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PRIME MINISTER

6 May 1986

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The full BL figures for 1985 have now been published. They show an operating loss of £39m, a total loss of £138m, and an increase in borrowings of some £190m.

Behind these figures lies a pay explosion. On a like-for-like basis average pay appears to have increased by 16% over the year, and the senior employees have done particularly well. The highest paid employee - presumably Harold Musgrove - has had a £25,000 pay increase to just under £100,000, whilst the next four most highly paid employees have increased their salaries from just over £60,000 to around £80,000. Overall, the number of employees earning more than £30,000 increased from 116 to 196 during 1985.

If average pay rises had been nearer the 5% of the civil service pay award, then the operating loss of £39m would have been converted into a £32m operating profit.

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