

CAB

103/814

Part 4 of 4



## PRIME MINISTER

### Engagements

**Q1. Mr. John Greenway:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 27 April. [19637]

**The Prime Minister (Mr. John Major):** This morning, I presided at a meeting of the Cabinet and had meetings with ministerial colleagues and others. In addition to my duties in the House, I shall be having further meetings later today.

**Mr. Greenway:** Would my right hon. Friend care to comment on the council tax levels set by the district councils in my area for middle-range band D house? Labour York is charging £101, a 21 per cent. increase; Liberal Democrat Ryedale is charging £78, a massive 57 per cent. increase, while in neighbouring Conservative Hambleton, householders are getting a £32 refund. Does that not show that Labour remains the high-tax party; that a protest vote for the Liberal Democrats can prove very expensive and that people are better off under the Tories?

**The Prime Minister:** I can confirm what my hon. Friend has said. Examples similar to those that he has given can be found right around the country. The Labour party has sought repeatedly during the local election campaign to mislead people with comparisons on council tax, but it knows, as everyone else should know, that, band for band, like for like, Conservative councils are infinitely cheaper than Labour councils and substantially cheaper than Liberal Democrat councils.

**Mr. Blair:** Can the Prime Minister sympathise in any way with the anger of nurses, who will be paid differently for the same job, according not to their performance, but to the money in the hospital trust?

**The Prime Minister:** We have done for nurses precisely what they asked of us. We have provided them with their own review body and met in full its recommendations. That is something that no previous Government were prepared to give nurses. We have given them that. A great many nurses have now accepted the national settlement, to which, of course, must be added the local settlements.

**Mr. Blair:** The Prime Minister is surely aware that the review body set a national figure and that it included the local component because of Government pressure to do so. He therefore cannot shuffle off responsibility on to it. Is not the effect of Government policy on the health service now to pit nurse against nurse, hospital against hospital, doctor against doctor? The result will be to divide and rule and the commercialisation, demoralisation and break-up of the health service, when people want to see the national health service run as a proper national service for the people.

**The Prime Minister:** No Government at any stage have funded the health service as generously in terms of pay or other aspects of it as we do. Set against what the right hon. Gentleman has just had to say, can he perhaps explain whether it is fair or unfair that nurses' pay has risen by an average 78 per cent. in the past six years, which is twice as fast as the economy as a whole? Does he also recall that, under the Labour Government, nurses pay actually fell—it did not even maintain its value—it

fell? Since then, it has increased by 78 per cent., and nurses have, as they have always sought, an independent pay review body that is, I remind the right hon. Gentleman, independent.

**Q2. Mr. Clappison:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 27 April. [19638]

**The Prime Minister:** I refer my hon. Friend to the reply that I gave some moments ago.

**Mr. Clappison:** Does my right hon. Friend agree that those who are indulging in political knockabout on the subject of tower blocks are ducking the real issue, which is how we can help the people who live in tower blocks? Will my right hon. Friend urge all local councils to co-operate with the Government in getting rid of tower blocks?

**The Prime Minister:** I quite agree with my hon. Friend. Yesterday, I tackled serious issues that affect the lives of many people in inner cities. As a smokescreen at that time, the hon. Member for Holborn and St. Pancras (Mr. Dobson) issued a press release purporting to represent my record at Lambeth council. Even a cursory checking would have shown the hon. Gentleman that every aspect of that press release was a falsehood.

It is, of course, more than a quarter of a century ago, so I have had the facts checked. The buildings for which I am supposed to have been responsible were designed and approved by the Labour council, before I was elected to the council, let alone became housing chairman. The Leader of the Opposition may well shift uneasily in his seat. He speaks of higher standards in politics and he allows the Labour party to indulge in falsehoods, day after day.

**Mr. Ashdown:** Would not the Prime Minister's great predecessor, Winston Churchill, turn in his grave if he knew how much of the public's money was now being spent to purchase his state papers, while investment in the nation's real assets—our children and their education—is being cut to ribbons by the present Government?

**The Prime Minister:** The right hon. Gentleman, I am afraid, has his facts entirely wrong about the state papers. What were purchased were the personal papers of Sir Winston, which could have been freely sold to any number of buyers, and which Sir Winston had decreed, through his trustees, should go to his subsequent descendants. It is those papers that have been purchased.

The archive, as a whole, includes state papers and personal papers, many of which have no connection whatsoever with Sir Winston's time in Government. The personal papers could have been freely sold to any number of buyers. It was to maintain the archive intact that the national heritage memorial fund, which is independent, decided to fund the purchase of the personal papers from the Churchill family trustees. The Government decided at the same time to transfer the state papers, similarly, to Churchill college.

