



CONFIDENTIAL

NBPM AT 9/1 a NO

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

6 January 1984

Dear Tom,

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 22 December to Keith Joseph enclosing a copy of a draft White Paper on Vocational Education and Training.

I am concerned that no new burdens should be placed on local authorities at the same time as we are asking them to exercise stringent restraint on their current expenditure levels. This is particularly important now when we are attempting to get controversial legislation on rate limitation on to the statute book. It seems to me that the wording of paragraph 51(i) may unintentionally give the wrong signal to local education authorities. I suggest the inclusion of the words ", within the resources available," after "education" in that sub-paragraph.

At the meeting of E(A) on 13 December we noted that although YTS should be through employer led schemes wherever possible, there might be a shortage of employers in some areas, such as the inner cities. It would be helpful if the White Paper could be amended so as to indicate that the Government is aware of this problem. It might also say that we accept that reliance on a market based approach to training provision should not be allowed to penalise young peoples' access to training in areas where there is a shortage of the larger employers to operate MSC schemes. In such areas the local authorities and voluntary training agencies have a greater role to play.

I am copying this letter to those who received copies of yours.

Yours ever
Patrick Jenkin

PATRICK JENKIN

EDUCATION: TVEI PT 2



9 JAN 1981