



JR

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

26 February 1982

NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES:
RESULTS OF 1981 REVIEWS BY DEPARTMENTS

The Prime Minister has seen and noted Lady Young's minute of 22 February.

W. F. S. RICKETT

Jim Buckley, Esq.,
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster's Office.

B



Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

PRIME MINISTER

NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES: RESULTS OF 1981 REVIEWS BY DEPARTMENTS

1. Following publication of the Pliatzky Report on non-departmental public bodies (Cmnd 7797, January 1980), you agreed that advisory bodies should be reviewed annually and executive bodies and tribunal systems on a 5-year rolling programme. A programme of reviews of executive bodies and tribunal systems was agreed with Ministers in charge of Departments in mid-1981; guidance on carrying out the reviews was given in the recently published booklet "Non-Departmental Public Bodies: a Guide to Departments".

2. The results of the 1981 reviews are summarised below.

Advisory Bodies

3. All bodies were reviewed (there were 932 at 1 April 1981). Ministers responsible decided that 49 bodies should be abolished; and that in 8 cases the bodies concerned should be amalgamated or modified, resulting in a further reduction of 5. Total cost savings resulting from the abolitions are expected to exceed £250,000 in a full year. Details are at Annex A. Reviews covering 17 bodies have not yet been completed.

Executive bodies and Tribunal systems

4. The rolling programme for 1981 led to the review of 108 executive bodies and tribunal systems. Ministers responsible have decided that 20 of these bodies should be wound up:

1. National Water Council (DOE)
2. South Bank Theatre Board (DES)
3. Education Panel of the Independent Schools Tribunal (SO)
4. Extra-Statutory Compensation Tribunal (NIO and departments)
5. 16 of the 23 Industrial Training Boards (DEm)

Details are at Annex B.

5. Amalgamations or general reductions in scale of membership or activities were agreed in the cases of 10 bodies and, in the case of most of the remaining 7 Industrial Training Boards, changes in scope are being considered. Details are at Annex C.
6. Ministers endorsed the continuation without change of 45 executive bodies and tribunal systems.
7. 1981 Reviews covering 26 executive bodies and tribunal systems have still to be completed. These have been added to the list of reports due in 1982.
8. The full list of executive bodies and tribunal systems reviewed in 1981, indicating those where changes are proposed and those where reviews have not been completed, is at Annex D. The review programme for the next 4 years is at Annex E.

Separate Studies

9. Certain other executive bodies were the subject of separate studies. A review of the Wages Councils, which started in 1979, has resulted in a reduction in their number from 41 to 27. This review continues. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland has decided to wind up the Northern Ireland Development Agency, replacing it with the Industrial Development Board.

General

10. Responsibility for the reviews and decisions upon the outcome lies with the individual Ministers in charge of departments. Whilst my officials have been involved in drawing up the review programme and in some cases (together with officials of the Treasury) have assisted in reviews, we have not considered it appropriate to 'second-guess' decisions on the outcome of reviews in any cases. A second year's experience should enable us to make a better estimate of the value of the review exercise, and to build upon what we have learnt this year. But although the 1981 reviews have not resulted in major changes - it would be surprising if they had so soon after the Pliatzky exercise - they have made a worthwhile further contribution to the list of savings that have been achieved.

Baroness Young

BARONESS YOUNG

22 February 1981

THE 1981 REVIEW OF ADVISORY BODIES

All the advisory bodies in existence were reviewed. Those where the Minister responsible decided upon abolition or modification are listed below (items 1,2). Some reviews are not yet complete (item 3).