There is no question whatever of lottery money having been used to purchase papers that are the property of the state, and the right hon. Gentleman was wrong in his remarks.

**Mr. Jenkin:** May I draw my right hon. Friend's attention to the rather nasty and vindictive policy being pursued by the Lib-Lab pact on Essex county council,



## Business of the House

3.30 pm

**Mrs. Ann Taylor (Dewsbury):** May I ask the Leader of the House for details of future business?

**The Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons (Mr. Tony Newton):** The business for next week will be as follows:

**MONDAY 1 MAY**—Remaining stages of the Children (Scotland) Bill.

**TUESDAY 2 MAY**—Remaining stages of the Atomic Energy Authority Bill.

**WEDNESDAY 3 MAY**—Until 2.30 pm, there will be debates on the motion for the Adjournment of the House.

Debate on exports, industry and inward investment, on a motion for the Adjournment of the House.

**THURSDAY 4 MAY**—Debate on the Royal Air Force, on a motion for the Adjournment of the House.

**FRIDAY 5 MAY**—It will be proposed that the House will meet at 9.30 am for Prayers and thereafter adjourn. Addresses will be presented to Her Majesty the Queen in Westminster Hall at 12 noon.

Monday 8 May is, of course, a bank holiday, and the House will not sit. I regret that, at present, I am not able to give details of business later that week. I will do so next week and, at the same time, I hope to give some indication as to business for the following week. I will make every effort—if I may predict one of the questions that the hon. Member for Dewsbury (Mrs. Taylor) will ask—to include provision for Opposition time.

**Mrs. Taylor:** I regret the slippage in announcing future business that the Leader of the House has announced. We were making good progress, and I urge him to try to regain that position in the future.

I could raise many issues with the Leader of the House today, but I intend to put them to one side in light of the seriousness with which we view his failure to provide a Supply day for the Opposition next week. I have been pressing for a Supply day since the end of March, so that Opposition Members could choose the subject of debate. Today, the Leader of the House has announced the business of the House up to and beyond the local elections on 4 May, and we have been denied a Supply day yet again. That will mean an interval of at least six weeks between Supply days.

I believe that the Leader of the House is aware of his obligations to Her Majesty's Opposition, and I know that he must have come under very significant pressure—not least, because he promised in the Chamber on 30 March and on 18 and 20 April that he would do his best to take on board our requests for a Supply day.

I cannot stress enough that it is unacceptable for the Government to refuse the Opposition a Supply day throughout the run-up period to the local elections, especially given the desire on both sides of the House for a debate on health. Even with the Whip restored to some to compensate for other hon. Members who have been suspended, are the Government still afraid of the outcome of a debate on London health? The Leader of the House

must realise that he is wrong to try to gag the Opposition, wrong to delay debates until after the local elections, and wrong to duck debates on London health.

**Mr. Newton:** I need hardly say that there is no question of trying to gag the Opposition or duck debate on legitimate issues. There was an above-average frequency of Opposition days earlier in the year, and we have had an above-average need to deal with Government business in the past few weeks, including three Bills for which the Opposition pressed very hard, among them the Children (Scotland) Bill, which we are due to debate next Monday. I always take account of the hon. Lady's representations, which is not to say that I can always meet them, but I have just said that I shall make every effort to include Opposition time in my next business statement.

**Sir John Gorst (Hendon, North):** Could the Leader of the House find time for a debate in Government time on the closure of London hospitals?

**Mr. Newton:** There have already been substantial exchanges on that matter in relation to the private notice question which my right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Health answered two or three weeks ago. I have no plans to provide for a debate in Government time, but I shall note my hon. Friend's representation.

**Mr. Paul Tyler (North Cornwall):** Does the Leader of the House accept that the widespread consternation and confusion about the exact position in relation to the Churchill archives has not been dispelled by the answer given by the Prime Minister to my right hon. Friend the Member for Yeovil (Mr. Ashdown) a few minutes ago?

It is not the distinction between the state and private papers that concerns people in all parts of the House and the country, but the clear impression that Ministers have given the House on successive occasions that the national lottery would be new money, not money to substitute for something in which the Government and the state should invest anyway. Will the Leader of the House therefore assure us that there will be an opportunity not only to hear from the Secretary of State on that matter, but to debate the issue?

**Mr. Newton:** I certainly cannot promise an opportunity for debate but, as ever, I shall bear the request in mind. I thought that my right hon. Friend the Prime Minister was absolutely clear about the position, and, as he emphasised, the decision was taken by independent trustees of the National Heritage Memorial Fund.

