



70 WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AS

01-233 8319

From the Secretary of the Cabinet and Head of the Home Civil Service

Sir Robert Armstrong GCB CVO

Ref.A083/3220

11 November 1983

My dear Andrew,

2.11.83 I attach a copy of a letter which I have just received from Richard Wright at the Royal Opera House, proposing that the Secretariat for the Development Sub Committee should now be established on the same basis as the other sub committees.

The Development Sub Committee now meets on the third Monday before the Board Meeting each month: in other words, one week before the Finance Sub Committee, at 5.00 pm.

As you know, the Board has not accepted Clive Priestley's recommendation that the Secretariat for the Board should in future be provided from within the staff of the Royal Opera House, but has said that it would like to continue with the existing arrangements. Nonetheless, I am not very anxious at this particular moment to add to the numbers of the Secretariat as now constituted. Do you think that between us we can undertake this additional commitment? If you or John Wiggins felt able to regard yourselves as first call for this I shall myself be going to the Development Sub Committee whenever I can, and when I go would be perfectly happy to act as a substitute minute taker.

I am sending copies of this letter to Robin Butler and John Wiggins.

Yours ever
Robert

A J C Edwards Esq



Royal Opera House

Royal Opera House
Covent Garden London WC2E 7QA
Telephone: 01-240 1200
Cables: Amidst London WC2 Telex: 27988 Covgar G

Sir Robert Armstrong GCB CVO
Secretary to the Cabinet
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London SW1A 2AS

8 November 1983

Dear Robert,

You will know that a new Development Sub Committee is being formed to cover Phase II of the Development. This Phase is of very great moment to us and it is appropriate that we put this Sub Committee on as sound a base as we can. I have suggested to Claus Moser that the Secretariat should be established on the same basis as the other sub committees. Both he and John Tooley concur with this idea and I am wondering whether it is something you feel we can pursue at this moment.

For the first meeting of the Sub Committee scheduled for Monday next week, we shall provide an in-house Secretariat as before as a stop-gap measure and hopefully we can have a permanent solution adopted for our December meeting.

Yours
Richard

Richard Wright
Director of Administration

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