

PRIME MINISTER

Your Private Secretary's letter of 7 May set out the basis on which special advisers could be appointed. Following discussions with Adam Ridley, who encouraged the idea, I should like to appoint as a special adviser in the "hon-expert" category, Rob Shepherd who has worked with me on employment and industrial relations matters in the party's Research Department for some time now. I would see him principally as providing a link with the party and with your group of political staff at No 10.

I should be grateful for your early agreement to this appointment. If this is forthcoming my Department will of course then negotiate with the CSD a suitable point for Mr Shepherd on a recognised pay scale on the basis you wish.

J P  
10 May 1979

*Delighted* - Can we think of a better name  
than "non-expert" - What about  
'personal assistants'  
jpb



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TO MAY 1979