



PRIME MINISTER

SOUTH CARDIFF URBAN RENEWAL

I support the way Nicholas Edwards proposes to set about solving the problems of urban renewal in South Cardiff. The UDC approach is a means of introducing commercial realism into inner city developments, which nonetheless have to rely on some degree of public sector impetus. The project itself has the essential element of wealth creation that has been central to all our policies.

2 If we do press ahead with the project, it will require careful public presentation to obtain maximum benefit. Nicholas Edwards has made it clear that it should not be confused with the much larger Severn Barrage. The two projects should be clearly disassociated from each other in any public announcement, so as to avoid revived speculation about the Severn Barrage and detracting from the credit we should gain from the Cardiff project.

3 In the past, announcements of major public investment in Wales or Scotland have sometimes given rise to complaints from the English Assisted Areas. Some reference should be made therefore to Nicholas Ridley's recent UDC initiative in England which might head off such criticism. Copies of this minute go to Members of E(A), John Wakeham, Richard Luce and Sir Robert Armstrong.

C Bradley

PAUL CHANNON

R 24 November 1986

(Approved by the Secretary of State and signed in his absence)

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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