

CONFIDENTIAL

Prime Minister

Agree X?

12 June 1984

MR ~~TURNBULL~~

c Mr Redwood

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URBAN PROGRAMME REVIEW

We commend Patrick Jenkin's courage in having instructed so searching a Review, and feel that he has been well served by the Treasury/Environment/Efficiency Unit team which undertook it.

Like Robin Ibbs, we believe that the formation of a separate agency to manage the Urban Programme is the most promising of the four options suggested by the Review Team - because it is the most likely way of getting things done. But this is not a uniquely right solution which makes all others wrong. It is beset with some political hazard. It could amount to the creation of "no-go" areas for local authorities - much as the London Docklands and Merseyside Development Corporations already are, but on a much larger scale.

At this stage, Patrick is wisely seeking handling advice only. We agree that the Prime Minister should hold an early preparatory meeting with Departments represented on the Steering Committee (Treasury, Environment, Efficiency Unit - and Policy Unit).

X  
RJ.

ROBERT YOUNG