

PRIME MINISTER

---

MEETING WITH LORD YOUNG

Apparently my letter recording your wish to see greater urgency in the employment exercise has disturbed Lord Young. He would find it difficult to complete his exercise into 14-18 year-olds in time for inclusion in a document to be discussed in January. He is worried that Mr. King will seize on this letter, either to press Lord Young to go faster than he thinks right, or to submit his results piecemeal.

There is no reason to get anxious about this. The purpose of a letter was to prevent any further slippage in this exercise. If the deadline for the discussion had been set in February, which would have suited Lord Young, the pressure would have been taken off work on all the other components. In his minute to <sup>(para 5)</sup> you, Mr. King recognised that Lord Young's work might have to come in a bit behind the rest and that the document might have to be circulated with some gaps in it. Our aim has been to ensure that the gaps are kept to a minimum, not to set unreasonable deadlines for Lord Young.

AT

20 November 1984