

PERSONAL

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from The Lord Rayner  
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EFFICIENCY UNIT

We only had time for a quick word when we met at Rothschilds earlier this week, so perhaps I may send you a short note in advance of your talk with Robin Ibbs tomorrow morning.

I have just three points to offer, two of them about the Under Secretary post in the Unit:

Firstly, I hope you will agree that under the new arrangements you intend, the Under Secretary should plainly be an official in your office, appointed by and working to you. Although he should be someone Robin Ibbs is happy with, his main job will be, I think, to serve yourself and your policies.

Secondly, I hope too, that you will feel able to appoint Ian Beesley to provide the continuity that is essential with so many other changes in the small team who have worked with me. He has my complete confidence and Clive's. I would not hesitate to offer him a post here if he were available.

Thirdly, I will gladly continue to do what I can, whether privately or publicly, for the cause you and I have laboured for over the last four years. I think we are winning, but, as might be expected in bringing about reform, the work has yet to develop its own momentum.

I look forward to seeing you on 1st August at Clive's luncheon party when I hope to hear that you will be able to take a good holiday this summer after the great exertions of recent months.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Sir Robert Armstrong.

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP  
Prime Minister and First Lord  
of the Treasury  
10 Downing Street  
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*Lord Rayner*