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MR TURNBULL

13 July 1984

MISC 104 - THE URBAN PROGRAMME AND POLICY

1. The recent scrutiny of the UP was commissioned mainly because the Urban Programme was thought to lack clear objectives. The Review team confirmed that this was so and suggested some remedies. Yet Patrick Jenkin's paper of 11 July, despite some laudable points, carried no conviction about what he wants to do with the recommendations.

We support:

Paras 6 and 10 - the importance of quantifiable outputs

Para 12 - annual performance reviews

But these excellent 'nuts and bolts' aims will not be met without a will and a means to determine priorities as between different geographical areas and different types of project (broadly defined as economic, environmental or social).

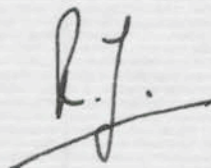
Mr Jenkin's paper offers nothing in these large respects.

Nor is he clear on the organisation issues. Although they ought to be considered last, it is far too vague to say, 'This certainly has marked attractions, but other arrangements are possible and have to be well related to the needs and resources of each area'. (para 16). What does Mr Jenkin actually want to do, and how does he want to do it?

We suggest that MISC 104 should ask Mr Jenkin for more specific proposals.

We urge (as in our brief of 28 June):

- that the economic/industrial/job creation component of the UP should be dropped;
- that the PES levels of expenditure on the Urban Programme be left intact but should be aimed at the relief of housing and land dereliction and the encouragement of social projects involving the voluntary sector.



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