

Cabinet

CONFIDENTIAL

B



u

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

The Ministerial Sub-Committee on Public
Service Pay

The Prime Minister was grateful for your minute of 9 November about the membership of E(PSP).

She agrees that the Secretary of State for Education and Science should become a full member of the sub-committee, and would be grateful if you would make the necessary arrangements.

I am sending a copy of this minute to John Kerr (HM Treasury).

M. C. SCHOLMAN

10 November 1981

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Prime Minister

Ref. A05916

PRIME MINISTER

Agree that Sir K Joseph
become a member of this
sub-committee?

Yes not

mes 9/11

The Ministerial Sub-Committee on Public Service Pay (E(PSP))

The Secretary of State for Education and Science has asked me whether he might be added to the membership of E(PSP).

2. You agreed with the Chancellor of the Exchequer when the Committee was first set up that it should be kept small, being confined to the Secretary of State for Employment, the then Lord President of the Council and perhaps one or two other Ministers. Clearly the Secretaries of State for the Environment and for Social Services had to be members because of their responsibilities for local government and the National Health Service respectively. You also agreed that it might be advantageous for the then Paymaster General to be a member because of his responsibilities for Government information, and also for the Chief Secretary, Treasury, to be appointed so that the full weight of presenting the Treasury case did not fall on the Chancellor. But in order to keep the Committee small other Ministers, such as the Secretary of State for Education and Science, who had responsibility for significant public service groups, had to be excluded from full membership.

3. In practice, the Secretary of State for Education and Science has had to be invited to four out of the six meetings which E(PSP) has held this year and last. Moreover, schoolteachers, in particular, are likely to be pretty militant this year over pay; there are already reports in the press about a claim being formulated well in excess of the Government's 4 per cent pay assumption and several months earlier than usual. Other public service pay claims will react on the teachers, and vice versa. There therefore seem to me good grounds for appointing the Secretary of State for Education and Science as a full member of the Sub-Committee.

4. If you agree, we shall make the necessary arrangements.

5. I am sending a copy of this minute to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Chairman of E(PSP).

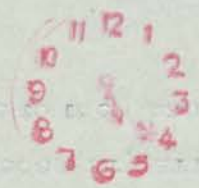
RTA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

9th November, 1981

CONFIDENTIAL

NOV 19 1981



[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

[Faint text line]

[Faint text line]

[Faint text line]

