



file to

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

12 December 1984

Meeting  
Record?

YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME

The Minister of State spoke to the Prime Minister today about the application of the Youth Training Scheme to the Civil Service and in particular the provision of a trainee in 10 Downing Street. Your Minister of State explained that, if it was decided to go ahead with taking trainees into the non-industrial Civil Service, despite the disagreement of the trade unions, there would have to be a reference to the Regional Board which would oppose the schemes. The Chairman of the Manpower Services Commission could override the Regional Board, but this would be likely to lead to their resignation. He well understood that the Government might wish to force the matter to an issue and might wish it to be demonstrated that the trade unions were obstructing the provision of training places for young people, but the Government's position was weaker when there were sufficient places in the YTS without the involvement of the non-industrial Civil Service. He was therefore inclined not to push the matter to an issue at this stage but to have ready a contingency plan in case circumstances changed.

BF

The Prime Minister said that she was enthusiastic about having a trainee in her office. She wondered whether it would be possible to take one in under the Young Workers' Scheme. Your Minister of State said that he would investigate whether this Scheme could be applied in the public sector.

I am copying this letter to Paul Thomas (Office of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster), Leigh Lewis (Office of the Minister Without Portfolio) and Mike Corcoran (Minister of State's Office, H.M. Treasury).

Fulls

Mark Howdle, Esq.,  
Office of the Minister of State,  
Department of Employment.

DM