



R1072.  
OFFICE OF ARTS AND LIBRARIES  
Horse Guards Road  
London SW1P 3AL  
Telephone 01-270 5929

From the Minister for the Arts

Seen by WEA

C88/819

P Smith Esq  
Private Secretary to the Chancellor  
of the Duchy of Lancaster  
1-19 Victoria Street  
LONDON  
SW1H 0ET

10 February 1988

Dear Peter,

**ARTS IN INNER CITIES**

... I now enclose a copy of the written answer my Minister has given Mark Fisher MP today. This takes on board wherever possible the suggestions made by Mr Clarke in the version enclosed with his letter of today's date.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to Paul Gray at No. 10, Alan Ring in Mr Ridley's office, Nick Sanderson in Mr Hurd's office, Nick Wilson in Mr Fowler's office, David Crawley in Mr Rifkind's office, Jon Shortridge in Mr Walker's office and to Eric Sorenson in the Cabinet Office.

Yours ever,

Eleanor

MISS E M GOODISON  
Private Secretary

**OFFICE OF ARTS AND LIBRARIES**

**MR MARK FISHER :** To ask the Minister for the Arts, when he intends to publish the report on the Arts in the Inner Cities, by Mr Paul Collard.

**DRAFT ANSWER**

I have considered a survey submitted by Mr Paul Collard and am placing a copy in the Library, together with a working document by the Arts Council, which I warmly welcome.

The Government does not accept many of the statements or recommendations in Mr Collard's survey, in particular those elements which over-emphasise central intervention and the role of the public sector. I do not intend to publish it.

The Government believes that the arts can play an important part in helping to revitalise the inner cities, particularly where they have the support of local and private sector interests. Arts bodies do, however, need to present more clearly what they have to offer. I shall be considering how best to assist this over the next few months.

MSA  
CBS

note



Spoke E. Goodison  
new draft to be  
written by Clavelle  
of the Duchy's office.

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From the Minister for the Arts

REC  
sr

C88/712

P Smith Esq  
Private Secretary to the Chancellor of  
the Duchy of Lancaster  
1-19 Victoria Street  
LONDON  
SW1H 0ET

8 February 1988

Dear Peter,

**ARTS IN INNER CITIES**

We spoke on the telephone about the Priority Written Question which Mark Fisher MP has put down for answer today about the Collard report. In Mr Clarke's absence, Mr Luce has also spoken to Mr Ridley on the same subject. In view of this question and of the media interest over the weekend, my Minister feels that it is essential he should now make plain his attitude to the Collard report and the alternative approach which he wishes to see. A holding reply has been given to Mr Fisher's question today but Mr Luce would like to answer it substantively tomorrow. I ... enclose a draft answer accordingly which has been kept as brief as possible but which combines the purposes of the answers in Annexes A and B of my Minister's letter of 4 February. It leaves the way open for a more detailed statement if appropriate at a later stage, as suggested by Paul Gray.

I should be grateful for your agreement and that of copy addressees to go ahead on this basis by noon tomorrow.

I am copying this letter to Paul Gray at No. 10, Alan King in Mr Ridley's office, Nick Sanderson in Mr Hurd's office, Nick Wilson in Mr Fowler's office, David Crawley in Mr Rifkind's office, Jon Shortridge in Mr Walker's office and to Eric Sorenson in the Cabinet Office.

Yours,  
Eleanor

MISS E M GOODISON  
Private Secretary

OFFICE OF ARTS AND LIBRARIES

**MR MARK FISHER:** To ask the Minister for the Arts, when he intends to publish the report on the Arts in the Inner Cities, by Mr Paul Collard.

**DRAFT ANSWER**

Recent work confirms my view that the arts make <sup>an important</sup> a useful contribution to the implementation of the Government's strategy for the inner cities.

This work includes a survey submitted by Mr Paul Collard and a working document by the Arts Council. Neither document is suitable for publication but I am placing copies of both in the Library.

The Government does not accept many of the statements in Mr Collard's document or the *centralising* tendency of his recommendations. I am convinced that projects in the Inner Cities must come from the initiative of local and private sector interests. [discussions I had in Newcastle last week strongly confirm that view.]

The need is for Arts bodies to present a coherent and effective account of what they have to offer. I shall be considering how best to assist in this over the next few months.

File  
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L04ARB

cc Nigel Wicks  
Bernard Ingham  
Prof. Griffiths

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

5 February 1988

*Dear Eleanor,*

ARTS IN THE INNER CITIES

I spoke to your office earlier today about your Minister's planned statement about the place of the arts in inner cities regeneration, as described in your letter of 4 February to Nigel Wicks. As you may be aware, a major Government document on policies in the inner cities will be produced in early March. Although I understand the present intention is that this wider document should not include material on the arts, I nonetheless see a strong case for your Minister's statement following rather than preceding the general document. There will be a number of other more detailed announcements and initiatives which follow the early March publication and the arts statement might sensibly form part of that process.

I am copying this letter to Peter Smith (Office of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster) and Eric Sorensen (Inner Cities Unit, Cabinet Office).

*Yours,  
Paul.*

—  
PAUL GRAY

Miss Eleanor Goodison,  
Office of the Minister for the Arts.

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