1. Advisory bodies to be abolished (49)

Body	Cost Savings pa
Agricultural Construction Industry Liaison Group (MAFF)	£9,000
Race Relations Research Advisory Committee (HO)	-
Advisory Council, European Discussion Centre (FCO)	not significant
Industrial Technology Education and Training Committee (DI)	-
Waste Management Advisory Council (DI)	£30,000
Advisory Committee on the Protection of Birds in Scotland (SO)	£1,400
Committee on National Museums and Galleries in Scotland (SO)	£23,250
Herring Industry Advisory Council (SO)	-
Scottish Advisory Committee to the Central Council for Education and Training in Social work (SO)	-
Scottish Advisory Committee of the Council for Education and Training of Health Visitors (SO)	-
Insolvency Law Review Committee (D Trade)	£104,000
NHS Purchasing Advisory Groups (30) (DHSS)	£12,000
Working Party on Laser Safety (DHSS)	£2,000
Interim Advisory Committee on Safety in Clinical Laboratories (DHSS)	£14,000
Supplementary Benefits Appeal Tribunal - Advisory Group (DHSS)	-
Laboratory Developments Advisory Group - Sub Groups (4) (DHSS)	£10,000
Advisory Committee on Local Government Audit (DOE)	£48,000

2. Advisory bodies to be amalgamated or modified (8)(a) Amalgamations (resulting in a net reduction of 5 bodies)

Nature Reserves Committee (N10 and Departments)	}
Wild Birds Advisory Committee (N10 and Departments)	

Cinematograph Films Council (D Trade))
 Interim Action Committee on the Film Industry (D Trade) ;
 Northern Ireland Training Council) (N10 and departments)
 Youth Careers Guidance Committee) To be replaced by the
 Youth Opportunities Programme Monitoring) Manpower Advisory
 Committee) Committee.
 Committee)
 Scottish Council for Community Education (SO))
 Scottish Community Education Centre (an executive body))

(b) Other changes (2)

Consultative Committee on Fresh Water Fisheries) To be
 in Scotland (SO)) reconstituted
 National Committee for the In-Service Training) with minor
 of Teachers (SO)) savings (reduced
) membership/
) revised remit)

3. Advisory bodies where reviews are not completed (17)

Civil Service Appeal Board (MPO). Consequent on this review, the Civil Service Medical Appeal Board and Civil Service Medical Review Board (MPO) will be considered.

Ancient Monuments Board (England) (DOE)
 Building Research Establishment Advisory Committee (DOE)
 Historic Building Council for England (DOE)
 NI Medical Manpower Advisory Committee (N10 and departments)
 Property Advisory Group (DOE)
 Scottish Advisory Committee on Top Grade Scientific Posts (SO)
 Scottish Records Advisory Council (SO)
 Royal Fine Art Commission (DOE)
 Transport and Road Research Laboratory Advisory Committee (DTp)
 Science Museum Advisory Council (DES)
 Victoria and Albert Museum Advisory Council (DES)
 Theatres Trust (DES)
 Library Advisory Council for Wales (WO)
 Place Names Advisory Committee (WO)

4. Decisions reached outside the review programme (2)

The Civil Service Pay Research Unit Board was wound up by the then CSD in June 1981.

The Industries Development Advisory Committee (N10) is being wound up in conjunction with abolition of the Northern Ireland Development Agency.

Executive Bodies and Tribunal Systems Reviewed in 1981 and to be wound up

1. National Water Council (DOE)

The functions of the NWC will be transferred to the Regional Water Authorities. This change is dependant on legislation. There will be no net change in costs.

2. South Bank Theatre Board (DES)

This body will be wound up when the final bills are paid. Savings of £29,000 per annum will result.

3. Education Panel of the Independent Schools Tribunal (SO)

The Panel ceased to function in October 1981 upon the enactment of the Education (Scotland) Act 1981. Savings will not be significant.

4. Extra Statutory Compensation Tribunal (N10)

A few cases remain and it is hoped to clear these in time for the scheme to be wound up by April 1982. Savings will not be significant.

