



Minister

10 DOWNING STREET

14 February 1980

THE PRIME MINISTER

Mr. P. M.,

Thank you for your letter of 11 February, about the invitation you have received from the IAPS to serve as its President.

I can understand your wish to accept the invitation, following the line of distinguished colleagues from our side of the House. I do not expect that the Government will find itself at odds with IAPS, and I should be very pleased if you accepted their invitation. It is an excellent body.

Yours sincerely

Robert

The Hon. Peter Brooke, M.P.

CH



10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER

The reply to Peter Brooke's  
letter has been re-typed as  
amended by you.

*MAD*

13 February 1980



PRIME MINISTER

This letter from Peter Brooke asks your permission for him to take on the role of President of IAPS.

In practice, one would not expect any serious conflict of interest to arise. But IAPS is nevertheless an interest group, and Mr. Brooke could at some point be placed in a position of difficulty if IAPS took issue with some aspects of Government education policy.

Would you prefer to ask him to turn down the invitation, as in the attached draft? If you agree with his proposal for you to recommend Mr. van Straubenzee, you might like to add that in manuscript.

*MA*

*Re Lyne*

*MA*

12 February 1980



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

Thank you for your letter of 11 February, about the invitation you have received from the IAPS to serve as its President.

I can understand your wish to accept the invitation, following the line of distinguished colleagues from our side of the House. I do not expect that the Government will find itself at odds with IAPS, ~~But it is nevertheless an interest group, and one cannot rule out the possibility of differences of view. I would prefer to avoid any member of the Government finding himself in an invidious position through his role with independent bodies, and I would therefore like to take up your offer to suggest that IAPS should look elsewhere.~~

*and I should be very pleased if you accepted their invitation. It is an excellent body.*

The Hon. Peter Brooke, M.P.





HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

11 February 1980.

R12/2

Dear Prime Minister,


The IAPS [Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools] has always had a Conservative Member as its President. My father did it for a decade between 1944 and 1954, and since then both Angus Maude and Edward Boyle did it, I believe, prior to John Davies, who was the most recent incumbent.

They have now written and asked me to succeed John Davies. I have explained to them that, were I

to do it, I would require your authority.

In terms of someone from the Party doing it, I am perfectly happy to carry the load, but equally I would entirely understand if permission were withheld.

In that latter case I would suggest to them the name of Bill van Straubenzee, who has been quite exceptionally helpful over the Education Bill and related matters.

  
Yours sincerely  
Peter Brooke

---