10 DOWNING STREET 17 March 1980 From the Private Secretary I mentioned to you on the phone this morning that the Prime Minister has some doubts about the new Advisory Group on the future of health services and medical education in London, foreshadowed in "Patients First". This was the subject of Don Brereton's letter to me of 12 March. The Prime Minister has asked why this new "Quango" is necessary, and whether further advice is required. She would hope that there is already sufficient knowledge and expert advice on these matters available to the Government. She would certainly wish to see a statement of the full costs likely to be incurred in setting up and operating the Group before she agrees that it should go ahead. Given that the setting up of the Group has already been forecast in "Patients First", I realise that you will want to settle the matter one way or another very quickly. It would be helpful if you could let me have figures which I have requested above in the course of this week. I am sending copies of this letter to Geoffrey Green (Civil Service Department) and Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's Office). M. A. PATTISON Bernie Merkel, Esq., Department of Health and Social Security.



PRIME MINISTER

Sir of Habakkuk is moposed & chair an Advisory Choup on

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SECURITY Health Services and

Alexander Fleming House, Elephant & Castle, London SEI 6BY Medical Education

Telephone 01-407 5522

From the Secretary of State for Social Services

Mike Pattison Esq Private Secretary 10 Downing Street London SW1

in London - as Moresed in Patients Fust.

12. March 1980

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Dear Mile

It was envisaged in "Patients First" that an Advisory Group should be established to help the Government reach decisions concerning the future of health services and medical education in London. Following consultations with the Public Appointments Unit of the Civil Service Department and the Office of the Chief Whip on a suitable Chairman for this Group, my Secretary of State has considered that Sir John Habakkuk, the former Vice Chancellor of Oxford University, is the best candidate for this post: I enclose a brief CV. Preliminary soundings indicate that Sir John would be able and willing to undertake the task.

I should be grateful if you could let me know whether the Prime Minister is content for the Secretary of State to invite Sir John Habakkuk formally to be the Chairman of this important Group.

I am copying this letter to Geoffrey Green in the Civil Service Department and Murdo MacLean in the Chief Whip's Office.

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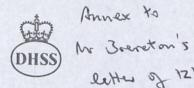
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Private Secretary

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With the Compliments of the Private Secretary to the Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
Alexander Fleming House
Elephant and Castle
London, SEI 6BY

HABAKKUK, Sir John (Hrothgar), Kt. 1926. FBA 1938. Principals of Josis College, Oxford, Since 1967. a Per Vije Chancellor. University of Oxford, since 1967. by May 1968. University College, Swamea, since 1968. b 13 May 1967. we Evan Guest and Anne Habakkuk in 1948. Mark Probatis of three of Litax Burry County Sch. 83. Dehn's Coll. Commentar Oxfordar and Strather in studenti, Henry Feliow 1971. History oxfordar and Strather in studenti, Henry Feliow 1971. History oxfordar and Strather in Studenti, Henry Feliow 1971. Director of Studies in History and Liverya 1940-50. Temperary Civil Servant Foreign Office 1920-21. Board of Frade, 1940-40. Linguistry Lecturer in Facility Fernomics, Cambridge, 1940-50, Chichele Prof. of Fel. — History, Oxford, and Fell w of All Social Coll. 1950-50. Concellor, Oxford Univ. 1773-77. Vising Lecturer, Harvary University, 1954-55, Ford Research Professor, University, California, Berkeley, 1962-64. Members Grag Circe Departmental Records, 1952-54. Advisory Council on Proceedings, 1958-70. SSRC, 1957-71, Nat. Libraries Circe, 1968. Royal Common on History Manuscripts, 1973, Admir Sc. Chancellors and Principals of University Proceedings and Principals of University Professor, University, 1968-75. For Member, Amer Phil Sec. Amir Sc. Chancellors and Principals of University Wiles, 1971. Camira, 1973, Pennsylvania, 1775. Kenn, 1978. Publications. Americand British Technology in the Nineteenth Century, 1879-79. Propulation Growth and Economic Development street. 1971; erricles and reviews. Address: The Lodgings Proc. College, Oxford. T. Oxford. 48140. Club: United Oxford. 2. Cambridge University.

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