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Minister for Housing,
 Urban Affairs and Construction

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I have been looking at the remuneration of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and members of the British Waterways Board. Only the Chairman's pay was increased in 1983, and there was no pay award for any of the Board in 1984.

I now want to reward the Board for their achievements since the new Chairman, Sir Leslie Young, took office in July 1984. We also need to keep sufficiently close to comparable salaries to avoid any difficulties in the future.

I would like to propose an increase of 8% for Sir Leslie Young. Since his appointment he has changed BWB attitudes and policies in line with Government objectives, transferring them into a more cost-conscious organisation working to a realistic Corporate Plan with energetic marketing and profit improvement plans. He has set targets for increased income, manpower reductions and productivity improvements which require urgent action by all parts of BWB. The freight side has responded well despite adverse trading conditions: in particular it has dropped two heavy loss-makers (Weston Point Dock and Brentford Lighter Fleet). The engineering side is reviewing canal maintenance standards in relation to actual use levels and estates division are on target in netting about £1m per annum from a disposal programme for non-operational holdings. The leisure side has particular potential and Sir Leslie is obtaining consultants' advice on a range of possibilities including prospects for a tenfold increase in angling income.

The Chairman's salary was settled in July 1983 and there was no increase when Sir Leslie took office. I believe that a new notional salary of £32,076 would be an adequate response to his achievements: it would still be below that for the smaller water authorities. Sir Leslie's present time input is 50% and we do not propose to change that.

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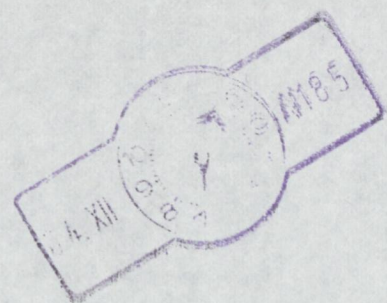
The Deputy Chairman, Dr Robertson, and other Board members have ably supported the Chairman in his redirection of BWB policies. However, their salaries have not been increased since July 1982, although the members were notified that the increase was to last them until July 1984. In view of the time lapse since the last awards I would propose an increase of 10% taking effect on 1 July 1985. This would bring Dr Robertson's notional salary to £22,000 giving an actual salary of £6,600. Members' new salary would be £3,300 pa.

I hope you can let me have your agreement as soon as possible in order to complete the 1984/85 pay round for my nationalised industries. I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, other members of E(NI) and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Y.D. lrc,
John

JOHN PATTEN

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and Construction
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17th December 1985

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BOARD MEMBERS' PAY 1985: BRITISH WATERWAYS BOARD

Thank you for your letter of 3 December about the pay of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and members of the British Waterways Board (BWB).

In view of your comments about BWB performance and the fact that there was no 1984 pay review, I am content with your proposals for 1985 increases of 8 per cent for the Chairman and 10 per cent for the Deputy Chairman and Members. This gives the following revised salaries from 1 July 1985:

	Part-time Salary Paid	Notional Full-time Salary
	£	£
Chairman Sir Leslie Young (2.5 days a week)	16,038	32,076
Deputy Chairman Dr A Robertson (1.5 days a week)	6,600	22,000
Members (2 days a month)	3,300	-

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, other members of E(NI), and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN MacGREGOR

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LOCAL GOVT
WATER INDUSTRY
PT 3

