



CONFIDENTIAL

Ref. A 0961

ms

PRIME MINISTER

Report on Non-Departmental Public Bodies

You propose to mention Sir Leo Pliatzky's Report at Cabinet on 20th December. Your Office will by then have heard whether Ministers are content for the text to be cleared without discussion in Cabinet.

2. If that is the case, you might take the opportunity (a) to give the document your personal endorsement; (b) to seek the collective agreement of the Cabinet to the publication of the Report as a White Paper; and (c) to decide how the White Paper should be drawn to the attention of Parliament.

3. In endorsing the Report, you might refer in particular to -

- (a) Lessons for the future (paragraphs 63-84). You will wish to endorse Sir Leo Pliatzky's first lesson - the need for a much more cautious and
- ① critical attitude to the creation of new organisations. You will want to
 - ② let your colleagues know that you are opposed to further "hiving off" to non-Departmental bodies - transfers to the private sector would be a different matter. You might refer to paragraph 70, which suggests a new rule - that there should be early consultation with the Civil Service
 - ③ Department and the Treasury about any proposals for new executive-type bodies. This can be promulgated in "Questions of Procedure for Ministers".
- (b) Further action (paragraph 78). The results in the Report are not final. Further decisions are in the pipeline. You might say that you intend to ask the Lord President to conduct a mopping-up operation with Departmental Ministers in the autumn of next year, to ensure that decisions have been reached on the cases at present requiring further study or consultation. You could also say that you favour further stocktaking from time to time, on the lines of paragraph 78 of the Report.



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4. Assuming that the Cabinet agree the issue of the Report as a White Paper, you will need to consider its presentation to Parliament. You may want, in the absence of the Lord President, to arrange to give a Written Answer to a Parliamentary Question yourself, and to arrange for a simultaneous Answer in the Lords. There will need to be a Press Notice, drawing attention to the savings and making the point that there will be periodic reviews of public bodies in the future.

REA

(Robert Armstrong)

14th December, 1979

FROM SIR LEO PLIATZKY

CONFIDENTIAL

MR PATTISON

NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

1. May I let you have this aide memoire on the handling of this item in Cabinet tomorrow.
2. The report on non-Departmental public bodies was circulated to the Private Secretaries of members of Cabinet and other Ministers concerned under cover of your Private Office letter dated 11 December, with a view to clearing the report for issue as a White Paper without discussion in Cabinet. All Private Offices who have responded so far have said that their Ministers are content with this procedure and with the report, including the suggestions made under the heading of Lessons for the Future, subject to one point from the Department of the Environment with which I will deal a little later.
3. The Prime Minister can therefore inform Cabinet accordingly and say that the provisional date for presenting the White Paper to Parliament is Wednesday, 16 January 1980. This will be accompanied by a written answer from the Prime Minister to an arranged Parliamentary question. If other Ministers ask whether they will get a sight of the draft statement in advance, I can see no objection to that.
4. It will be for Departmental Ministers to provide any further information required on their particular bodies, and to answer questions on them. There will be further contact with Departments in the New Year to confirm the publication date and co-ordinate these arrangements.
5. A fair number of minor amendments or corrections to the details in the Departmental chapters and lists have been received, and the proof copy is being altered accordingly. A few very minor points of the same kind affecting the main report are also being accepted.
6. The only proposed change of substance concerns the Institute of Development Studies which has so far been listed in the table on page 7 of the report as one of the executive bodies from which support is to be withdrawn. Following an appeal from the Institute, FCO Ministers have now decided to put this decision in suspense for a short period, so as to give the Institute a last chance to work out an alternative low cost budget. The options are therefore either -
- (a) to leave the Institute of Development Studies in the list, with a footnote to the effect that this decision is in suspense; or
 - (b) to remove it from the list and thus reduce the number of executive bodies to be abolished etc from 30 to 29.

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7. It will be a pity to spoil the round number. Nevertheless, if FCO Ministers have a strong preference for taking this item out of the list for the time being, and unless the Prime Minister has a strong contrary preference, we had better take it out. In either event this can be settled out of court and need not be raised in Cabinet. One of the objectives has been to avoid presenting Cabinet with wrangles on particular cases.

