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CCBG ✓

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

25 June 1986

Dear John,

**CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR  
VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

The Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's minute of 24 June and, subject to the views of colleagues, is content that Mr. H.G. de Ville should be offered the Chairmanship of the National Council for Vocational Qualifications and that this can be announced on publication of the White Paper.

I am copying this letter to Rob Smith (Department of Education and Science), Michael Gilbertson (Department of Trade and Industry), Colin Williams (Welsh Office), Jim Daniell (Northern Ireland Office), Andrew Lansley (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster's Office), Jill Rutter (Chief Secretary's Office), David Morris (Lord Privy Seal's Office), Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's Office), Paul Thomas (Management and Personnel Office) and Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

John  
David

John Turner, Esq.,  
Department of Employment.

(DAVID NORRGROVE)

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PRIME MINISTER

*Excellent*  
*not*

*Prime Minister &  
Agree to be glad that  
Lord King has reached  
agreement and that TVEI  
to be extended?*

TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE AND PES '86

*DER  
26/6.*

*attached*

1. I am glad to say that the Chief Secretary and I have now reached agreement on my proposals for the extension of TVEI as set out in E(A)(86)26 and it will not be necessary to trouble you or EA colleagues further.

2. The basis of our agreement is that I have accepted the Chief Secretary's condition that the costs of the national extension of TVEI and of some smaller claims will be accommodated within my existing PES baseline. I will therefore no longer make any bid for any net increase to the baseline in this year's PES discussions, and will take any steps necessary so that expenditure does not exceed PES provision in any year. I have also accepted the Chief Secretary's point that the possibility cannot be excluded that all agreements with colleagues may need to be reopened if at the end of the day the overall public expenditure sums do not add up.

3. For his part, the Chief Secretary has agreed to the proposals for TVEI in E(A)(86)26 - and in particular that the extension will be funded at the equivalent of £30,000 per school and will begin with effect from September 1987. I will make it clear in the vocational education and training White Paper to be published, I hope, on 2 July that the cost of the extension to Government will be funded from within the existing MSC planned resources for young people but will not at this stage make public our intention to freeze payments to YTS managing agents in 1987-88.

RESTRICTED

4. I am pleased we have managed to reach agreement as outlined above as I see the national extension of TVEI as being a major step forward in vocational education and training provision for young people.

5. I am sending a copy of this minute to the Chief Secretary and our EA colleagues, to the Secretary of State for Education and Science, and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'D Y', is centered on the page.

D Y  
24 June 1986

RESTRICTED



CF?  
C 8/6

PRIME MINISTER

Yes in

Prime Minister  
Agree this appointment  
subject to colleagues?  
JHS  
24/6

## CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

COPY ATTACHED

1. When we met this morning you approved the proposals in my minute of 9 June for the establishment of a National Council for Vocational Qualifications to be announced in the forthcoming White Paper on Vocational Education and Training.

The purpose of this minute is to seek your approval to the appointment of Mr H G de Ville as Chairman of the Council, which I would like to announce on publication of the White Paper, which we hope will be next week.

2. I explained the role of the Council in my minute of 9 June. It must succeed - and must do so by persuasion rather than legislation. The success of the Council will therefore be critically influenced by the tone set by the first Chairman. Oscar de Ville chaired the Review Group on Vocational Qualifications very well. He delivered an unanimous report despite the many diverse and competing interests represented on the Review Group and the fundamental and far reaching nature of the recommendations. Kenneth Baker and I are satisfied that he would be the ideal first Chairman. We know too that he is keen to take the task and finish the job he began with the Review Group. He would begin as Chairman designate as soon as possible, prior to formal constitution in the Autumn.

3. I attach a CV which shows his wide experience. It has just been announced that he is to take over as Chairman of the Meyer International Group later this year but I understand he could commit himself for about one and a half days a week to

APPOINTMENTS IN CONFIDENCE



the NCVQ. Officials are in discussion with the Treasury about salary but we envisage that £10,000 a year would be about right. The initial appointment would be for 3 years.

4. I would be grateful for your approval for me now formally to approach Oscar about the Chairmanship in the hope that I could announce it at the same time as the White Paper.

5. I am copying this minute to the Secretaries of State for Education and Science, Trade and Industry, Wales and Northern Ireland and to the Chancellor of the Duchy, the Chief Secretary, the Lord Privy Seal, the Chief Whip, Richard Luce, and Sir Robert Armstrong.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be the initials "Ruf" or similar, written in a cursive style.

DY

24<sup>th</sup> June 1986

APPOINTMENTS IN CONFIDENCE

NAME: H G (OSCAR) DE VILLE CBE

DATE OF BIRTH: 11 April 1925

HOME ADDRESS: Bexton Cottage  
18 Pound Lane  
Sonning on Thames  
BERKSHIRE

Tel. No.: 0734.693253

RECENT MAIN PRIVATE APPOINTMENTS

Executive Deputy Chairman BICC PLC August 1980 - April 1985 (Retired 1985)  
Deputy Chairman (Executive) Meyer International PLC since November 1985

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

Central Personnel Manager, Ford Motors Ltd, Dagenham 1949-1965  
(10 years in charge of training)  
General Manager, Central Personnel Relations, BICC 1965-1970;

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Chairman, CBI Working Party on Worker Directors' 1976  
Chairman, CBI Working Party on Pay Bargaining 1977  
Member, CBI Council 1977 - to date  
Member, Institute of Manpower Studies (Council Member)  
Member, Council of the Industrial Society, 1977 to date  
Member, British Institute of Management Council

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

Member, The Council Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service  
September 1976 to date  
Chairman, Iron and Steel EDC  
Chairman, Review of Vocational Qualification April 1985 - May 1986