10 DOWNING STREET

FCO DTrans NIO DHSS MOD Chief Sec MAFF LPS DOE DEnergy

DI HMT LPO

Cabinet:-HO WO

LC

DE₅ August, 1982 SO

CDL DT

00

From the Private Secretary

PRIVATISATION

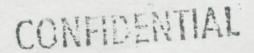
The Prime Minister was grateful for your Secretary of State's minute of 3 August. She agrees with him that in their responses to her personal minute to the Chancellor of 28 July (M6/82), Ministers should interpret "privatisation" in a broad sense, and should feel free to make proposals to the Chancellor that go wider than the public trading sector. In particular, your Secretary of State should feel free to make proposals to enable universities to become less dependent upon the taxpayer.

The Prime Minister has, however, commented that E(DL) may not be a suitable place in which to discuss each and every one of these proposals, and she would be grateful if the Chancellor of the Exchequer could consider how these proposals should be handled when Ministers report to him in mid-September.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of the Cabinet and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

.W. F. S. RICKETT

Mrs Imogen Wilde Department of Education and Science





. CX JV

PRIME MINISTER

I suggest that Tarite to Private Secretaries

saying that ministers are of course free to

interpret "privatisation" in a broad sense, and to

make proposals to the Chanceler accordingly, but that the

chanceler nih probably much to consider whether EDL is the

best place to discuss all these proposals when they have been

I hope that under the umbrella of "privatisation" - the subject of your finally minute to the Chancellor of the Exchequer of which you sent me a copy - Wheeled in might be included conceptually the aim to enable universities to become the future. less dependent upon the taxpayer. I do not suggest that many of them Agree?

need necessarily be totally privatised but some move in that direction seems desirable for a whole range of reasons which I am not seeking to set out in this minute.

- 2 My purpose is only to ensure that we look wider than the public trading sector.
- 3 I am copying this to the Chancellor and to other members of E(DL).

you man

19.

3 August 1982