

cc No
CONFIDENTIAL

Prime Minister^①
Agree, subject to colleagues?

PRIME MINISTER

LONDON REGIONAL TRANSPORT

Dr Keith Bright has a contract with the GLC as Chairman of the existing London Transport Executive, which runs to 1987. When my Bill comes into operation transferring control to me, the existing members of the Executive will continue in office as members of London Regional Transport, on the same terms, unless I exercise my special power to dismiss them within three months.

Dr Bright has been placed by the GLC in a very difficult position, verging on the impossible. But he has already done a lot to streamline the organisation, to cut out waste and to instil new efficiency aims. I am sure that we must keep him as Chairman and Chief Executive, and I would like to give him specific and formal reassurance on this point as soon as possible.

As to salary, Dr Bright at present receives £42,000 a year plus a fee of £2,500 from London Transport International. Since separate fees of this kind are objectionable, I propose to combine the two, but I do not propose any other immediate change. I may wish to propose an increase in salary later on the basis of performance. Dr Bright is also a non-executive director on British Airways, and he has been permitted by the GLC to retain a directorship of EXTEL, for which he receives a fee. He is also a director of London and Continental Advertising Holdings Ltd. I see no reason to disturb any of those arrangements - subject to satisfactory assurance in respect of each that there is no conflict of interest, and nothing to prevent

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Dr Bright giving sufficient time to his full time duties as
Chairman and Chief Executive of London Regional Transport.

I should be glad to know that you approve these
proposals.

I am sending copies of this to the Chancellor of the
Exchequer and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

30th March 1984

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31 MAR 1955

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