

CONFIDENTIAL

Prime Minister. ①

The correspondence is attached.  
Agree to endorse Environment Secretary's proposals?

17 May 1985

MEW 17/5

PRIME MINISTER

Up to 25,000 - reduced  
each year.

PROPERTY REPAIRMENT SERVICES

15,000 in next 5 years  
low. mt - Proj A

\* if you wish to consult  
any of it.

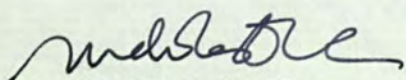
Patrick Jenkin has proposed that Departments should be given authority to commission new work on partitioning, fitting, refurbishment, up to £5,000 per item, and on redecoration, when the PSA has not the resources to do it. Departments' rents would be adjusted accordingly.

Proj B

Is this ambitious enough? Grey Gowrie has asked why Departments should not be given this delegation for all refurbishments. This work requires no special, PSA expertise. If Departments reckon they could save money, or time, by managing themselves, why not?

We will be reconsidering the future of the PSA. The more experience Departments can acquire in managing their own refurbishments by then, the better position we will be in to judge PSA's future role.

We recommend that you endorse Patrick Jenkin's proposals and add that you see advantages in Departments taking responsibility for their own refurbishment and redecoration when they see advantages in so doing.

  
NICHOLAS OWEN

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