5. Industrial Training Boards (16) (DEmp)

By the end of the 1982/83 financial year 16 of the 23 Boards will be wound up. Annual savings of £51m in a full year, at current prices, will accrue from 1983/84

Executive Bodies Reviewed in 1981 and to be amalgamated or modified(a) Amalgamations

1. National Enterprise Board (DI) and
2. National Research Development Corporation (DI)

When the former Secretary of State appointed Sir Frederick Wood as Chairman of the NEB he asked him to explore the possibility of bringing the NEB and the NRDC, of which Sir Frederick was also Chairman, closer together. Sir Frederick proposes a full merger which would require legislation. In the meantime his proposal for integrating the two organisations under their existing statutes was accepted and a decision on the introduction of legislation will be taken in the light of this experience.

3. Scottish Community Education Centre (SO) and
Scottish Council for Community Education (an advisory body)

This change, effective from April 1982, will allow a more effective use of resources and will provide a clearer national focus for the community education service and for voluntary organisations. The present total number of members of both bodies will be reduced by about 50% but savings, mainly on expenses, will be minimal. Significant staff economies will however be achieved within the Department by pruning the equivalent of 3 posts representing a saving of £47,000 pa.

(b) Modifications

4. Community Projects Foundation (HO)

The review concluded that generally CPF was doing a good professional job through its fieldwork, but that much greater emphasis needed to be placed on the dissemination of expertise through the headquarters of the Foundation. An assistant Director has now been appointed by the Foundation to form a more vigorous policy for the latter function; headquarters staff have been re-organised; and the Trustees have undertaken that the Foundation will make a thorough assessment of its management structure and practices.

The sponsoring of community work is regarded by the Department as an important function. The general conditions under which the Foundation operates, particularly the requirement that a substantial part of the funding for each project should be contributed by the local authority, provide for addressing problems in a constructive relationship with the local authority. The review should result in a more efficient and effective deployment of resources.

5. Co-operative Development Agency (DI)

The review concluded that internal changes were necessary to improve effectiveness of CDA and reduce its expenditure. In future the CDA should be more selective in its activities, concentrating on promotional work. This modified role should require a smaller Board and few staff, and thus future funding by Government would be on a considerably reduced scale. The Department has not assumed any

commitment to support the CDA with public funds indefinitely, but the grant of a further £600,000 will give the Agency more time to prove its value and to explore the possibilities of becoming financially independent of Government.

6. Home Grown Cereals Authority (MAFF)

The review concluded that in view of the demonstrable value the Authority has for the cereals industry and for Government, it should be retained and should continue its main work - the market information service. It should also retain its agency work on intervention. However, the number of members could, with some advantage, be reduced below the level of 17 already agreed by Ministers; and the scope for a reduction to 13 or 11 should be explored in consultation with the industry. There should also be a review of the Authority's research programme to include examination of whether the work might be commissioned more efficiently through the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food on an agency basis.

7. Industrial Training Boards (7)(DEmp)

As well as the planned abolition of 16 of these Boards the Secretary of State for Employment has announced proposals which will change the scope of most of those that remain.

8. Scottish Teachers' Salaries Committee (SO)

This statutory body determined teachers' pay in the (local) education authority sector. There were 4 other (non-statutory) bodies dealing with pay and conditions of service in the other spheres of education. The Education (Scotland) Act passed in October 1981 provided for the five committees to be replaced by 2 new statutory committees, one of which deals with teachers' pay and conditions of service in local authority school education, and the other with pay and conditions of staff in further education employed by local authorities, governing bodies of central institutions and colleges of education. The new negotiating bodies came into being on 1 January 1982, and there should be some staff and financial savings.

9. Trustees of the National Museum of Antiquities (SO) and

10. Trustees of the National Library of Scotland (SO)

The functions of these bodies are carried out well and economically but both Boards of Trustees were considered too large. Their reconstitution will be considered in the light of the Williams Report on National Museums and Galleries in Scotland.

