

SECRET



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

2 November 1982

BF

bc MW Venekov
cc R. Hatfield

Dear Colin,

Police Pay

Thank you for your letter of 19 October in which you set out the Home Secretary's views about the consideration to be given by the Official Committee on Public Service Pay, to police pay arrangements.

I showed this to the Prime Minister, who had a word with the Home Secretary on the matter after Cabinet this morning. The Prime Minister told the Home Secretary that it was her understanding that the Official Committee on Public Service Pay was not considering the abandonment of Edmund Davies, or the making of any radical change in police pay arrangements in the near future. What they were doing, in response to my letter to John Halliday of 13 October, was to look at different ways in which the Edmund Davies formula might be applied, with a view to reducing the inconsistency between Edmund Davies' recommendations and those elsewhere. The Chairman of the Official Committee had assured the Prime Minister's office that all concerned were well aware of the political sensitivity of the whole issue.

After a brief discussion, the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary agreed that work on future policy pay arrangements should be carried out on the basis described above. The Prime Minister said that she would wish the conclusions of the Official Committee to be reported to her, and she would arrange for them to be considered in a small Ministerial group which she would chair.

I am sending copies of this letter to Margaret O'Mara (HM Treasury) and Barnaby Shaw (Department of Employment). I would be grateful if you and they would ensure that this letter is given the most limited possible circulation.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Scholar

C.J. Walters, Esq.,
Home Office

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