8. The Department of Environment point referred to in paragraph 2 above is that there should be further thought before the Government commit themselves to giving the Comptroller and Auditor General access to the books of non-commercial bodies such as the Urban Development Corporations, as proposed in paragraph 73 of the report. I do not think that there should be any watering down of this conclusion. However, Mr Heseltine is, I understand, not asking that the report should be altered, and is unlikely to want the point discussed in Cabinet, so I suggest that it can be settled out of court, perhaps in the context of the draft statement. There has also been some last minute hesitation in the DOE about the omission of the New Town Development Corporations from the list of bodies to be axed by the end of 1981, but I understand that Mr Heseltine has accepted that they cannot be so listed when there is so far no prospective date for winding them up.

9. Your Private Office letter of 11 December thanked Departments for their co-operation so far, and indicated that their co-operation would be wanted in the proposed follow-up action. The Prime Minister will no doubt wish to reiterate this.

10. Two further statistics which are not in the report but which may be of interest. Our present tally of the number of appointments which will be eliminated by the reduction in the number of non-Departmental bodies is 3,700. Although only a proportion of these appointments are made every year, the saving in the time of Ministers and top officials, which is not allowed for in the figure of expenditure savings, should be considerable.

11. Finally, an estimate of the central cost of this exercise from 1 September to 21 December, ie the cost of employing me and the supporting staff at all levels in the Civil Service Department, is put at £35,000. We have not attempted to collect estimates of the cost to other Departments of their contributions to the exercise but, except for one Department which assigned a Principal specially to this work, we understand that in all other Departments it was carried out by existing staff as part of their general duties. So I think that it has been quite a cost effective operation.

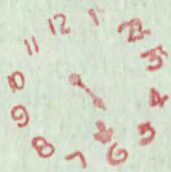
12. I am sending copies of this to the Minister of State in the Civil Service Department, to Sir Ian Bancroft and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

L.P.

LEO PLIATZKY



19 JULY 1979



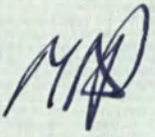
COMPTON

PRIME MINISTER

You have already seen Sir Robert Armstrong's speaking note below.

All Cabinet colleagues have confirmed that they see no need for discussion of the text of Sir Leo's report at Cabinet. Sir Leo's further note at Flag A notes a provisional publication date, 16 January. He also records that the Institute of Development Studies has been withdrawn from the list of executive bodies from which support will be withdrawn, and that Mr. Heseltine has reluctantly agreed that the New Town Development Corporations cannot properly be included in the list of bodies to be axed at the end of 1981.

The note also includes the information that 3,700 appointments will be eliminated by the changes noted in the report, and that the cost of employing Sir Leo and his CSD supporting staff has been £35,000.



19 December 1979



PRIME MINISTER
 Sir Ian Bancroft's
 comments on the Pliatzky
 report. These points
 are background to the
 speaking note in Cabinet
 folder

PRIME MINISTER

REPORT OF NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

I understand that there is likely to be a short discussion of Sir Leo Pliatzky's valuable report at Cabinet on Thursday. I thought you might find it helpful to have the following brief notes.

2. First, Sir Leo's exercise has cleared away a lot of the dead wood. But some remains: it was inevitable that not all of it could be rooted out in one go. The mopping up operation in September 1980 and the subsequent annual stocktakings will demand the commitment of Departmental Ministers if they are to be effective. You have assigned the lead in these operations to CSD, in consultation with the Treasury: we will do all we can to maintain the pressure to cut out bodies that are not fully justified. At the same time, we shall be at pains to avoid introducing fussy or wasteful machinery for the stocktakings.
3. Second, there already are and will continue to be demands for the creation of yet more fringe bodies. For example, the Royal Commission on Legal Services recommends three more; and the Finniston Report proposes the creation of a large and powerful British Engineering Authority. The decision whether to create a new body must, of course, lie with the individual Departmental Minister or, in some cases, with Ministers collectively. But CSD, in consultation with the Treasury, will help Departments ensure that there is a rigorous examination of each proposal.
4. To this end, we shall be producing a short guide for Departments. It will be based on the lessons in Sir Leo's report and will draw on the work done in CSD before his study was commissioned. The guide will set out the factors which Departments should take into account in scrutinising proposals for new bodies: it will also describe the best practice to be followed in setting up a public body where the decision to create one has been made.
5. Finally, I am convinced that the continued onslaught on dead wood and the campaign to avoid the creation of unjustified new bodies will be far more effective if it is publicly known that you will be maintaining your own personal interest in this subject.
6. I am sending copies of this minute to Mr Paul Channon, Sir Robert Armstrong and Sir Leo Pliatzky.