11. Welsh Water Authority (WO)

The Secretary of State for Wales announced in Parliament on 30 November last year (Hansard Vol 14, No 19, Col 31) that the Authority would be reorganised with effect from 1 April 1982. The Secretary of State had issued a consultation document in July proposing a reduction in the membership of the authority from its present 35 members to about 10. He also put forward options for

safeguarding the interests of consumers. Having considered the responses to the consultation document, the Secretary of State decided that the Authority should consist of 13 members. Of these, one will be the chairman, 2 will be appointed for their knowledge of fisheries and land drainage respectively, 4 will be appointed to represent the interests of county and district councils, and the remaining 6 to provide the widest possible expertise, including experience in management, finance and business. It is hoped that a board of 13 members, plus the chief executive who will normally attend their meetings, will be small enough to secure speedier decision making and other improvements in management. In order to safeguard the consumer interest, the Authority will set up 5 local consumer advisory committees covering district council areas approximating to the various WWA divisions, or combinations of them. Savings are expected to be £100,000 pa, resulting from savings in the operation of committee procedures and the reduction in the membership of the Authority.

NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES: DEPARTMENTS' REVIEW PROGRAMMES 1981 OF EXECUTIVE BODIES AND TRIBUNAL SYSTEMS (108)

- * = To be wound up (Annex B)
 [Body's name] = Review still to be completed
 R = Subject to amalgamation or modification (Annex C)

Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food (3)

- R Agricultural Land Tribunals
 Home Grown Cereals Authority
 Wine Standards Board

Department of Education and Science (7)

- Agricultural Research Council
 Arts Council
 Council for the Accreditation of Correspondance Colleges
 Further Education Curriculum Review and Development Unit
 (Board of Management)
 [Schools Council]
 * South Bank Theatre Board
 Technician Education Council

Department of Employment (24)

- Community Industry
 * Industrial Training Boards (16)
 R Industrial Training Boards (7)
 (Note: The wages Councils are under continuing separate review)

Department of the Environment (12)

- London Housing Staff Commission
 * National Water Council
 New Towns Staff Commission
 [Regional Water Authorities in England (9)]

Foreign and Commonwealth Office (including ODA) (2)

- Commonwealth Development Corporation
 Intermediate Technology Industrial Services

Department of Health and Social Security (4)

- Medical Practices Committee
 Mental Health Review Tribunals
 Occupational Pensions Board
 Vaccine Damage Tribunals

Home Office (4)

- R Community Projects Foundation
 Gaming Board
 [Immigration Appellate Authorities]
 Police Arbitration Tribunal

Department of Industry (3)

- R Cooperative Development Agency
- R National Enterprise Board
- R National Research Development Corporation

Northern Ireland Office (3)

- Equal Opportunities Commission for NI
- * Extra Statutory Compensation Tribunal
- Fair Employment Agency for NI

Northern Ireland Departments (23)

- [Fisheries Conservation Board]
- [Health and Safety Agency]
- [Industrial Training Boards (9)]
- Lands Tribunal for NI
- Local Enterprise Development Unit
- [Mental Health Review Tribunal]
- NI Local Government Officers' Superannuation Committee
- [NI Training Executive]
- NI Transport Licensing Review Body
- Planning Appeals Commission
- [Transport Users Committee]
- Ulster Folk and Transport Museum
- Ulster Museum
- Ulster Savings Committee
- Water Appeals Commission

(Note: The NI Development Agency is to be wound up under a separate study)

Scottish Office (20)

- Animal Diseases Research Association
- Childrens Panels
- Commission for Local Authority Accounts in Scotland
- * Education Panel of the Independent Schools Tribunal
- Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee
- Fire Services Examinations Board (Scotland)
- Lay Observer (Law Society of Scotland)
- Macaulay Institute for Soil Research
- Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland
- National Galleries of Scotland, Trustees
- R National Library of Scotland, Trustees
- R National Museum of Antiquities, Trustees
- Police (Scotland) Examinations Board
- R Scottish Community Education Centre
- Scottish Crop Research Institute
- Scottish Hospitals Endowments Research Trust
- [Scottish Medical Practices Committee]
- Scottish National War Memorial, Board of Trustees
- Scottish Special Housing Association
- R Scottish Teacher s' Salaries Committee

