Merseyside County Council

From County Councillor ..F...K...Burlinson,........

Please reply to: ....Liverpool.Airport,......

.........Liverpool....................

.........L24.8QQ....................

2nd April, 1981

The Prime Minister,
The Right Hon. Mrs. M. Thatcher,
10 Downing Street,
<u>London</u>.

Dear Mrs. Thatcher,

I am aware that you have been having discussions with
Malcolm Thornton, Lynda Chalker, David Hunt and Anthony Steen
regarding the regeneration of Merseyside. You may know also,
that during the last four years I have been relentlessly pur-
suing the same end, as the Airport Chairman.

The Government's recent special allocation of funds to
enable a new Control Tower and Fire Station to be constructed
at the Airport, was particularly well received and the latest
commitment by the Government to the Enterprise Zone at Speke,
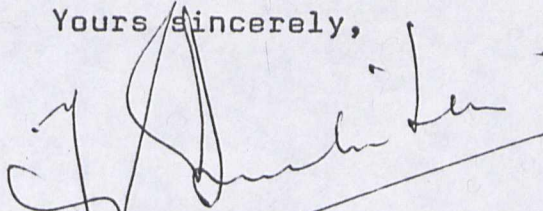has created an air of excitement in the area.

The lack of normal grant aid together with capital res-
traints on local authorities for national airport use has
prompted us at Liverpool vigorously to pursue the Private
Sector with a view to the development of a new terminal
facility. Today the results of our approaches to the Private
Sector are most encouraging. There is however, one problem
which the Private Sector is reluctant to examine - the con-
struction of an apron to serve the new development, as this
would not attract a return on their investment.

I understand that you are enthusiastic about assisting
Merseyside and I believe that if the Government were to
provide in one way or another the apron, then this would be
the catalyst which will enable both the Airport, The Enter-
prise Zone and the release of nearly 500 acres on the old
airfield to be progressed very rapidly.

<u>CONT'D.</u>

The potential of such an overall concept is enormous. I know that officers from the Department of the Environment are looking closely at the issue and I hope that the Government may find a way to progress the matter along the lines which I have suggested to you.

Yours sincerely,

F. K. Burlinson, C.C.,
Chairman,
Airport Committee,
Merseyside County Council.