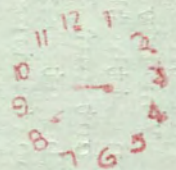
IB

IAN BANCROFT
 18 December 1979

and

COMMISSION

19 DEC 1979



FILE



VLS
cc Sir Pliatzky
CSD
CO

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MR. LAUGHRIN
CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

The Prime Minister has seen Sir Ian Bancroft's minute of 18 December, about the Report on Non-Departmental Public Bodies.

She has noted Sir Ian's advice that it would be helpful for it to be publicly known that she will be maintaining her own personal interest in this subject. She made this clear in her remarks about the Report at Cabinet yesterday.

I am sending copies of this minute to Sir Leo Pliatzky, Geoffrey Green (Mr. Channon's Office) and Martin Vile (Cabinet Office).

M. A. PATTISON

21 December 1979

VLS

N



DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY
ASHDOWN HOUSE
123 VICTORIA STREET
LONDON SW1E 6RB

TELEPHONE DIRECT LINE 01-212 3301
SWITCHBOARD 01-212 7676

PS/ *Secretary of State for Industry*

18 December 1979

Mike Pattison Esq
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

Dear Mike

REVIEW OF NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

In response to your letter of 11 December to John Chilcot about Sir Leo Pliatzky's Report, I am writing to confirm that my Secretary of State is content for the text to be cleared without discussion in Cabinet.

Yours ever

Ian Ellison

I K C ELLISON
Private Secretary



From the Secretary of State

Mike Pattison Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
Whitehall
SW1

18 December 1979

Dear Mike,

REVIEW OF NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

In response to your letter of 11 December to John Chilcot and copied to me about Sir Leo Pliatzky's Report, I am writing to confirm that my Secretary of State is content for the text to be cleared without discussion in Cabinet.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Hampson

S HAMPSON
Private Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL



HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

18 December 1979

Dear Mike,

Thank you for your letter of 11 December about the proposed arrangements for the publication of Sir Leo Pliatzky's report on non-Departmental Public Bodies and consequential action.

We have no points to raise on the main report and the only amendments to the Home Office chapter and list are minor typographical corrections which have already been notified to Sir Leo Pliatzky's staff. The Home Secretary is content for the text to be cleared without discussion in Cabinet.

I note that you intend to deal with presentational aspects nearer the time of publication of the report. For our part, and subject to anything which might arise at Cabinet, we are putting in hand appropriate arrangements for notifying the Home Office bodies affected prior to or at the time of publication.

Yours,
John

J. A. CHILCOT

Mike Pattison, Esq.

CONFIDENTIAL



SCOTTISH OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AU

Mike Pattison Esq
Private Secretary
No 10 Downing Street
LONDON

18 December 1979

Dear Mike,

My Secretary of State has seen your letter of 11 December and the enclosed proof copy of the report by Sir Leo Pliatzky on non-Departmental Public Bodies. He is content for the text to be cleared without discussion in Cabinet and has noted that arrangements for publication will be raised on 20 December.

My Secretary of State has also studied the suggestions under "Lessons for the Future" and subsequent paragraphs contained in Part One of the report. He sees no reason to dissent from these, many of which do indeed accord with current practice. It may be that circumstances peculiar to Scotland might justify some variation from the basic rules from time to time but this would not affect adherence to the general principles set out in the report.

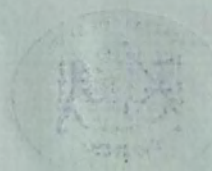
I enclose, as an annex to this letter, a list of minor drafting points where there are references to the Scottish Office outwith the Scottish Office chapter. Our officials are in direct touch with CSD about amendments to the Scottish Office chapter.

