - the Finance & General Purposes Committee meets on Monday 9 January - the Prime Minister would like to be in a position to reply as soon as possible. I would be grateful if you could produce a note answering the points raised. Could you also produce a draft reply. I would like to put this in the Prime Minister's weekend box as she could be approached by the constituency over the weekend.

I am sending a copy of this letter for information to John Ballard.

Andrew Turnbull

Michael Bailey, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.