

cc/b



ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE
LONDON, WC2A 2LL

01-405 7641 Extn

The Rt. Hon. Patrick Jenkin, MP,
Secretary of State for the Environment,
Department of the Environment,
2, Marsham Street,
LONDON, SW1P 3EB.

2 April 1985

NBPm

Dear Patrick.

ABOLITION: VOLUNTARY BODIES
A TRUST FOR LONDON

will request if required

I have seen Kenneth Baker's letter to you of 19th March and the paper outlining the main elements of the proposed Trust for London.

I agree that in order to attract money from the private sector any trust would need to have, or acquire, charitable status. It would be better, in my view, to find an existing organisation willing to take on additional responsibilities rather than attempt to establish an entirely new trust, the trustees of which would all be appointed by the Government and whose independence of Government is bound to be questioned.

It will clearly be important to ensure that the objects of the trust are wide enough to permit payments to voluntary organisations whose objects may be only partly charitable but not so wide as to allow grants to more bizarre groups currently favoured by the GLC and some Labour-controlled Councils. Much will depend upon the good sense of the trustees. I am sure that the trustees of the Charities Aid Foundation or the City Parochial Foundation would be eminently sensible; but I think we would have to look more carefully at the proposed trustees of any consortium of generalist voluntary organisations.

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I am, of course, interested in any charitable trust which may be set up because of my role as protector of charity.

I am copying this letter to all members of MISC 95.

Yours Cos. Michael.

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