I am sending copies of this letter to the recipients of yours.

Yours sincerely,

GODFREY ROBSON
Private Secretary

SCOTTISH OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON, E.C. 4



119 [unclear] 1979

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MINOR DRAFTING CHANGES FOR OTHER THAN THE SCOTTISH OFFICE CHAPTER

Page No.	Line No.	
5	233	Amend '6' to read '5'
	237	Amend '67' to read '66'
8	44	Amend to read Peterhead Bay (Management) Company
9	81	Amend '19' to read '18'
	90	Amend '212' to read '211'

MANAGEMENT IN CONFIDENCE



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1
Telephone 01-220-7022 218 2111/3

MANAGEMENT IN CONFIDENCE

18th December 1979

MO 20/17/9

Dear Sir,

SIR LEO PLIATZKY'S REVIEW

Thank you for your letter of 11th December about Sir Leo Pliatzky's review, which my Secretary of State has seen.

/ I attach a list of minor drafting amendments which we should like to be made. The only one to which I think I should draw particular attention is the proposed footnote against line 156 in Part 2 Chapter 4. Officials had been led to believe that there would be a general explanatory note pointing out that the - symbol indicated not 'nil' but a figure of less than £1000. In the event, no such note has been included. We regard it as presentationally important to make this point clear, at least so far as the savings to be expected from my Secretary of State's decisions are concerned.

I am sending copies of this letter to Sir Leo Pliatzky and to Martin Vile (Cabinet Office).

*Yours and
Brian Norbury*

(B M NORBURY)

M Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street

MANAGEMENT IN CONFIDENCE

MANAGEMENT IN CONFIDENCE

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ANNEX

CHAPTER 4 PROPOSED PROOF CORRECTIONS

<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	
55	156	Indicate footnote (see 186 below)
	166	Amend to read: Electronics Research Council and Sub Committees
	167	Amend "Committees" to read "Committee"
	168	Insert "0.021" under Estimated Savings
56	169	Delete "0.021" under Estimated Savings
	186	Insert: '- indicates savings of less than £1000 pa'
	189	Delete "Establishment at Colchester" <i>insert "Centre"</i>
	190	Delete "into one body".
	213	Insert comma between "Museum" and "Cosford".
215	After "policy" insert "control".	
57	228	Close brackets at end of sentence.
	229	<i>After "LC", insert "(175 LC)"</i>
	248	Amend to read: "The Army Benevolent Fund and the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust Boards"
	250	Amend to read: "The Board of Commissioners of The Duke of York's Royal Military School"
	251	Amend to read: "The Board of Commissioners of Queen Victoria School"
	252	Amend to read: "The Frimley Park Trust"
	253	Amend 'included' to read 'excluded'

PART 3: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE ADVISORY BODIES

137	7	Body No 15: delete comma and "Colchester" after "Military Corrective Training Centre"
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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
ELIZABETH HOUSE, YORK ROAD, LONDON SE1 7PH
TELEPHONE 01-928 9222
FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

M A Pattison Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
London SW1

18 December 1979

Dear Mike

REPORT ON NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

My Secretary of State has seen your letter of 11 December and is content that the text of the Pliatzky report be cleared without discussion in Cabinet on Thursday. He also endorses the recommendations of those paragraphs of the report highlighted in your letter.

We have already sent CSD some minor factual amendments to those parts of the text relating to DES.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

Yours sincerely
Peter Shaw

P A SHAW
Private Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB

M A Pattison Esq
Private Secretary to
the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

18 December 1979

Dear Mike

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 11 December to John Chilcot, enclosing a proof copy of Sir Leo Pliatzky's report.

My Minister is content for the text of the report to be cleared without discussion in Cabinet. I enclose a list of drafting amendments.

I am sending a copy of this letter and enclosure to Sir Leo Pliatzky at the Civil Service Department.

*Yours
C R Edwards*

C R EDWARDS
Private Secretary

DRAFTING AMENDMENTS

Chapter 18

- i Paragraph 2. The first sentence should read:

"The Department has 13 non-departmental bodies (excluding tribunals etc and the Planning and Transportation Research Advisory Council, which as a joint DOE/DTp body is shown in DOE tables) of which 7 are to be abolished."