Department of Trade (1)

Policy Holders Protection Board

Welsh Office (2)

- R Agricultural Land Tribunal
- R Welsh Water Authority

PERIODIC REVIEWS OF EXECUTIVE BODIES AND TRIBUNAL SYSTEMS (1982-1985)

Annex E

Department:	1982	1983	1984	1985	Notes
MAFF:	Agricultural Training Board National Seed Development Organisation Ltd Plant Varieties and Seeds Tribunal	Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales Agricultural Wages Committees (England - 25) Meat and Livestock Commission	Central Council for Agricultural and Horticultural Co-operation Eggs Authority Land Settlement Association Ltd	Apple and Pear Development Council Sea Fish Industry Authority Milk and Dairies Tribunals (England - 7)	
MOD:					RAF Museum, National Army Museum, IMS Ltd and Services Kinema Corporation are subject to separate review.
DES:	Advisory Council for Adult and Continuing Education Business Education Council Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges Genetic Manipulation Advisory Group National Youth Bureau Social Science Research Council British Film Institute National Film School Imperial War Museum Museum of London National Maritime Museum Schools Council	Council for National Academic Awards Medical Research Council National Heritage Memorial Fund British Museum Sir John Soane's Museum Crafts Council	Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research British Museum (Natural History) Science and Engineering Research Council National Gallery Tate Gallery Wallace Collection	Council for Educational Technology for the UK National Engineering Scholarship Scheme (Action Committee) Natural Environment Research Council British Institute of Recorded Sound British Library National Portrait Gallery	The Victoria and Albert Museum and the Science Museum are subject to Rayner Scrutiny with reports expected in Spring 1982.
DEm:	Industrial Tribunals Employment Appeal Tribunal Manpower Services Commission	ACAS Central Arbitration Committee Certification Office	Health and Safety Commission Health and Safety Executive National Dock Labour Board (or 1985)		Remploy Ltd - to be decided The Wages Councils (27) continue under separate review.
DEnergy:					Independent private sector consultants will carry out efficiency review of UKAEA in 1982/83.
DOE:	Commission for the New Towns Housing Corporation Commons Commissioners London Housing Staff Commission Regional Water Authorities in England (9)	CoSIRA Development Commission Sports Council Agreement Board New Towns Staff Commission	Letchworth Garden City Corporation Skelmersdale Development Corporation Rent Assessment Panels (15) Nature Conservancy Council	Aycliffe and Peterlee Development Corporation Washington Development Corporation Urban Development Corporations - London Docklands - Merseyside	The following bodies are currently under review: Development Corporations; Milton Keynes Peterborough Telford Warrington and Runcorn; Local Valuation Courts (57 panels). The local Government Boundary Commission for England is not to be reviewed

