



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG 01-270 3000

The Rt Hon Kenneth Baker MP
Secretary of State for Education
Department of Education and Science
Elizabeth House
York Road
LONDON
SEL 7PH

13 July 1987

Dear Secretary of State,

The

INTERIM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 7 July to Peter Walker.

The membership that you propose seems to be based on representing interest groups and balancing policitcal parties rather than choosing individuals who are, and will be seen as non-partisan, independent and of stature. In particular I am strongly opposed to choosing a deputy chairman solely because he or she is an active Labour Party politician. I understand that although Lord Chilver intends to take the Conservative Whip in the House of Lords he is not an active political campaigner and there is no need to balance him with an active Labour campaigner.

I think that it is essential to have an industrialist as deputy chairman. I suggest either Sir Trevor Holdsworth of GKN or Sir Kenneth Durham who is now chairman of Woolworth and was previously chairman of Unilever. Both are senior and respected industrialists with a close interest in education and training.

I cannot accept Nicky Harrison as either deputy chairman or for membership of the Committee. I have nothing personal against her but she was too closely involved in the Burnham arrangements to be truly independent and her partisan criticisms of our education policy are a matter of recent public record. If you insist upon having a Labour Party nominee I would not object to Ray Carter as an ordinary member, but not as deputy chairman.



Turning to the nominees for ordinary members I have nothing against any of them as individuals but I think we could do with more industrialists. After all they are the ultimate consumers in this matter and I think their views will be especially useful. I would like you to consider the following four people. Judith Chaplin, who is now with the Institute of Directors, has knowledge and experience of this subject as a former chairman of Norfolk Education Committee.

Sir Norman Lindop is an academic scientist with strong industrial connections who is also experienced in academic administration.

Obviously I do not suggest that you appoint all these people but I think that one or two of them are needed to reflect adequately the point of view of industry, which relies on our schools to produce their future workforce.

I am copying this minute to the Prime Minister, Willie Whitelaw, Peter Walker, Norman Folwer and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

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OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

Yours sixorely,

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PP NIGEL LAWSON

(Approved by the Chanceller and signed in his absence)

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From the Private Secretary

9 July 1987

INTERIM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's letter of 7 July to the Secretary of State for Wales about membership of the Interim Advisory Committee on Teachers' Pay. She has noted that none of the people proposed comes from a profit-making private enterprise and would wish someone of this kind to be included. She is otherwise content, subject to the views of colleagues.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Lord President, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Employment, the Secretary of State for Wales and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

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R. L. Smith, Esq.,
Department of Education and Science
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From The Secretary of State for Wales

lo July 1987

NBMI

Thank you for your letter of 7 July about membership of the Interim Advisory Committee on teachers' pay.

I support your suggestion that Mrs Nicky Harrison should be invited to be Deputy Chairman of the Committee. Her experience in education matters, and in negotiations with teachers in particular, would give the Committee greater credibility as an independent body in the eyes of both the local authority and teacher associations.

I have no objections to your proposals for the remaining membership of the Committee and I endorse the suggestion that to serve. S and location for a welst July should be invited

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, the Lord President, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Employment and Sir Robert Armstrong.

The Rt Hon Kenneth Baker MP Secretary of State for Education and Science Elizabeth House York Road

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I am generally content with your proposals for membership of the Interim Advisory Body on Teachers Pay.

Two reservations have however been put to me which I think you should consider.

has much going for him but if we are looking for someone to put some sharp private sector realism into the Body's deliberations he may not be the man. Geoff Armstrong of Metal Box may be a better choice.

Bill Kendal is an experienced and reasonable trade unionist but he was very closely associated with the negotiations chaired by Sir John Wood last Summer which came up with proposals for teachers pay we all found unacceptable. This Department has a very high regard for Ken Graham who is just leaving the TUC and who has proved to be both tough and realistic.

I am copying this to the recipients of your minute.

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ELIZABETH HOUSE YORK ROAD

LONDON SEI 7PH 01-934 9000

Prime Minister Content with proposed Composition?

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The Rt Hon Peter Walker MBE MP Secretary of State for Wales Whitehall

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INTERIM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Now that we have agreed on Lord Chilver as Chairman we need to settle the rest of the membership quickly. We should announce the whole committee as soon as possible, and certainly before the recess if we can.

We need a Deputy Chairman to provide a political balance to Lord Chilver. I have looked through the list of Labour MPs who retired in June. The only possibility I find there is Ernest Armstrong. His teaching background would be helpful, in that the Committee has to "include persons having relevant knowledge of or experience in education". But that was over twenty years ago, and he is now 72. I would prefer Mrs N Harrison, now retired from local authority politics but a recent Chairman of CLEA and experienced in Burnnam, and realistic about the teacher unions. Failing her, I continue to believe Raymond Carter - formerly a Labour MP - now of Marathon Oil, would be good.

We are required to appoint a Committee with between 5 and 9 members, and I propose we should appoint 7. They must be seen as independent minded people, with a wide variety of backgrounds including trade unions, local authorities, industry and education, and certainly one of them must have some link with Wales.

The choice of Chairman and Deputy Chairman affects the mix required among the others. Certainly if we have Ernest Armstrong or Mrs Harrison in addition to Lord Chilver I think one more educationist will be enough, and Dr Peter Andrews, a very sensible retired secondary head teacher would be suitable. Among names put forward from the Welsh Office to reflect the Welsh interest are two industrialists,

To complete the membership I have in mind Bill Kendall for trade union background:

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and as a woman member - very important if Mrs Harrison is not included - with experience of the Doctors and Dentists Review Body. On this basis the Committee could be

Lord Chilver
Mrs Harrison LEA
Dr P Andrews
Mr J Barratt And Gamin
Mrs A Hogg Mallogora
Mr W Kendall T. U.
Mr T Owen Replan

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I should be grateful to know your views on this list by Thursday 9 July. I aim then to check on their willingness to serve and proceed to an announcement during the following week.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, the Lord President, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Employment and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

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