



Thomas Legg, C.B.  
Permanent Secretary

CP      ~~CE PERB~~

HOUSE OF LORDS,  
LONDON SW1A 0PW

Tel. 01-219 3246

CONFIDENTIAL

<sup>9</sup>  
~~15~~th February 1990

*Dear Andrew,*

Car for Lord Lowry

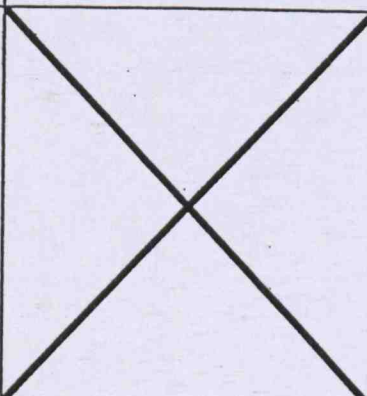
Following your recent conversation with him, the Lord Chancellor spoke to Lord Lowry who has agreed to accept a Rover. We are now going ahead with the arrangements for providing this.

The Lord Chancellor was most grateful for the Prime Minister's assistance which enabled him to resolve this somewhat sensitive matter.

*Yours sincerely,*  
*Tom Legg*

Andrew Turnbull Esq.  
Principal Private Secretary  
to the Prime Minister

# A The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i> ..... PIECE/ITEM <i>3408</i> (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details: <i>Letter from Peter Brooke to Tom King dated          12 February 1990</i>	
CLOSED UNDER FOI EXEMPTION .....	
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
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*Instructions for completion of Dummy Card*

Use black or blue pen to complete form.

Use the card for one piece or for each extract removed from a different place within a piece.

Enter the department and series,  
eg. HO 405, J 82.

Enter the piece and item references, .  
eg. 28, 1079, 84/1, 107/3

Enter extract details if it is an extract rather than a whole piece.  
This should be an indication of what the extract is,  
eg. Folio 28, Indictment 840079, E107, Letter dated 22/11/1995.  
Do not enter details of why the extract is sensitive.

If closed under the FOI Act, enter the FOI exemption numbers applying to the closure, eg. 27(1), 40(2).

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Fils



10 DOWNING STREET

Andrew

Paul Stockton rang.

The Lord Chancellor has  
spoken to Lord Lowry  
who will accept a Rover.

Deeds

9/3

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file  
c:\wpdocs\ppsl  
lowry (kk)

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

8 February 1990

*Dear Paul,*

**CAR FOR LORD LOWRY**

I spoke to the Lord Chancellor before Cabinet today. I told him the Prime Minister had raised no objection to the Lord Chancellor's Department purchasing a car for Lord Lowry, but that the choice of car in such cases was always contentious. The precedents, e.g. the comparison with the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, pointed to an armoured Rover rather than a Jaguar. It would therefore be helpful if Lord Lowry agreed to accept a Rover rather than a Jaguar. I said, however, that if Lord Lowry made things difficult for the Lord Chancellor the Prime Minister would not wish to oppose the offer of a Jaguar. The Lord Chancellor said he would speak to Lord Lowry and try and persuade him to accept a Rover though it was helpful to him to know that in the last resort he could offer a Jaguar.

I am copying this letter to Sir Robin Butler.

*Yours sincerely  
Andrew Turnbull*

(ANDREW TURNBULL)

Paul Stockton, Esq.,  
Lord Chancellor's Office.

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MEM



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Ministers

Reading between the lines  
I interpret this as a request  
by Lord Loring which Lord  
Chancellor has passed on  
without pressing it strongly -  
see reference to the Rover in the  
middle para. (Lord Ch has  
a Rover himself).

Why don't I suggest a  
Rover and let Lord Chanc  
return to the charge if he  
feels strongly about it?

AT

29/11

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PRIME MINISTER

LORD LOWRY: ARMOURED CARS

The Lord Chancellor's minute seeks agreement for Lord Lowry to be provided with an armoured Jaguar. There are two separate issues:

- i) Should he have a dedicated car or a variety of cars from the GCS? No-one has raised objections to the dedicated car.
- ii) Should it be a Jaguar or a Rover?

At present, armoured Daimlers or Jaguars are provided only to yourself, the Lord President, Foreign Secretary, Secretary of State for Defence, and the Home Secretary (the latter from the Metropolitan Police). Other Cabinet Ministers, including for example the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, are provided with Rovers.

It would be invidious, and would set an undesirable precedent, if Lord Lowry were given a Jaguar unless it were demonstrated that this is the only way to meet his security needs. This is not the case. Rovers can be armoured and if they are good enough for the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland who has the same requirement for protection, they should be good enough for Lord Lowry.

Agree it should be a Rover?

*Andrew Turnbull*

*Duty Clerk*

(ANDREW TURNBULL)

26 January 1990

c:\wpdocs\pps\lowry.dca

*I would not go against the Lord Chancellor's judgment. I note he says that he will bear & defend the entire cost on his vote. We really do depend on the Judiciary.*

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Ref. A090/218

MR TURNBULL

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Lord Lowry: Armoured Cars

Your note of <sup>18</sup> ~~18~~ *Asap* January enclosed a copy of the Lord Chancellor's minute of 16 January to the Prime Minister proposing that Lord Lowry, who requires an official armoured car for security reasons, should be provided with a Jaguar 2.9. You asked whether there were any current cases within Government which could be inflamed by acceding to this request.

2. At present, armoured Daimlers or Jaguars are provided by the Government Car Service only to the Prime Minister, Lord President, Foreign Secretary and Secretary of State for Defence and, by the Metropolitan Police, to the Home Secretary. Other Cabinet Ministers, including, for instance, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who has the same requirement for protection as Lord Lowry, are provided with Rovers. It would be invidious - and would set an undesirable precedent - if Lord Lowry was given a Jaguar unless (and there is no evidence for this) it was justified on security grounds.

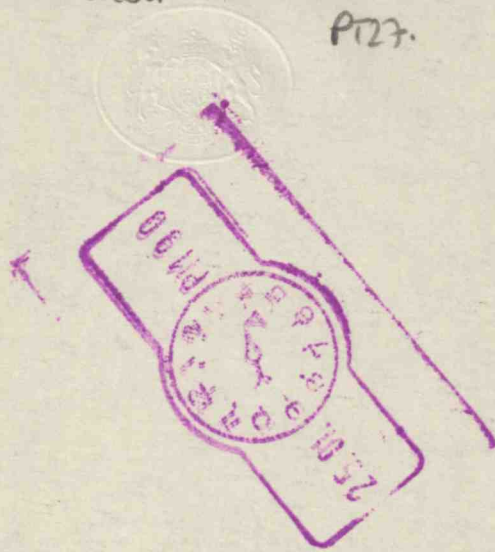
*R.E.B.*

ROBIN BUTLER

25 January 1990



IRGIANO : Situation .  
PTZ.



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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

LORD LOWRY: ARMOURED CARS

I have established that there are no other ex-Northern Ireland judges serving in England and that there would be parallel claims from the Northern Ireland Court Service who operate a pool of Granadas. Are you aware of any cases within Government which could be inflamed if this request were conceded?

Andrew Turnbull  
18 January 1990

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