



SCOTTISH OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AU

25/5

Prime Minister ⁽¹⁾

PRIME MINISTER

Agree one White Paper covering Scotland as well, subject to Transport Secretary's views?

29 May 1984

Yes not

Dms 30/5

THE BUS INDUSTRY

When we discussed this matter at E(A) on 16 May, colleagues agreed that I should prepare a separate White Paper on the application of our proposals to Scotland. On reflection, I think it would be better to have a single White Paper covering the whole of Great Britain, and containing a specific section on Scotland. Our main decision concerns deregulation, on which our policy is the same north and south of the border. A single White Paper would help to demonstrate the coherence of our decisions and the extent of our agreement on them; it would also minimise the chances of opponents exploiting divergences that would inevitably arise in the texts of two separate papers (though we cannot of course conceal the differing decisions north and south of the border on privatisation.)

I hope that (subject to Nicholas Ridley's views) you will feel able to agree to this. I am arranging to let Nicholas have a Scottish draft contribution.

I am copying this minute to Nicholas Ridley, to other members of E(A) and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Approved by the Secretary of State and signed in his absence



VC

cc. N. Owen

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

31 May 1984

The Bus Industry

The Prime Minister has considered your Secretary of State's minute of 29 May, and subject to the views of the Treasury Secretary and other colleagues, she agrees that there should be a single White Paper on bus de-regulation covering the whole of Great Britain.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Dinah Nichols (Department of Transport), to the Private Secretaries to other members of E(A) and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

(David Barclay)

John Graham, Esq.,
Scottish Office.

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

30 May 1984

THE BUS INDUSTRY IN SCOTLAND

We had a word on the telephone earlier today about your Secretary of State's minute to the Prime Minister about the bus industry.

I will let you have as soon as possible the Prime Minister's view on the proposal for a single White Paper. Meanwhile, I am returning the note about the bus industry in Scotland which was enclosed in error with your Secretary of State's minute.

David Barclay

E. Gowans, Esq.,
Scottish Office.

CST