**Sir Patrick Cormack (Staffordshire, South):** May I quote a phrase which my right hon. Friend just used and suggest that there is an "above-average need" for a debate on the situation in the former Yugoslavia? Can we have one very soon?

**Mr. Newton:** While noting my hon. Friend's request, and very much respecting the interest that he has taken in those matters over many years, I cannot promise a debate at the moment. Given the pressures I face from those on the Opposition Front Bench and elsewhere, he will understand some of the difficulties that I might find in so doing. I will, however, keep it in mind.

**Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarfon):** Will the Leader of the House arrange for the Secretary of State for Wales to make a statement next week on the delays and



prevarications with regard to the district auditor's reports on an investigation into possible fraud in the housing renovation department in Rhondda? A management letter was submitted last year on the matter and has not been actioned. A public interest report should be brought forward. One was promised before March, but will not be brought forward before the local elections. Do not the electorate have a right to know about important material in such reports before local elections take place?

**Mr. Newton:** I am not aware of any plans that my right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Wales has to make a statement on that matter, but I shall bring the hon. Gentleman's question to his attention.

**Mr. Bob Dunn (Dartford):** Could the Leader of the House arrange for an urgent debate on commitment in politics, given that the House may wish to decide which is the greater cosmetic act: the setting up of Max Factor, or Labour's review of clause IV?

**Mr. Newton:** I will reflect on that.

**Mrs. Alice Mahon (Halifax):** Is the Leader of the House aware that the public, who are outraged by the Churchill payout, will not be pacified by the Prime Minister's answer this afternoon? As the hon. Member for Davyhulme (Mr. Churchill) will almost certainly be made redundant at the next general election, will the Leader of the House make time for an urgent debate on what will be seen as the biggest redundancy payout ever?

**Mr. Newton:** As I have said, I thought that my right hon. Friend the Prime Minister made the position absolutely clear in his answer at Prime Minister's questions today. What is more, I think that it will be generally welcomed that it has proved possible to keep this invaluable collection of papers, regardless of their original ownership and whether they were state papers or private papers, or those on which the National Heritage Memorial Fund will have taken legal advice, together as a single, invaluable collection.

**Mr. Edward Garnier (Harborough):** The hon. Member for Dewsbury (Mrs. Taylor) is keen to have a debate on the health service. Will my right hon. Friend assist her by allowing an Opposition day debate on the health service in Leicestershire, because my right hon. Friend will find that 93 per cent. of those who responded to a survey across my constituency were not only well-satisfied but wholly happy with the way in which the health service is running under the Government's reforms? Can my right hon. Friend find Opposition time for such a debate?

**Mr. Newton:** I will certainly endeavour to bring that out should such a debate take place. In any event, I endorse my hon. Friend's observations about the experience that people report when they actually have treatment with the NHS.

**Ms Diane Abbott (Hackney, North and Stoke Newington):** Will the Leader of the House make time for debate on the lottery? Is he aware that people in poor areas in Hackney spend more money, as a proportion of their income, on lottery tickets than people anywhere else? They are amazed to find that £13.5 million of their money is going to the Churchill family trust.

Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that the Prime Minister's answer this afternoon was misleading, and that what the Prime Minister described as personal papers are personal only in the sense that Sir Winston Churchill chose to take them with him when he retired from office? Is he aware that the Attlee family donated all his papers, state and personal, to the nation, and will he not urge the Churchill family to do the same?

**Mr. Newton:** I do not believe that the hon. Lady is right in what she says.

**Mr. Jacques Arnold (Gravesham):** Will my right hon. Friend allow a debate on school transport? I am sure that his constituents must have been very concerned at the comments of my hon. Friend the Member for Colchester, North (Mr. Jenkin) about the vindictive action of the Lib-Lab pact that controls Essex county council and the damage that it will do to less well-off families whose children need to go some distance to get to school. It will not surprise my right hon. Friend that in Kent, where the county council is also run by a Lib-Lab pact, we are also very concerned.

**Mr. Newton:** The constituency of my hon. Friend the Member for Colchester, North (Mr. Jenkin) is immediately adjacent to mine—indeed, it is half a mile from where I live—so I am well aware of the concerns that are felt in Essex about the policies that are being considered by the Lib-Lab pact that runs Essex county council. Indeed, I am making representations on behalf of my own constituents.

**Mr. Dennis Skinner (Bolsover):** Will the Leader of the House arrange a debate on the pay of the bosses that run the privatised utilities, and has he noticed that his friend Lord Young, who is the head of the privatised Cable and Wireless company and receives £948,000 a year, has had the bare-faced cheek to attack teachers who are asking for 3 per cent. as being "greedy"? Is it not time that we debated this issue to put into context the fact that, among those who have taken those jobs, are 19 ex-Tory Cabinet Ministers, with 19 directorships between them? They are the greedy people, and the last thing they should be talking about is our teachers and nurses.

