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Minister of State

The Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph MP  
Secretary of State  
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Ashdown House  
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14/6  
13 June 1979

Ken Keith

#### LONDON UNDERGROUND STRIKE

At the first meeting of the Civil Contingencies Unit I was asked to write to my colleagues to seek their help in ensuring that the Civil Service does everything possible to minimise the strain on London travel facilities during the underground strike which is due to start at midnight on Sunday, 17 June.

There are standing instructions in the Civil Service Pay and Conditions of Service Code and the Establishment Officers Guide which come into operation during transport emergencies, and I have no doubt that on this occasion civil servants, whether designated essential or not, will again make every effort to get to their offices. But the Contingencies Unit has asked that there should be maximum flexibility in hours of attendance and in staggering of work to relieve the strain on the remaining transport facilities. The Unit was also anxious to ensure that those civil servants who bring their cars into London should be asked to offer lifts to as many of their colleagues as possible during this emergency. I should be grateful if you could ask your Establishment Officer to take action accordingly.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, to other Ministers in charge of Departments and to Sir John Hunt.

PAUL CHANNON

ms  
Paul

13 JUN 1979

