

ILEA

EDUCATION

4th May 1983

ILEA

Thank you very much for having sent to me a copy of your letter of yesterday's date addressed to the Prime Minister, together with a copy of your Memorandum which I have read with great interest.

I have sent copies to Geoffrey Howe and Freddy Mount.

I hope that you will live for ever.

IAN GOW

Dr Rhodes Boyson MP



Ian  
Allgood writes  
Rhe

*with the  
compliments of*

DR. RHODES BOYSON, M.P.  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR BRENT NORTH

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR BRENT NORTH



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
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Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, MP  
Prime Minister,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA

3rd May, 1983

Following the meeting you called on ILEA I promised to put material together regarding the wasteful expenditure, low standards, and subversive tendencies of that Authority. I enclose a first effort which I have also circulated to all London M.P's, believing it could be of use to them.

Dr. Rhodes Boyson MP

c.c. Rt. Hon. Sir Keith Joseph, Bt MP  
Mr. Ian Gow, MP

3<sup>rd</sup> MAR 1983

I L E A

FINANCIAL AND OTHER ASPECTS

(F)

Notes for London MPs by Dr Rhodes Boyson MP

ILEA budget

ILEA plan to spend in the coming year almost £1 billion.  
The total to be precepted from the Inner London Boroughs is £869,330,000.

Increase over past 10 years

In 1973 the budget was £208 million.  
In 1983 the budget is almost £1,000 million.  
That is a 5 times increase in cash terms, and about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times increase in real terms.  
The ILEA precept in 1973 was 15 pence, it is now 77 pence.  
Over the same 10 years, the numbers of ILEA school children has fallen by one-third.  
Therefore the cost per head has gone up, in cash terms, 7 times for primary and 6 times for secondary, an increase of about twice in real terms.

Costs per head in 1983/84

Each ILEA primary school child will cost £1,025 per annum.  
The national average will be £720.  
Each ILEA secondary child will cost £1,427 per annum.  
The national average will be £1,000.  
Even in Liverpool, which has very similar "deprived" areas, and perhaps an even more inept Council, the 1983/84 figures are £732 for primary and £980 for secondary.

Academic achievements

In 1981, the last year for which I have full figures, 10.6% of ILEA school-leavers achieved one or more "A" level pass. That compares with a national average of 13.5%, with Leeds at 15.1%, and Liverpool at 10.7%. For 5 or more "O" level passes the figures are ILEA, 14.2%; national

average 21.8%; Leeds, 23.2%; Liverpool 15.9%.

Clearly the high level of ILEA spending is not reflected in better results, not even when compared to similar cities.

#### Pupil numbers

In primary, the numbers of children for the coming year will be almost the same as in the previous year, just a slight drop. Over the past 5 years the number in primary has fallen by a quarter, but the figure has now stabilised.

In secondary, the numbers of children will drop by a further 4% over the past years.

#### Teaching costs

Primary, with roughly the same number of children as last year, the teaching costs in cash terms for 1983/84 compared to 1982/83 are up by 7.3%.  
Secondary, with rolls 4% down, teaching costs are up by 4.5%.  
Clearly there are greater increases here than can be explained by the 4.9% increase (now agreed) in teacher salaries.

#### Non-teaching costs

Primary, with no more children on roll, non-teaching costs are up by 7.3%.  
Secondary, with 4% drop in children, non teaching costs are up by 10.1%.  
In fact ILEA now has twice as many non-teaching staff per pupil than the average for the rest of the country.

#### Bureaucracy

Similarly, the administrative costs (staff at County Hall and Regional Offices), as the number of pupils still falls, will rise by 10.3%, and the office accommodation costs for these staff will rise by 17.5%.

#### Non-school costs

At a time when the ILEA say they cannot reduce their costs, when their costs per pupil are already one and a half times the national average, and yet when they are supposed to be attempting to exercise greater financial control, these

are some of the percentage increases by the ILEA in non-school costs:-  
 All percentages are percentage increase of 1983/84 over the 1982/83  
 figure.

Adult education, non-teaching staff costs, up	18.2%
Youth Centres, capitation and club allowances, up	24.7%
Youth Centres, equipment, up	34 %
Youth officers and clerical assistance, up	17.8%
Play Centres and Junior Clubs, staff, up	18 %
" " " " " premises, up	57.6%
Child guidance, all costs, up	10 %
School meals, premises costs, up	35.6%
" " food, up	23.6%
" " total school meals expenditure, up	13 %
Out of school education premises, up	20 %
Induction courses for probationers, up	15.5%
Training for advisory teachers, up	33.5%
Training for youth leaders, up	35.6%
Learning resources premises, up	18.7%
Divisional office accommodation, up	17.8%
Offices and other expenses provided by the GLC to ILEA, up	16 %
Maintenance of surplus ILEA properties, up	36.6%

#### School meals

Following the 1980 Education Act which freed Local Education Authorities to provide meals as best suited the children, and many went over to cafeterias, and also enabled them to make a reasonable charge, yet still below cost, many LEAs found they could make substantial savings on school meals and yet have a better uptake of meals and less wastage. ILEA's net expenditure on school meals and milk has gone up 15% and now stands at £37 million. The average expenditure by ILEA on a school dinner is now 108.1 pence, yet they still stick to the old charge of 35 pence per pupil, and 90 pence per teacher.