- ii Insert a paragraph number ie "4" at top of page 122.

- iii Column 1 of the table at the top of page 122 should read:

Executive etc	2
Advisory	11
Tribunal systems, etc	2

Totals	15
--------	----

- iv Paragraph 5. Under "Freight Integration Council" delete and substitute:

"Clause 54 in the Transport Bill now before Parliament will have the effect of abolishing the Council as soon as the Bill becomes law. This will save under £1,000."

Under "Railways and Coastal Shipping Committee" delete and substitute:

"The Secretary of State for Trade has agreed with the Minister of Transport that this Committee should be abolished, and it may be possible to add the necessary provision to the Transport Bill during its progress through Parliament. Savings will be minimal as the Committee has not met for a number of years."

- v Paragraph 6. In the last entry on the list insert "of" between "Port" and "Tyne".

- vi Appendix A. Department of Transport Table B - footnote (a): "1978/79" should read "1979/80".

- vii Page 173. Department of Transport table C (as amended) - delete "Area" (and simply refer to "Traffic Commissioners").



Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Whitehall Place London SW1A 2HH

From the Minister's Private Office

CONFIDENTIAL

M A Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street
London SW1

18 December 1979

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter of 11 December enclosing a proof copy of Sir Leo Pliatzky's report. I have consulted the Minister and am writing to let you know that he is content for the text of the Report to be cleared without discussion in Cabinet.

We have a number of drafting points on the MAFF chapter and a list is enclosed as requested.

I am sending a copy of this reply and its enclosure to Sir Leo Pliatzky and copies of the reply without enclosure to the other recipients of your letter.

Yours sincerely

Garth Waters

Garth Waters

CONFIDENTIAL

PROOF COPY OF REPORT ON NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY MAFF

1. We confirm agreement to the amendments in the list circulated with the report, ie

Page 47, para 3. Number of advisory bodies should be 78 not 74 and the total number of bodies should be 117 not 113.

Page 49. Above para 11 insert "Eggs Authority"

Page 50, line 147, for "of the tenants" substitute "for the tenants".

Page 50. Bracket together the last 4 bodies.

Page 131. Appendix A. Delete * before Meat and Livestock Commission.

Page 132. Against "Food Standards Committee" substitute "0.065" for "0.025".

2. We have the following additional amendments to suggest to the MAFF chapter:-

Page 47, paragraph 3, lines 44/5 - for "Ministry of Agriculture" substitute "Minister of Agriculture"

Page 47, paragraph 3 - in column 2 of the Table substitute "2583" for "2575" against "Executive etc" and against "Totals"

- in column 5 substitute

"1.114" for "1.115" against Advisory and
"1.882" for "1.883" against Total

Page 48, paragraph 4(b) - amend second sentence in lines 66 and 67 to read
"This Advisory Council will be wound up very shortly on completion of its current inquiry into the future"

- line 68 for "£50,000" substitute "£56,000".

Page 48, paragraph 4 (e), (h) and (j); lines 78, 88 and 96 -

references to savings of "£200,000" should be "£100,000"

Page 50. Our entries for the Meat & Livestock Commission and White Fish Authority in the previous draft have been deleted. We consider that both should be included as follows:

"MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

14. The Commission set up in 1967 is charged with promoting greater efficiency in the livestock industry and livestock products industry in Great Britain. It also carries out the certification of sheep under the Fat Sheep Guarantee Scheme and cattle under the Beef Premium Scheme and acts as agent for the Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce in the intervention buying of beef."

"WHITE FISH AUTHORITY

16. The White Fish Authority which was set up in 1951 has the statutory functions of reorganising, developing etc the white fish industry and keeping under review matters related to that industry. Specifically it pays grant/loans for construction/improvement of fishing vessels, provides facilities for training and undertakes research, promotion and overseas consultancy contracts."

(The National Seed Development Organisation Ltd will have to be re-numbered 15. The Wine Standards Board would become 17 and Other Bodies 18).

Page 131, Appendix A

Table A: Agricultural Training Board, column 3 should be "AB"

After Agricultural Wages Committees (England) add "(25)"

Meat and Livestock Commission, column 3 should be "13.100 AB"

White Fish Authority should be "AB" in Column 3. (We now think it is more misleading to leave out the B than to put it in column 3).

