

PRIME MINISTER

cc Professor Griffiths

CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGES

Brian Griffiths and I agree that Mr. Baker has gone most of the way to meet the comments you made at your meeting.

Taking them in turn:

- (i) it would be best if the early schools at least were not to be set up in the worst areas - they should be set up in outer areas, drawing in children from inner city areas: on location see paragraph 23: the schools "should be established in a number of urban areas, some of them suffering acute social deprivation";
- (ii) the comment at the meeting was that the schools would be constrained by too many regulations: paragraph 27 states that the conditions will be "agreed" between the Secretary of State and the promoters;
- (iii) you felt that it would be better if the schools were set up under the legislation which had governed direct grant schools: the booklet now makes no mention of the possibility of legislation;
- (iv) you thought the proposal should give more latitude on the catchment areas: paragraph 8 just about meets this; it says among other things that they will not be expected to take all comers and they will give scope for selecting pupils;
- (v) you felt there should be more latitude on the requirement for a balanced provision for boys and girls: on this see paragraph 11, which appears to suggest that it would be the CTC schools as a group which will be required to provide balanced provision rather than any single school;

- (vi) you felt that pupils should be selected on the basis of their ability as well as their aptitude: on this see paragraph 9 which requires that CTCs should "aim at" admitting pupils spanning the full range of ability represented in the catchment area; there is also a reference to taking account of "achievements" at primary schools;
- (vii) you felt it would be better if there were no requirement that teachers should be qualified: paragraph 21 allows for exceptions to be made for people with other relevant background or experience;
- (viii) Lord Young thought the curriculum was insufficiently practical: the curriculum in the document is described as illustrative and the curriculum is one of the things to be agreed between the Secretary of State and the promoters.

The main area where Mr. Baker has not met you is on fees. Mr. Baker does not want CTCs to charge fees and says so quite explicitly.

See also the draft passage for Mr. Baker's Party Conference speech which is immediately below his covering minute.

May I suggest that Brian and I come to see you at 0915 tomorrow to discuss this for quarter of an hour before you start on your speech?

If you wish to pursue the possibility of fees at CTCs I am sure you will need a meeting with Mr. Baker tomorrow.

DW

DAVID NORGROVE
2 October 1986

Will not pursue - he has met us on everything else
not