



COUNCIL OF CIVIL SERVICE UNIONS

19, ROCHESTER ROW · LONDON SW1P 1LB · Tel: 01-828 2727-9

Secretary General: W. L. KENDALL

Secretary: P. D. JONES

Assistant Secretaries:
B.G.SUTHERLAND HELEN E. HUGHES

9 July 1980

The Rt Hon Mrs M Thatcher MP Prime Minister 10 Downing Street London, S.W.1.

Dear Prime Minister

A joint meeting of senior civil servants - members of the First Division Association, the Society of Civil and Public Servants, and the Institution of Professional Civil Servants - was held today, Wednesday 9 July. This meeting instructed General Secretaries to forward the following resolution for your attention:-

"This meeting of senior civil servants condemns the decision of the Government

- (i) to repudiate the recommendations of Lord Boyle's independent Top Salaries Review Body;
- (ii) to impose unilaterally and without any pretence at negotiations pay scales for the Senior Principal and Assistant Secretary grades which fall substantially short of pay research evidence;
- (iii) to withdraw the undertaking to allow the Assistant Secretary and Senior Principal pay scales to go to arbitration.

This meeting accordingly calls upon the Government to reconsider their decision and agrees that a message to this effect be conveyed forthwith to the Prime Minister."

Yours sincerely,

W L KENDALL

Secretary General

J WARD

General Secretary

FDA

B A GILLMAN

General Secretary

SCPS

W McCALL

General Secretary

IPCS



10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER

Are you content for me to reply on your behalf to the letter at flag A from the Council of Civil Service Unions as per the attached draft?

Mr P.

18 July 1980



CC LPO

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

17 July 1980

I have been asked by the Prime Minister to thank you for your letter of 9 July about the Government's decision on the pay of senior staff in the Civil Service following the report of the Top Salaries Review Body.

As the Prime Minister explained when announcing the decision, there are clear and compelling reasons why the Government was unable on this occasion to accept the Review Body's recommendations in full. The Government's overriding priority is the reduction of inflation. To achieve that it is essential for the rise in earnings to be reduced, and the Government believes that it is important that people in high places should give a lead. The Government is well aware of the arguments and the difficulties, but considers that what it has proposed is right in the country's present economic circumstances.

T. P. LANKESTER

W. L. Kendall, Esq.



Civil Service Department Whitehall London SW1A 2AZ 01-273 4400

From the Private Secretary

17 July 1980

Tim Lankester Esq Private Secretary to the Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SW1

Dear Tim,

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LETTER FROM COCSU ABOUT TSRB

You sent across a copy of the letter of 9 July co-signed by Messrs Kendall, Gillman, Ward and McCall. I attach a draft reply which it might be appropriate for you to send.

Yours suicerely, Jim Buckley.

J BUCKLEY

DRAFT LETTER FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S PRIVATE SECRETARY TO SEND TO:

Council of Civil Service Unions 19 Rochester Row London SW1P 1LB

I have been asked by the Prime Minister to thank you for your letter of 9 July about the Government's decision on the pay of senior staff in the Civil Service following the report of the Top Salaries Review Body.

As the Prime Minister explained when announcing the decision there are clear and compelling reasons why the Government was unable on this occasion to accept the Review Body's recommendations in full. The Government's overriding priority is the reduction of inflation. To achieve that it is essential for the rise in earnings to be reduced, and the Government believes that it is important that people in high places should give a lead. The Government is well aware of the arguments and the difficulties, but considers that what it has proposed is right in the country's present economic circumstances.

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