



Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
1-19 VICTORIA STREET  
LONDON SW1H 0ET

Telephone (Direct dialling) 01-215) 5422  
GTN 215)  
(Switchboard) 01-215 7877

CC/66

17 March 1986

The Rt Hon Lord Young of Graffham  
Secretary of State for Employment  
Caxton House  
Tothill Street  
LONDON  
SW1H 9NA

*Handwritten:* NBRN

*Handwritten:* Mr Bryn Williams Jones (C/F)

- Secretary of State for Environment
- Chief Secretary
- PS/Mr Pattie
- PS/Mr Butcher
- Mr Dehl
- Mrs Benham
- Mr Forrester
- Mr Brown

- Prime Minister
- Secretary of State for Education
- Chancellor of the Duchy
- Secretary of State for Scotland
- Secretary of State for Wales

Copies to:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to Keith Joseph about the proposed extension of TVEI. I have also seen the letters from Norman Tebbit, John MacGregor and Nicholas Edwards.

I am writing to express my strong support for the principle of the extension you propose. I have little doubt that the TVEI is one of the most significant changes in the education system for many years and that it is fully in support of the general long-term changes in the economy which we are seeking to achieve. I understand, of course, John MacGregor's concerns about the financial planning cycle, and you will no doubt wish to resolve these points with him; but I would certainly wish a general welcome for the proposed extension to be set on record.

With regard to the need for evaluation, I share John MacGregor's concerns that we must not fail to take full account of the experience gained in devising the extension. But I do not think it is realistic to put off a decision about extension for much longer than the timetable your suggest. The Initiative is intended, after all, to tackle a long-term problem concerning the lack of general skills in society, and I suspect a delay of months is unlikely to provide any additional evidence which would change our strong general perception that the scheme has been a great success.

Copies of this letter go to recipients of yours and Kenneth Baker.

JF2AZP

PAUL CHANNON

17 19 86  
BOARD OF TRADE  
BICENTENARY



EDUCATION

TUGI PT2

