

FILE

CONFIDENTIAL

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bcc: Mr. Butler
Mr. Fresher
Mr. Ingham

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 March 1983

Dear Barnaby,

YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME

The Prime Minister had a discussion this morning with Mr. David Young about the Youth Training Scheme.

The Prime Minister agreed to the addition of the Manpower Services Commission to the list of Government bodies which could participate in the Scheme. Mr. Young explained the role which Managing Agencies might perform, as outside bodies taking full responsibility to provide the training and the work experience under the Scheme. This would be a method of combining the private and public sectors to the advantage of both, since the Managing Agencies would approach the Government with a view to providing the work experience in particular locations. The Prime Minister said she accepted that the Government should play its part in the Scheme. But she preferred the Government bodies to be confined to the list attached to my letter of 15 February, together with the MSC; and other such non-main stream areas in the Civil Service as Museums and Galleries.

BF The Prime Minister also expressed interest in the idea of accommodating one person on the Youth Training Scheme within the staff at No.10 Downing Street. She recognised that there would be certain practical difficulties about this, but nevertheless, asked that we should try to arrange this. We will be in touch with you (and the MPO) about this in due course.

I am sending copies of this letter to Margaret O'Mara (HM Treasury), Mary Brown (Lord Privy Seal's Office), David Young (MSC) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,

Michael Scholar

Barnaby Shaw, Esq.,
Department of Employment.

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Prime Minister.

Youth Training Scheme.

1. It would be difficult, if not impossible, for us to launch the YTS without being seen to play our part in the scheme. We also have to learn at first hand how the scheme operates, if only to improve it, and the private sector will expect us to play our part.

2. I would not propose that Government plays a full role in the scheme, but merely that we add to the list enclosed with Michael Scholars' letter,

✓ MSC, DE and

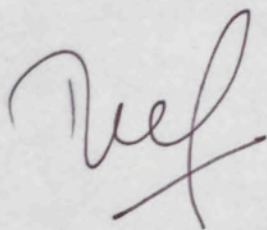
Any Department which has already contributed to the Youth Opportunities Scheme (e.g. the Inland Revenue) *Customs Excise.*

3. **Managing Agencies** are outside bodies which take full responsibility for the full year under the Scheme, and have to provide the training and the work experience. One method of combining the private and public sectors to the advantage of both

Museum & Galleries

is to allow outside Managing Agencies to approach Government to provide the work experience in a particular locality, within the constraints already agreed. This would enable Government to play its part whilst the young people would be based in the private sector and managed by the private sector.

4. If the Prime Minister were to agree to these points, it would be helpful to have them conveyed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Lord Privy Seal and the Secretary of State for Employment.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'D I Y', written in a cursive style.

D I Y

28 February 1983

Manpower

Mr Rickett *Nurb. All sweat.*

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

cc Mr Scholar ✓

MR RICKETT

No objection to see the colour of their shirts. Huh?

MSC

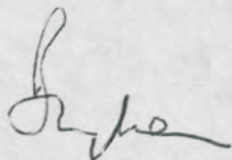
Norman Stone, Head of Information at the MSC, telephoned me today to say the Prime Minister, in her recent meeting with his chairman, had mentioned the need to keep her briefed on Youth Training for speeches and Question Time. *Ms 16/3*

He asked what we required.

I suggested he should provide the following service (which he might put through me):

- a 1 or 2 page digest of essential points about the YTS;
- good news points about the YTS which they would like the Prime Minister to put over, whether in Questions or speeches, and about which the MSC is confident; and
- the essential facts about running news stories which may or may not be helpful to the YTS, or which did not do it justice, so that the Prime Minister might be closely informed, especially for Questions.

I appreciate that this may cut across your arrangements with D/Employment. But Mr Young is clearly anxious to follow up his links with the Prime Minister to ensure she is fully briefed. I hope you are content with the arrangements.



B. INGHAM

16 March 1983

Mr. Hardy: Will the Prime Minister consider the fact that in this year of grace, we are spending more on locking up young people than on providing for their further training and employment?

HANSARD
22/2/83

The Prime Minister: We are spending a large amount on providing for their further training and employment. As the hon. Gentleman knows, a new scheme will be introduced in September, which will cost about £2 billion, for training young people. We would hope that by the age of 16 young people will either stay on in education, have a job, or have some training, so that unemployment is not an option.

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Mr. Fry: Is my right hon. Friend aware that it pays some 16-year-olds who have left school, and for whom places are available at workcentres, to stay at home because the cost of transport to the centres has to be taken from their supplementary benefit payments? Will she ask her right hon. Friends to consider removing this disincentive so that more of our 16-year-olds may spend their time on worthwhile employment rather than sit at home doing nothing?

The Prime Minister: Yes, I shall do that, but I believe that special travelling allowances are provided for journeys to some skillcentres.

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Oral Answers

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22 FEBRU.

Mr. Foot: Will the right hon. Lady be kind enough to confirm to us that it is a £2 billion scheme? We are gratified to learn that she is moving in the direction that we have been advocating. I hope that she will confirm the figure here and now. We shall certainly welcome it and show our usual generosity in doing so.

The Prime Minister: The amount has not been increased. The scheme will cost a great deal over a long period.