**Mr. Newton:** The position is that we are awaiting the recommendations of the Greenbury committee, which is considering the issue of executive pay in all public companies. I think that that is the right context in which to consider those matters, and any report from that committee would be the right context in which to consider a debate.

**Mr. John Wilkinson (Ruislip-Northwood):** Can I reiterate to my right hon. Friend my previous plea for an urgent debate on civil air transport, which is one of this country's largest sources of employment and foreign exchange? In that context, could my right hon. Friend reconsider the subject matter for next Thursday's debate, and move the debate on the Royal Air Force to a later date, because the Royal Air Force affects the whole of the nation and many right hon. and hon. Members will be away for the local elections, whereas civil air transport is of particular concern to London Members, especially to those like me, who have many constituents working at Heathrow airport?

**Mr. Newton:** Of course, I shall, as ever, bear my hon. Friend's request in mind. I must say, however, that I am



[Mr. Newton]

mildly surprised by his request in one sense, in that he is one of those from whom I had anticipated pressure for a debate on the RAF had I not announced one.

**Mrs. Bridget Prentice** (Lewisham, East): Given that the Director General of the Prison Service is now on probation, mainly because the Home Secretary cannot make up his mind whether to sack him or back him, is it not time that we had a debate on prison privatisation?

**Mr. Newton:** I cannot add to what my right hon. and learned Friend the Home Secretary told the House about this matter yesterday. There are no plans for a debate such as the hon. Lady suggests, but I shall, of course, bear her request in mind, too.

**Mr. Oliver Heald** (Hertfordshire, North): Will my right hon. Friend find time for a debate on civil air transport and air services agreements between the United Kingdom and the United States, so that Conservative Members can make the point that it is the job of the United Kingdom to negotiate such agreements, not that of the European Commission, and that we are going to defeat the ambitions of the Commissioner involved, as we have in the past?

**Mr. Newton:** I have to acknowledge that that is a genuinely attractive proposition for a debate, but I must stop short of promising it. I can but stress that I share my hon. Friend's view that the United Kingdom's interests are best served by direct air services agreements made by national Governments. We firmly believe that the United Kingdom and other member states should remain free to negotiate bilaterally with the United States.

**Ms Angela Eagle** (Wallasey): Will the Leader of the House arrange for a debate early next week on funding and financial provision for the Royal British Legion, especially as that would be just ahead of VE day, which we shall all celebrate, so that we can consider what might have been done with the £14 million that has just been given to the trust of one hon. Member, and how it might have been used to help the veterans who really deserve it?

**Mr. Newton:** I understand why the hon. Lady feels it right to ask the question in that way. I would venture the view, however, that members of the Royal British Legion and, indeed, all those who served in the British forces and on the British civilian scene in the second world war, would be very unhappy at the thought of the Churchill papers being broken up.

**Mr. Toby Jessel** (Twickenham): On that subject, does my right hon. Friend accept that everybody knows that, if it had not been for the inspirational leadership of Sir Winston Churchill in the second world war, it is highly likely that we would have been defeated and that this country would have been governed by Adolf Hitler? Does he not consider that this country owes an unbounded debt to Churchill and his memory, and that his wishes should be honoured and respected?

**Madam Speaker:** Order. I did not hear the hon. Gentleman ask for any change of business next week. This is not the time to make statements about individual views, but an opportunity for hon. Members to question the Leader of the House about next week's business.

However, I shall hear the Leader of the House reply—he is quite capable of doing so in spite of the way the point was put to him.

**Mr. Newton:** I am grateful for that compliment from the Chair, and I shall do my best. Perhaps the best that I can do is to point out that part of what is in effect our business next Friday is the start of the celebrations for VE day weekend, with the events in Westminster Hall. I am sure that the contribution that Sir Winston Churchill made to enable us to hold such events will be much in everyone's mind.

**Mr. Derek Enright** (Hemsworth): Has the Leader of the House read the Conservative manifesto of one John Kelly, a local election candidate in Manchester, who writes:

"Are you depressed, unhappy, suicidal?—then think what it's like for me as a Conservative candidate?"

Could we have a debate a week on Friday to discuss the medical advice available for defeated Tory candidates?

**Mr. Newton:** I have not read that manifesto. On the second point, I do not share the reported feelings of the person in question. In answer to his last question, the hon. Gentleman will find that the Friday in question is a non-sitting day.

