

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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

12 December 1984

*Dear Nigel,*

BURNHAM (P & S)

This letter is to inform you and colleagues of the outcome of the 7 December meeting of the Burnham (Primary and Secondary) Committee and of the 5 December meeting of the subordinate Joint Working Party on Salary Structure.

On 5 December the teachers' spokesmen told the employers that they would be taking no further part in the Joint Working Party discussions. This message was repeated at Burnham on 7 December. On that date the Management Panel declined to agree that the Joint Working Party should be formally stood down and invited the teachers (effectively the National Union of Teachers majority on the teachers' side) to reconsider. They showed no willingness to do that. There is thus no prospect that the Joint Working Party will reconvene in the near future and no forum in which the employers' proposals can be further pursued. The employers did not withdraw their proposals, for they want to use them to help defend their position in a difficult pay bargaining season, but they are clear that they should not import them into the formal Burnham arena. (Should their resolve weaken at the next meeting, my representatives would if necessary block such importation by recourse to the veto, in accordance with current instructions.) Attention in Burnham will now focus on the teachers' 1985 claim for a minimum increase of £1200 pa for all teachers as a first step in a phased return to 1974 pay relativities. On 7 December the Management Panel declined to make a quantified offer in response to that claim.

/London

Rt Hon Nigel Lawson MP  
Chancellor of the Exchequer  
Treasury  
Parliament Street  
London SW1P 3AG

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London weighting was also on the 7 December agenda. The Management side offered £6(2.33%) increase in the fringe area allowance (now £258 a year). This was rejected and negotiations will resume at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Burnham (P & S) Committee is expected in early January. The employers must expect to be pressed then for a quantified offer. The current instructions to my representatives will stand for that meeting unless there are unexpected developments in the meantime.

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

*Evans -*

*Kear*