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MISC 104:
Ld Pres
HS
S/Educ
S/Env
S/Social Servs
S/Trade & Ind
S/Emp
CS HMT
MWP



bc J. Redwood

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

7 February 1985

URBAN POLICY AND PROGRAMME REVIEW

The Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's minute of 4 February and the Chief Secretary's minute of 6 February. She was content with the draft reply indicating that it was not proposed to publish the review but agrees with the Chief Secretary that, when MISC 104 has completed its work, it should consider whether to publish a summary or a statement of the future of urban policy and the Urban Programme.

I am copying this letter to Private Secretaries to other members of MISC 104 and to Richard Hatfield and Sir Robin Ibbs (Cabinet Office).

(Andrew Turnbull)

John Ballard Esq
Department of the Environment

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GTR
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 PM signature

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Andrew Turnbull Esq
 Private Secretary
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7 February 1985

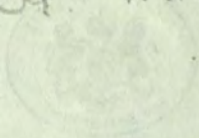
Dear Andrew,

... I attach a draft for the Prime Minister for the Bishop of Liverpool as requested in your letter of 28 January. It has been cleared at ministerial level and I should be grateful for a copy for our records.

Yours sincerely,
 Judith Rutherford

JUDITH RUTHERFORD
 Private Secretary

REGIONAL POLICY: Inner cities.
Pt 5.



THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20540

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DRAFT FOR PRIME MINISTER

Our ref: PO 16653

The Rt Rev David Sheppard
Bishop of Liverpool
Church House
1 Hanover Street
LIVERPOOL L1 3DW

RAMADAN

Thank you for your letter of 21 January. I am sorry I did not pick up your point about the adult training strategy in my earlier letter.

I fully understand your concern that our support for adult training in Merseyside, particularly for the unemployed, should not be reduced. Let me assure you that there is no question of any reduced commitment to supporting adult training on Merseyside or other areas experiencing high unemployment. In fact, we plan to more than double the number of adults trained on Merseyside with the Manpower Services Commission's support next year. Nearly 7000 adults are expected to be helped by the Commission's training programmes, and this increase will substantially benefit unemployed people, who will account for about half of those supported, as well as those already in jobs. ~~What we are doing is~~ introducing new programmes which we hope will be more relevant

to the local labour market and expanding the successful elements of existing schemes, such as training for people to set up small businesses.

We are able to help more people within the same level of resources nationally and with minor adjustments at regional level by tailoring training to local needs and ensuring it is delivered cost-effectively.

As far as the particular problems of areas such as Liverpool 8 are concerned, I assure you that the Manpower Services Commission will continue to take these fully into account when considering which training courses to support, and will continue to work closely with other organisations and Departments, including the Task Force, in tackling the needs of Merseyside. In the particular case of the review of the Skillcentre network, I hope you would agree that our main concern should be to provide more training which is more relevant to the needs of the area rather than to preserve courses and institutions which are not proving effective. But the Manpower Services Commission's proposals for Skillcentres certainly envisage retaining the best of the Skills training currently provided at Airtree ^{and} elsewhere on Merseyside.

I hope this information is helpful. Thank you for writing on this important matter.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

7 FEB 1985

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