



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
ELIZABETH HOUSE, YORK ROAD, LONDON SE1 7PH
TELEPHONE 01-928 9222
FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Prime Minister⁽²⁾

*To note. Sir Keith judges
that he will have to
legislate in order to
get rid of tenure.*

The Rt Hon Viscount Whitelaw PC CH MC, Lord
President of the Council, Privy Council Office,
68 Whitehall
London SW1A 2AT

24 July 1984

Dear Willie .

TENURE IN THE UNIVERSITIES

Following my minute of 12 March to the Prime Minister your letter of 28 March conveyed H Committee agreement to the general proposition that action should be taken to modify new academic contracts of employment in the universities in the way proposed in my minute. In your letter of 9 April you agreed that I should be able to say that the Government was in principle prepared to legislate to achieve its objective and my letter to Chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of 9 May (which was published in Hansard and circulated to colleagues with my letter to Quintin Hailsham of 29 May) accordingly said that the Government was prepared to introduce legislation if its objectives could not be achieved voluntarily.

Following my letter of 9 May Lord Flowers has consulted all Vice-Chancellors and Principals and in the light of that consultation has advised me that the majority of his colleagues do not believe that their institutions could bring about the changes we proposed by their own volition. This advice accords with my own judgment that many universities have no will to change and that the necessary majorities could not be achieved in some Senates and Councils even under the threat of legislation. I therefore propose to enter into detailed consultations about the form and content of legislation with a view to bringing detailed proposals to H Committee. I should like to initiate these consultations with the clear statement that in the light of Lord Flower's response to my letter of 9 May the Government now proposes to legislate when the Parliamentary timetable allows: I judge that such a statement is necessary if consultations on the form and content of legislation are to be taken seriously and conducted expeditiously. I should be glad to know that I have your agreement and that of my colleagues.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, the members of H Committee, the Attorney General and the Lord Advocate, the First Parliamentary Counsel and the Secretary of the Cabinet.

Cam.

Hein.

Direction
Expenditure
Pt. 4

24 JUL 1984

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

cc: LAD
LOD
Parl. Counsel.

CO
CWO
Lord Donham
D/Trav.
HMT
D/Emp.
26 July, 1984

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Tenure in the Universities

The Prime Minister has seen a copy of your Secretary of State's letter of 24 July to the Lord President about tenure in the universities.

Subject to the views of colleagues, the Prime Minister would be content for your Secretary of State to make clear in a statement that the Government proposes to legislate on this subject when the Parliamentary timetable permits.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the members of H Committee, to Henry Steel (Law Officers' Department), Iain Jack (Lord Advocate's Department) and to First Parliamentary Counsel and Sir Robert Armstrong.

DAVID BARCLAY

Miss C. E. Hodkinson,
Department of Education and Science

SH



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
ELIZABETH HOUSE, YORK ROAD, LONDON SE1 7PH
TELEPHONE 01-928 9222
FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Dr Rhodes Boyson MP
Minister of State
Northern Ireland Office
WHITEHALL
London SW1

*ndpm
Dmb
12/9*

12 September 1984

Jan Rhodes.

TENURE IN UNIVERSITIES

Adam Butler wrote to me on 21 August about the proposed legislation to limit academic tenure in the universities.

I agree that we need to consider the scope of the legislation and how our proposals should be implemented in Northern Ireland, and I agree that officials should discuss these matters in the first instance.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, Members of H Committee, Grey Gowrie, the Attorney General, the Lord Advocate, First Parliamentary Counsel and Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Ken,
Kevin*

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9 SEP 1984

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Minister of State

NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
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BELFAST BT4 3ST

Tel. Belfast (0232) 63011
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The Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph BT MP
Department of Education and Science
Elizabeth House
York Road
LONDON
SE1 7PH

cat
nrpm
dr
22/8

21 August 1984

Dear Keith

TENURE IN THE UNIVERSITIES

I read with interest your letter of 24 July informing Willie Whitelaw of your correspondence with Lord Flowers and I am responding in Jim Prior's absence on holiday.

As you will recall, in Jim's letter of 5 April, he said that he was not optimistic that the universities would be willing voluntarily to deal with this issue and he agrees that we must now be prepared to bring forward legislation.

I do not know whether you have given any thought as yet to the scope of the legislation, but Nicholas Scott has asked his officials to liaise with yours on how best to implement this proposal in Northern Ireland.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, members of H Committee, Grey Gowrie, the Attorney General, the Lord Advocate, First Parliamentary Counsel and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Adam
Butler

ADAM BUTLER

EDUCATION
Expenditure PE 4

ccgx



PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

30 July 1984

Dear Keith

No pen
DWB
31/7

TENURE IN THE UNIVERSITIES

Thank you for your letter of 24 July telling H Committee of your further exchange with the Vice-Chancellors and Principals and concluding that the Government must now say that it proposes to legislate when the Parliamentary timetable allows. I have seen the comments of 25 July from Arthur Cockfield and 26 July from the Prime Minister's Private Secretary.

I am content with your proposal, and you may take it that you have H Committee's approval to make the announcement. I note that you will need to come to H Committee in due course; your bid for legislative time will of course have to be considered in the normal way by QL Committee.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, the members of H Committee, the Attorney General, the Lord Advocate, First Parliamentary Counsel, and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

The Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph Bt MP

Education Pt 4

Expenditure

~~C&NS~~



CABINET OFFICE,
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AS

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

25 July 1984

nbpm
Duck
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Mr Keith,

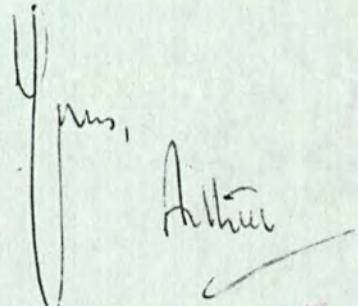
TENURE IN THE UNIVERSITIES

TPM

You copied to me your letter of 24 July to Willie Whitelaw.

I entirely agree that we should be prepared to legislate and make it clear that we are. You will recall that in my letter of 15 March I said that I thought it unrealistic to expect Vice Chancellors to take action voluntarily.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, the members of H Committee, the Attorney General and the Lord Advocate, the First Parliamentary Counsel and Secretary of the Cabinet.


COCKFIELD

The Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph Bt MP
Secretary of State for Education
and Science
Department of Education and Science
Elizabeth House
York Road
London SE1 7PH

EDUCATION: Policy a Esp: R4



25 JUL 1984