



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
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21 April 1981
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Dear Barney,

NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES: A GUIDE FOR DEPARTMENTS

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 25 March to Leon Brittan about the publication and distribution of this guide. I have also seen the comments from the Prime Minister's Office.

When revising the guide in the light of the Prime Minister's comments it would be helpful if those responsible would bear in mind that while the guide should reflect that it is Government policy to control effectively both existing bodies and the setting-up of new bodies it remains a working document for the staff in departments who are responsible for the control and management of bodies on behalf of Ministers. I would hope, therefore, that the useful, practical information on the setting up of new bodies would not be lost. It would also be helpful if more information could be provided in the guide to assist departments in determining whether or not a body should be regarded as an NDPB.

I have no objection to anything in the guide being published.

I am copying this letter to recipients of yours.

Your ever
Peter