Department:	1982	1983	1984	1985	Notes
FCO (including ODA):	GB - China Centre GB - East European Centre GB - USSR Association	Foreign Compensation Commission Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission Crown Agents* UK Trade Agency for Developing Countries	Commonwealth Institute Commonwealth Scholarship Commission	British Council Institute of Development Studies	*The Crown Agents Holding and Realisation Board is likely to be reviewed in 1982 or 1983.
DHSS:	National Insurance Local Tribunals Supplementary Benefit Appeal Tribunals Family Fund Committee of Management of School for Dental Therapists Ltd. Health Education Council Development Team for the Mentally Handicapped National Radiological Protection Board	National Biological Standards Board NHS Tribunal Council for Postgraduate Medical Education (England and Wales) Medical Boards Medical Appeal Tribunals	Public Health Laboratory Services Board (England and Wales) General Practice Finance Corporation Attendance Allowance Board Intermediate Treatment Fund	Pneumoconiosis Medical Panels British Pharmacopoeia Commission Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work UK Central Council for Nursing Midwifery and Health Visiting, and the English National Board	
HO:	Equal Opportunities Commission Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Chief Constables' Committees for District Police Training Centres (7) Police Promotion Examinations Board Immigration Appellate Authorities	Commission for Racial Equality Broadcasting Complaints Commission Police Complaints Board Police Appeals and Disciplinary (Senior Officers) Tribunals	Horserace Betting Levy Board Horserace Totalisator Board Horserace Betting Levy Appeals Tribunal Wireless Telegraphy Appeals Tribunal	Misuse of Drugs Advisory Body, Professional Panel and Tribunal London Building Acts Tribunal Fire Service Central Examination Board Fire Service Research and Training Trust	
NIO:	Training Schools Management Boards		Police Authority for NI Police Complaints Board for NI		The Boundary Commission for NI will be reviewed at the same time as similar bodies in the rest of the UK
NI Departments:	Fisheries Conservancy Board Pig Production Development Committee NI Tourist Board Schools Examination Council Compensation Tribunal Loss of Employment through Civil Unrest Compensation Appeals Tribunals National Insurance Local Tribunals Supplementary Benefit Appeals Tribunals Mental Health Review Tribunals Health and Safety Agency Industrial Training Boards (9) NI Training Executive Transport Users Committee	Drainage Council Agricultural Wages Board Tribunal under Article 5 of the Health and Personal Social Services Order 1972 Medical Boards NI Council for Postgraduate Medical Education Medical Appeals Tribunal Arts Council NI Council for Education Development	Livestock Marketing Commission Armagh Observatory Attendance Allowance Board for NI Labour Relations Agency	Fishery Harbour Authority Public Service Training Committee Sports Council Ulster Savings Committee Lands Tribunal for NI NI Board for Nursing Midwifery and Health Visiting Ulster Sheltered Employment Limited	

Department:	1982	1983	1984	1985	Notes
LCD:	Lands Tribunal	Pension Appeal Tribunal			
DI:	Cotton Industry War Memorial Trust	English Industrial Estates Corporation		Design Council	
D Trade:	British Hallmarking Council Hearing Aid Council	Civil Aviation Authority	British Tourist Authority English Tourist Board National Metrological Co-ordinating Unit Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board	British Overseas Trade Board Monopolies and Mergers Commission	The following bodies are subject to separate reviews: British Film Fund Agency National Film Finance Corporation National Consumer Council Nationalised Industry Consumer Councils General Lighthouse Authorities The DTI Tribunals are currently being reviewed.
D Transport:		Transport Tribunal Traffic Commissioners (11 areas)			
Scottish Office:	East Kilbride Development Corporation Highlands and Islands Development Board Scottish Business Education Council Scottish Technical Education Council Scottish National Camps Association Central Institutions (11) Scottish Institute of Agricultural Engineering Rowett Research Institute Milk Appeals Tribunal Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland Scottish Medical Practices Committee	Scottish Council for Educational Technology Scottish Council for Research in Education Scottish Sports Council Scottish Agricultural Wages Board River Purification Boards (7) Glenrothes Development Corporation Orkney Islands Shipping Company Ltd Newbattle Abbey College - Board of Governors Commission for Local Authority Accounts in Scotland (previously scanned in 1981)	Rent Assessment Panel for Scotland West of Scotland Agricultural College East of Scotland College of Agriculture North of Scotland College of Agriculture Hill Farming Research Organisation Hannah Research Institute Scottish Examinations Board General Teaching Council for Scotland Scottish Tourist Board Cumbernauld Development Corporation	Livingston Development Corporation Irvine Development Corporation Scottish Development Agency Countryside Commission for Scotland Red Deer Commission Crofters' Commission Colleges of Education (7)	
Welsh Office:	Cwmbran Development Corporation Development Board for Rural Wales Welsh Development Agency Sports Council for Wales	Agricultural Wages Committees (6) Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales	Wales Tourist Board Rent Tribunals and Rent Assessment Committees National Library of Wales National Museum of Wales	Milk and Dairies Tribunal Land Authority for Wales	