

PRIME MINISTER

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CCB/UP  
PART 10  
The Metropolitan Police report on Hackney below is a terrifying description of urban deprivation. It speaks for itself. But I draw your attention to the statement at "X" in the third paragraph:

"The Dockland development is within a few miles, but there has been very little, if any, knock-on effect within the Borough [of Hackney]."

It seems to me that one of the objectives of our inner cities policy is to ensure that the benefits of future Dockland-type developments do have knock-on effects. As the Hackney experience demonstrates, that just won't happen: it needs to be made to happen. In the Hackney case, the housing estate residents were so sunk in gloom and despondency, insulated in their own limited world, that they apparently made no effort to go after the jobs in Docklands; and there are unskilled jobs there - cleaners, canteen workers, etc.

What is needed is some active marketing of the jobs on the housing estates - e.g. a leaflet drop by the Department of Employment advertising jobs, an interview caravan going round the estates, a shuttle bus service, contacts with local schools and so on. It is easy enough to think out possibilities, much harder to put them into practice. But the interesting point is that, so far as I know, there is no agency, in central or local government, which is capable of doing this sort of job.

N.L.W.

For Inver Arden meeting  
MAF

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25 September 1987



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*Nigel Wicks  
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*Dear David,*

When the Prime Minister saw Stephen O'Brien this week she mentioned a survey or report about Hackney residents.

I gathered from what was said that the report had been prepared by the police and, amongst other matters, appeared to cover attitudes expressed by the unemployed to looking for work, in Docklands and elsewhere. Is it possible to have a sight of this?

*Yours ever*

*Kesi*

K E C SORENSEN