Page 131/2

Table B: Delete * against Advisory Committee on Pesticides and against Agricultural Chemicals Approval Scheme Scientific Advisory Committee. Both Committees of Investigation and both Consumers' Committees should be "under Agricultural Marketing Act".

Delete * against Consultative Panel on Badgers and Tuberculosis.

Page 132

Table C: We understand it is now desired for each Tribunal System to include the number of Tribunals as is done for Agricultural Land Tribunals (7). This means that "(7)" should also be added after Milk and Dairies Tribunals.

3. We have noted the following typographical errors -

Page 48, line 80 substitute hyphen for dash between "levy" and "funded."

Page 48, line 87, for "Research and Development" substitute "research and development"

Page 48, line 98, substitute "which" for "who"

48, line 102, for "case" substitute "cases"

Page 49, line 116, for "holdays" substitute "holidays"

Page 50, line 157, "Regulation" should be "Regulations"

Page 50, line 161, substitute "principal" for "Principal"

Page 131, Appendix A, Table A, insert "-" in columns 3 and 4 against
Agricultural Wages Board and Agricultural
Wages Committees

Page 131. For "Home Grown Cereal Authority" substitute "Home-Grown
Cereals Authority

Page 131. Amend "*Tate and Lyle Customers Safeguards Committee" to
"*Tate and Lyle Customers Safeguards Committee"

Page 178. Other Public Corporations - for "Covent Garden Marketing Authority"
substitute "Covent Garden Market Authority"

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food
17 December 1979

CONFIDENTIAL



PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster
and
Minister for the Arts.

18th December 1979

M Pattison Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street

Dear Mike

I am writing in reply to your letter of 11th December to John Chilcot about the Report of Non-Departmental Public Bodies by Sir Leo Pliatzky. The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster is quite content for the text to be cleared without discussion in Cabinet.

We should like to suggest a minor drafting amendment to the description of the British Film Institute on Page 53 of the Report. It would then read as follows:

"British Film Institute. Administers the National Film Archives and the National Film Theatre, publishes magazines and monographs, gives grants for low budget films of artistic merit by independent film makers and promotes the appreciation of the Film."

I am sending copies of this letter to the recipients of yours including Sir Leo Pliatzky.

Yours sincerely
Mary Giles
Miss M G H Giles
Private Secretary
(Arts)

CONFIDENTIAL

PPS
with NJS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SECURITY
Alexander Fleming House, Elephant & Castle, London SE1 6BY

Telephone 01-407 5522

From the Secretary of State for Social Services

Mike Pattison Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
London SW1

18 December 1979

Dear Mike

NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

The Secretary of State is content with the text of Sir Leo Pliatzky's Report. He welcomes the recommendations under "Lessons for the Future", and endorses the suggestion that the Government should announce its acceptance of them when the report is published.

He also notes the suggestion of a mopping up operation in September 1980, and arrangements for this are already in hand in DHSS.

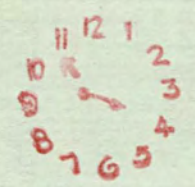
There is one minor drafting point in relation to paragraph 71 of the report. Most of our fringe bodies are financed by supply grants rather than by grant-in-aid. To avoid technical details, it might be best if the Report merely referred to "grants".

Copies of this letter go to the Private Secretaries, to members of the Cabinet, the Minister of Transport, the Attorney-General, the Lord Advocate and the Chief Whip; and to Geoffrey Green, David Laughrin, Martin Vile and Sir Leo Pliatzky.

Yours ever

D. BRERETON

18 DEC 1979





MAP(COR)

Caxton House Tothill Street London SW1H 9NA

Telephone Direct Line 01-213 6400

Switchboard 01-213 3000

M Pattison Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

18 December 1979

Dear Mice

In your letter of 11 December to John Chilcot you asked Departments to let you have any drafting points on Sir Leo Pliatzky's report on non-Departmental Public Bodies.

