

Subject filed on Manpower: Special Emp Measures.

PT 10.

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cc Mr Young.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

The Prime Minister met Mr. David Young today to discuss future development of the MSC. Mr. Young began by giving an account of the MSC's current programmes.

First, the YTS had been successfully launched. By mid-October 215,000 school leavers had joined the scheme and 350-400,000 should be on it by Christmas. It was wrong to present 215,000 as a failure. In part, this reflected the fact that one-third more school leavers had found jobs this year than last year. It was important to get the presentation right. Mr. Young said the MSC would be emphasising the declining totals of those without jobs or training places. He promised to let the Prime Minister have figures on the YTS which she could use in the Guildhall speech by 11 November.

Secondly, he said the TVEI had been successfully launched and it was expected that a further 40 schemes would be launched in the second phase. Thirdly, the community programme, which had now been accepted by the unions, would have taken on 130,000 by January. Finally, work on re-structuring the MSC was well advanced.

Mr. Young said his main concern now was to achieve reform of technical education. His proposal was that the MSC should become a National Training Commission. The Jobcentres would remain with the Department of Employment while the rest of the MSC would take over the technical education being carried out in the CFE's, the combined organisation being the NTC. It would be necessary to transfer a large portion of the local authority current expenditure currently devoted to the CFE's. He said he was encountering opposition from DES officials. While still Secretary of State for Employment, Mr. Tebbit had been a keen supporter of the proposal. Mr. Young said he would be seeing Mr. King later that day to enlist his support. It had originally been hoped to have a White Paper issued by mid-December which was necessary if this proposal were to take effect in 1985/86. He was hoping to keep to this timetable and asked if the Prime Minister could arrange a meeting of Ministers as soon as possible.

/The Prime Minister

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

The Prime Minister said she strongly supported this initiative (it was agreed that this should be communicated to Mr. King's Office in advance of Mr. Young's visit) and she agreed to arrange the meeting of Ministers.

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19 October 1983