

Appt
 CF: x please
 Mrs
 6/6



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG
 01-233 3000

PRIME MINISTER

attached
 x/

PERSONNEL DIRECTOR OF THE NHS MANAGEMENT BOARD

I have seen Norman Fowler's minute of 19 May seeking your agreement to Deputy Secretary grading for this post.

2. The job description attached to the minute does not seem to me fully to reflect what the Griffiths Team had in mind. It envisages the post as integrated into the day-to-day management of the NHS, and dealing with routine management matters as well as the essential mould-breaking role. But I fear this would be at the expense of what Griffiths saw as the essential task - reviewing NHS personnel management practices, devising solutions and negotiating the changes required. I myself see the post as more that of a personnel adviser to the Chairman of the Management Board and to Norman, than as an institutionalised part of the management structure. On this view, I think there is much less of a case for deputy secretary grading and I would therefore argue strongly against that. Indeed, I do not think we need to specify any civil service grading for this post. Would it not be better to treat it as a specific but limited assignment for two or three years?

3. I am copying this minute to Norman Fowler.

N.L.

(N.L.)

5 June 1984

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