We have already dealt at official level with drafting points on the chapters specifically dealing with bodies in the DE Group but there remain a couple of amendments to Part One which we would like to be considered. They concern comments about the MSC review of advisory bodies and about the implications for Industrial Training Boards of the MSC review of the Employment and Training Act. My Secretary of State is anxious to avoid giving unnecessarily the impression that the report has pre-judged the outcome of these reviews.

For this reason we would prefer the substitution of "may" for "should" in the second sentence of paragraph 28, page 6 (line 284 of the proof) and the insertion of "up to" before "a further 200" in line 285. In the third sentence of paragraph 61, page 16, we would like to substitute "could" for "is likely to" at line 130.

Apart from this we have no other comment on the text and my Secretary of State agrees that it need not be discussed in Cabinet. He also is content that the Prime Minister intends to mention the conclusions in the paragraphs quoted in your letter in her written statement to the House.

I am sending a copy of this letter to those mentioned in yours.

Yours sincerely
Ian Fair

CONFIDENTIAL

01-405 7641 EXT.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS

Communications on this subject should
be addressed to
The Private Secretary
Attorney General's Chambers

LAW OFFICERS' DEPARTMENT

ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE

LONDON, W.C.2

Our Ref: 400/79/272

17 December 1979

Mr M Pattison
Private Secretary
No 10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

MAP

Dear Private Secretary

REVIEW OF NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

I refer to your letter of the 11th December.

The Attorney General is content for the text
of Sir Leo Pliatzky's report to be cleared
without discussion in Cabinet.

Yours faithfully
G Roscoe

G ROSCOE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Our Ref: 400/10/100

18 DEC 1979

RECEIVED
18 DEC 1979

Dear Sirs

Yours faithfully
John Smith



SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY
THAMES HOUSE SOUTH
MILLBANK LONDON SW1P 4QJ
01 211 6402

Mike Pattison Esq
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
No 10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

✓ see Mr Langhorne (CSO)
Mr Vile (CO.)
Sir L Pliatzky

Ngm

D
17/12

17 December 1979

Dear Mike,

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 11 December to John Chilcott, together with a proof copy of Sir Leo Pliatzky's report on non-Departmental public bodies.

My Secretary of State is content that the text should be cleared without discussion in Cabinet.

We have one correction: Chapter 7 Line 29 Column 1 for "10" read "9".

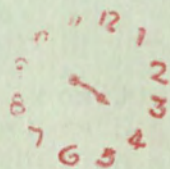
Yours ever,

Denis

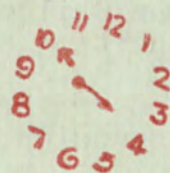
DENIS WALKER
PRIVATE SECRETARY



17 DEC 1979



17 DEC 1979



CONDOR

OLD
Patterson

CONFIDENTIAL

MAP (OR)

MS



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG
01-233 3000

17th December, 1979

Dear Mike,

REPORT ON NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

You copied to us your letter of 11th December to John Chilcot, including a proof copy of Sir Leo Pliatzky's report. I am simply writing to say that the Chancellor sees no reason to press for discussion of this report in Cabinet, and is content with all references to his Departments.

the

I am copying this letter to Private Secretaries to members of Cabinet, and to Minister of Transport, the Attorney General, the Lord Advocate and the Chief Whip; to Geoffrey Green and David Laughrin (CSD) and to Martin Vile and Sir Leo Pliatzky.

Yours,

M.A.

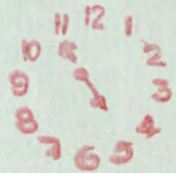
(M.A. HALL)
Private Secretary

M. Patterson, Esq.,
Private Secretary,
10, Downing Street

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

77 DEC 1979



PRIME MINISTER

B/C 19-12-79
for Cabinet
Gint Mackenzie

I attach Sir Robert Armstrong's speaking note on the Pliatzky Report for use at Cabinet next week. You might care to glance at it now to save time after your return from the US.

I have one comment. In paragraph 4, Sir Robert suggests that you might want to launch the report in a Written Answer in the absence of the Lord President. I think it would be very much better for you to give the answer than the Lord President or anyone else. You launched the exercise personally and it should be seen to be coming from the top of Government.

MAP

For Cabinet Folder

MAP

14 December 1979