If ILEA increased this charge by 10 pence to 45 pence, that would be no more than the increase in prices and earnings generally since that 35 pence price was set. Yet an extra 10 pence per meal would bring in £4 million.

If ILEA cut their costs per meal to something equivalent to the meals-on-wheels costs, they could save at least another £6 million.

#### Induction of probationers

All full-time probationary teachers joining the ILEA have to take part in the ILEA off-site induction scheme. They are released from school for this for half a day per week for the first full year, and the cost of this of course includes the cost of other teachers to cover for that half day.

The cost has gone up this coming year by 15.5% and now stands at £1,190,000. It can be argued that after 3 or more years of initial teacher training at public expense, any further training necessary for the new teacher would be best done in school, by an experienced teacher, at considerably less cost.

#### Equal opportunities

The ILEA have created a new post of "Principal Equal Opportunities Officer" to head a new "Equal Opportunities Unit".

A lady has just been appointed to this post at a salary of £22,000 per annum.

She has 4 Equal Opportunities Officers reporting to her, also just appointed, each has a salary of £16,000 per annum.

There is to be an ILEA Inspector appointed to this Equal Opportunities Unit at a salary of approximately £18,000 per annum.

There is also a secretarial support team for the unit.

The new Equal Opportunities Unit will have 2 teams "concerned with multi-ethnic and relations advice" and the other "opportunities for women and girls".

The new Unit has a parallel command structure to the normal education officers, and has powers to override them.

The Tories on the ILEA would claim that the lack of equal opportunities in the ILEA lies not on racial or sexual grounds, but quite simply in the totally different educational opportunities available to similar children in the different schools of the ILEA, some schools even offering

little or no "O" levels.

Women's caucus

Additionally, the ILEA has set up a "caucus of women" members to "consider and formulate advice to sub-committees on matters relating to the provision of equal opportunities for girls and women in the Authority's schools", and elected members on this caucus will claim the usual attendance, subsistence, and travel allowances for its meetings.

Sex role differentiation

The teacher, Ms Kate Myers, has been seconded from her school to "co-ordinate and disseminate information about anti-sexist initiatives within the Authority".

Creche for children of ILEA employees at County Hall

A feasibility study (itself costing a few thousand pounds) has reported on its investigations for the provision of day care for ILEA employees at County Hall who wish to bring their young children to work.

The annual running cost is set at £245,000, plus an initial capital cost of £150,000.

Similar facilities are recommended for a creche at Peckham, also for ILEA employees, at an annual cost of £182,250.

This is part of the GLC/ILEA's Equal Opportunities policy.

Parents' newspaper

It is proposed to launch a new paper called "ILEA Parent" at an annual cost of £15,000.

Multi-ethnic education

The following new posts have been created:-

Divisional Co-ordinator for development of resources  
for multi-ethnic education, reporting to the multi-ethnic Inspectorate.



Resources Co-ordinator to co-ordinate the resources for multi-ethnic education.

Resources Centre Staff (2 posts) to develop the work of multi-ethnic education.

Development Officer to develop and produce learning material appropriate to education in the multi-ethnic society.

Monitoring Officer monitoring developments in multi-ethnic education.

Advisers in Primary Curriculum (2 posts) advising on the primary curriculum for a multi-ethnic society.

Advisers in Anti-Racist Strategies (4 posts) to support teachers in anti-racist organisation and teaching.

Each of the above posts attracts a salary of around £10,000 per annum.

The ILEA Tories have said that none of this is needed, that in fact it will make the job of teaching children of the immigrant population more, and not less, difficult, by picking them out for such special treatment and by offering them education different to that offered to the white English children.

What the "multi-ethnic" children need above all is to be treated as equal citizens with the white English children, and given the same knowledge and understanding of English education if they are to grow up and live in an English adult world. Anything else is depriving them and making them into second class citizens.

### Mother-tongue teaching

ILEA have expanded their programme (and cost) of mother-tongue teaching. Again there is grave anxiety by the Tories that far from helping these children to integrate into British society, it will exacerbate existing differences.

### Payments to outside organisations

The ILEA make payments to theatre workshops, black community centres and suchlike bodies, mainly through the urban aid programme and inner-city partnerships. There is no compiled record of these.

The more extravagant and political payments are made not through the ILEA, but through other committees of the GLC.

Some examples of these are as follows:-

	£
Barnet African Caribbean Festival	776
Bedside Manners Company Ltd	5,000
Black Angels' Project	4,543
Equal Opportunity Campaign	19,425
Gay Arts Sub-Group Festival	4,500
Karl Marx Centenary	35,000
Women's Arts Alliance	15,000
Women in Entertainment	9,300
Barnet Community Relations Council	2,619
Brent Irish Advisory Service	3,000
Caribbean Communications Project	27,217
North London Muslim Youth Centre	4,830
Women and Manual Trades	34,130
Westway Public Laundry	36,952
Babies Against the Bomb	800
Black Women's Radio Group	1,680
Feminist Revue	585
International Women's Group	6,885
Irish Women's Group	3,994
Women's Action for Peace	2,000
Women's Health Information Centre Collective	1,841

These and many other grants amounting to £1,671,522 were all objected to by the Conservative GLC Group on 23 March 1983.