



Told Content

NR 2075.

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

01-233 5109

Miss N Roche
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

20 May 1986

Dear Nicky,

TREASURY MINUTE REPLYING TO THE TWELFTH TO FOURTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH TO EIGHTEENTH REPORTS OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE, 1985-86

The Treasury wishes to publish as a Command Paper a Treasury Minute in response to the Public Accounts Committee's 12th - 14th and 16th - 18th Reports 1985-86, (the 15th Report relates solely to Northern Ireland matters). The text has been agreed between the Treasury and the Departments to whom the PAC reports were addressed; and approved by the Financial Secretary who has agreed to the Treasury Minute being published in his name.

We suggest therefore that we publish the Treasury Minute at 3.30pm on Wednesday 4 June having laid it before Parliament on the previous day.

We should, as usual, supply copies of the Treasury Minute just before publication to the departments who have contributed to the reply, to PAC members to the C&AG and the Lobby.

I doubt that the Treasury Minute will attract much attention. It is not controversial and there are no particularly newsworthy features. I attach for information a list of the reports dealt with in the Minute with a brief description of the subject matter.

May we have your agreement to proceed with these arrangements.

I am sending a copy of this to Murdo Maclean, David Morris and Bernard Ingham.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'C A Hutson'.

C A HUTSON
Assistant Parliamentary
Clerk

PAC Reports Covered by the Treasury Minute

Twelfth Report: Ministry of Agriculture
The Common Agricultural Policy:
achievements and problems
Requests the Ministry to press for closer control of CAP spending and take steps to restrain surplus production

Thirteenth Report: H M Treasury

Excess Votes

To be noted

Fourteenth Report: DHSS, Scottish Home and Health
Department and Welsh Office
Control of Nursing Manpower

Requires the Departments to seek to have available the information to say whether too few or too many nurses are employed. Recommends that the Departments should limit the number of methodologies for determining nurse numbers. Overall there is scope for more efficient and deployment of nurses

Sixteenth Report: Department of the Environment
Housing Association Grant

Recommends that the DOE do more to establish the effectiveness of HAG

Seventeenth Report: Manpower Services Commission

Vocational Education and Training

Recommends that the two year YTS should be more related to the current and future training needs of industry

Eighteenth Report:

Ministry of Defence

Supplies for the Armed Forces

Concern that studies to lead to improvements in stores control have been ineffective and that CRSP ties MOD to contractors and reduces competition and MOD should consider alternatives.