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CC NO

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

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FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
Treasury
Parliament Street
London
SW1P 3AG

9 May 1983

Dear Geoffrey,

FURTHER EDUCATION TEACHERS' PAY, ENGLAND AND WALES: 1983

On 6 May the Burnham Further Education Committee agreed a pay increase for further education teachers in England and Wales of 4.95%, to run from 1 April 1983. The increase is made up of 4.5% on all scales and allowances (except London Weighting) plus £51 pa on all scale points. London Weighting will be settled later in line with the school teachers' London Weighting result.

The employers were clearly determined not to go to 5% but were willing to come very close in the interest of a negotiated settlement. My representatives argued for a lower offer, as instructed, and voted against an offer at this level. However, the employers were solidly for an offer at that level and my representatives were out-voted. Since it was by then certain that a negotiated settlement below 5% could be achieved, my representatives withheld the veto, in accordance with instructions. The offer was then made formally and accepted. This result, while higher than we would have wished, is not significantly out of line with recent settlements for the Civil Service and other teacher groups.

Copies of this letter go to the Prime Minister, the Secretaries of State for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, Members of E (PSP) and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Kevin Keir

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