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PRIME MINISTER

FINANCIAL TREATMENT OF STRIKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

I know that this topic is to be discussed in Cabinet tomorrow. Naturally the issue must be decided on broad policy grounds.

The paper, however, gives no indication of the staffing implications of the measures proposed, nor whether they can be absorbed within authorised manpower totals, as I would hope.

U As I will not be present, could I suggest that whichever policy decision Cabinet comes to, Patrick Jenkin and I be asked to consider these staffing questions separately.

We need jointly to determine how many staff are involved, and whether they can be absorbed within the DHSS manpower figures for the relevant years.

I am copying this minute only to Patrick Jenkin and Sir Robert Armstrong.

P.C.

PAUL CHANNON  
12 March 1980

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