

PRIME MINISTER30 January 1985H COMMITTEE: IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR TEACHERS

Keith Joseph's proposals would require LEAs to bid for money for in-service training. Bids would be successful only if the LEA had a proper scheme for assessing training needs and for using the teachers once they were trained.

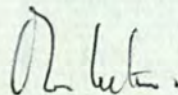
This might inject the idea of assessing poor teachers - which the NUT is at present resisting - into the bloodstream of the education service.

There can be no question of providing extra money for in-service training: with falling pupil numbers and improving pupil/teacher ratios, it should be easy for LEAs to find space for in-service training if they wish to do so. However, the Chief Secretary is right to point out that Keith Joseph's proposals will provide LEAs with an excuse for demanding more money.

The Chief Secretary's other worry - that the proposals will interfere with the review of local authority funding - is less serious. Whatever comes out of that review, it is extremely likely that there would still be room for specific grants.

Yes

We recommend that the proposals should be accepted only if Keith Joseph is able to assure H Committee that the money can be found from within the existing education budget. If you accept this recommendation, you may wish to communicate it to Lord Whitelaw and Keith Joseph.



OLIVER LETWIN



Spoke to DES
and Cabinet Office
Please p.a.

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Dub
4/2

(4)

PRIME MINISTER

The Policy Unit recommenda-
tion accords with the Chief
Secretary's views (paras
14 and 15 of the paper).

He will no doubt make the
running in H, but do you
agree that I should indicate
your support?

On condition

that K.V.

Dub

finds the

money

31 January 1985

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not