

CONFIDENTIAL

CC HOUSING
Private Rented Secs
NAT HEALTH
Contraceptive advice

PRIME MINISTER

H COMMITTEE: TUESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY

mt

Aids

I attach a minute from the Lord President, reporting on the conclusions reached by the Committee. H agreed that the publicity should go ahead as proposed.

Contraceptive advice and treatment for young people

H agreed that the guidance, as drafted, should be issued as soon as possible. This would follow the line determined by the Court of Appeal, covering in particular the circumstances identified by Lord Fraser when contraceptive advice and treatment could be provided to those under 16 without parental consent. H believed that, for now, the issue of confidentiality between doctor and patient should be left entirely to the General Medical Council.

Private rented sector

H agreed that the Assured Tenancy Scheme, under which newly built property can be let at market rents outside the terms of the Rent Acts, should be extended to buildings which had been substantially improved, repaired or converted. L Committee will be considering including this in the Housing and Planning Bill currently before Parliament.

Man Address

MEA

27 February, 1986.

JD3AJT

CONFIDENTIAL

*With regard to the
AIDS add - have we
checked
① that it is acceptable
to the Advertising authority
② that it does not come
within the obscenity Act
*mt**



Prime Minister.

To note H's conclusion on AIDS.
The Lord President voiced your
concerns, but H appear unanimously
to have felt the material simply
had to be included. MCA 26/2

PRIME MINISTER

CONTROLLING THE SPREAD OF ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS)

Your Private Secretary wrote to mine yesterday to let me know of your comments on this and to ask me to report the conclusion that H Committee reached in their discussion that evening.

2. The Committee were clearly most concerned about the threat of AIDS, and anxious that the Government should be seen to be doing all that could reasonably be expected of it in response. I think, indeed, that every one of the questions put to the Social Services Secretary and the Chief Medical Officer was designed to explore whether it was possible to go beyond the sort of publicity programme that they have in mind. I made it clear that I viewed the proposed public advice "What is risky sex?" with very considerable distaste, and I asked the Committee to think most carefully before we authorised the release of this particular material - some passages of which I thought more offensive than others.

3. The Chief Medical Officer explained to me that, as there was no cure for AIDS, avoiding the riskiest practices was the only way to limit the spread of the disease; that the passages to which I had drawn attention contained the essence of the message that he needed to get across; and that in his professional judgement their inclusion in the publicity was vital. I was also told by colleagues that material on AIDS published by some other governments was far more explicit than what is being proposed here, and the Health Ministers reminded me that, partly because of the kind of doubts I had raised, the advice would be attributed personally to the Chief Medical Officer rather than to the Government.

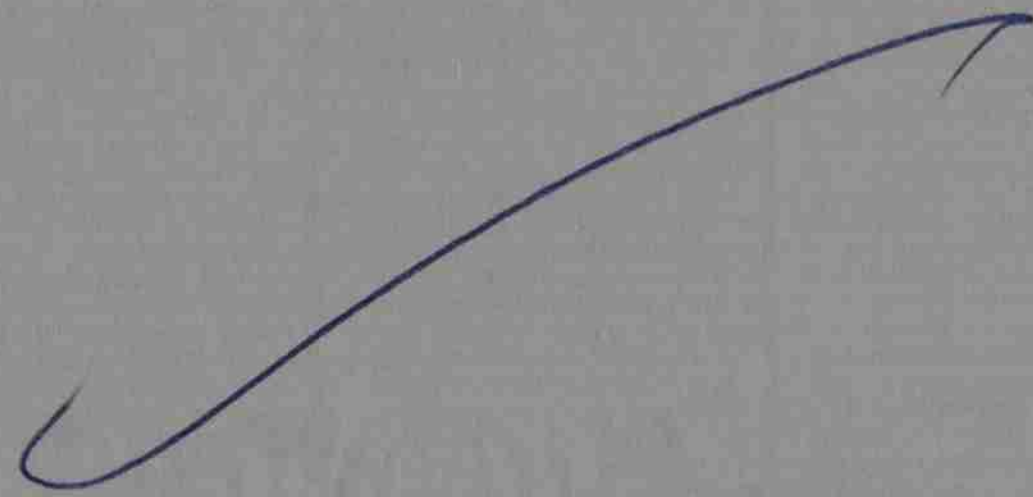
RESTRICTED



4. As there was no support at all for the doubts I had aired, the Committee agreed that the publicity should go ahead next month, substantially as the Social Services Secretary had proposed.

5. I am sending a copy of this minute to the Social Services Secretary and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

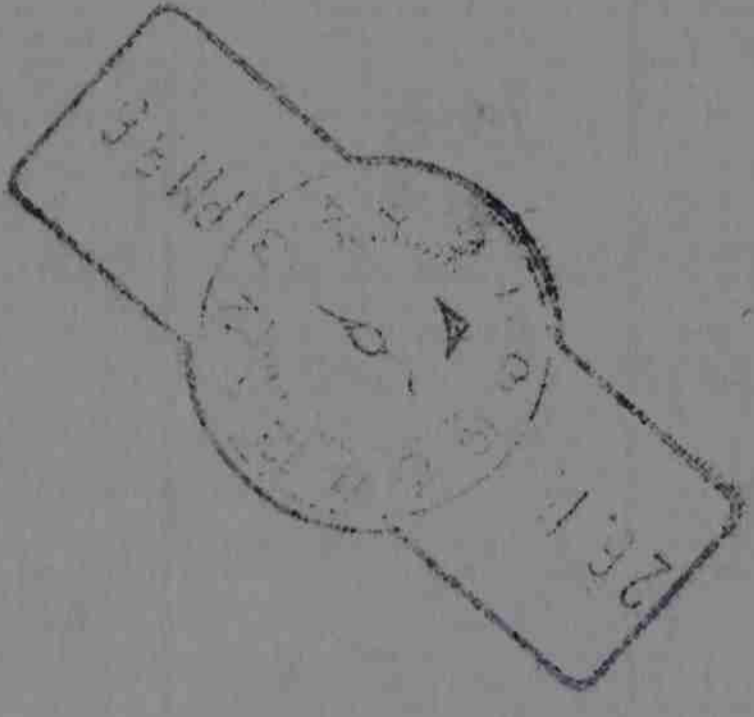
hold



Privy Council Office
26 February 1986

RESTRICTED

Wat Health: AIDS Aug 85.



WORLDWIDE