**Mr. Harry Greenway** (Ealing, North): May we have a debate on the decision to acquire the Churchill papers? I support all who called for such a debate with a view to congratulating those who made the great decision to acquire the papers of the greatest man in the century, perhaps the greatest Englishman of all time. [Interruption.] It is true. May we have such a debate without descending to the politics of envy?

**Mr. Newton:** Once again, I have a request that I shall bear in mind, but I am afraid that I cannot accede to it from the Dispatch Box this afternoon, although I appreciate my hon. Friend's motives.

**Ms Mildred Gordon** (Bow and Poplar): May I inform the Leader of the House that a number of my constituents have complained that there is still a police cordon around the City of London? I note that the letter boxes around Paddington station are still sealed. Will he arrange for a debate about security provisions on the mainland, in view of the changed circumstances?

**Mr. Newton:** I shall, of course, bring those remarks to the attention of the appropriate authorities, and ask them to be drawn to the attention of the appropriate authorities in the City. My own observations, as a result of being a frequent user of Liverpool street station, are that the arrangements have improved traffic flow in the area.

**Lady Olga Maitland** (Sutton and Cheam): Will my right hon. Friend consider providing time for an urgent debate on local government? Is he aware of a recent study that showed that most politically obsessed local authorities are all Labour-controlled? Indeed, their obsession with race, gender and sexual orientation is said to heighten awareness, not discrimination, and is causing serious resentment in the community at large, as people feel that they are not getting a fair share of the cake.



**Mr. Newton:** I certainly agree with my hon. Friend that the costs of what is known as political correctness are probably one reason why, band for band, the costs of Labour local councils are higher than those of others.

**Mr. Dennis Canavan (Falkirk, West):** In view of the Prime Minister's inadequate explanation, may we have a statement next week explaining exactly who are the beneficiaries of the £13 million from the lottery fund that was used to buy the Churchill papers? If those papers are part of our national heritage, why on earth did the Government not intervene to stop them being sold off on the international market, instead of using £13 million from the lottery fund as a ransom payment to people who are quite intent on threatening to sell off our national heritage to the highest bidder?

**Mr. Newton:** I repeat that I am clear from our exchanges that my hon. Friends do not regard my right hon. Friend's answer as inadequate. As for the rest of what the hon. Gentleman said, the decision was taken by the independent National Heritage Memorial Fund.

**Mr. Patrick McLoughlin (West Derbyshire):** Will my hon. Friend find time for a debate on the possible introduction of a national funding formula for education? Is he aware that Derbyshire county council holds back £720 per pupil, Staffordshire holds back £550 per pupil and Nottinghamshire holds back £570 per pupil? If that money went directly into the schools, it would make quite a difference to the financial position of our schools in all those counties.

**Mr. Newton:** I am sure that my right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Education will examine carefully my hon. Friend's remarks. I hope also that the local authorities to which he has referred will do as he suggests.

**Mr. D. N. Campbell-Savours (Workington):** The Leader of the House was present last week when we debated the abuse of proceedings in the Select Committee on Members' Interests. What is the Government's response? Will there be a statement on what we are to do in circumstances where a libel action in a court is given precedence over the requirements for a Committee of the House of Commons to carry out a full inquiry? Surely the Government must have a position on the matter, particularly as they have a Whip on the Committee.

**Mr. Newton:** You would quickly rule me out of order, Madam Speaker, were I to comment in any detail on the affairs of a Select Committee—in this case, the Select Committee on Members' Interests. My concern last week was to enable that Committee to continue its work without interruption from the hon. Gentleman.

**Mr. James Clappison (Hertsmere):** When my right hon. Friend considers the Opposition request for a debate on London's health services, will he bear in mind the fact that the Opposition had two Opposition days in the recent past on that subject? On one occasion, the Opposition's health spokesman was replaced by their campaigns co-ordinator. Will my right hon. Friend do what he can to ensure that any debate on London's health services is calm and constructive—not the sort of vote-grubbing exercise that the Opposition want?

**Mr. Newton:** I always do my best to ensure that all the proceedings in the House are calm and constructive.

**Mr. Harry Cohen (Leyton):** With the planned closure of the much-loved Bart's hospital and of other hospitals in London, and given health cuts and the discriminatory low pay award to nurses, is there not an overwhelming case for debating London's health services? Does the Leader of the House share the concern felt by me and others that, with the recent three-in-a-bed scandal involving a Member of Parliament, the Secretary of State for Health might think that a good idea for London hospitals?

**Mr. Newton:** In circumstances in which an extra £1.3 billion is being spent on the NHS this year, I do not think that the hon. Gentleman's remarks do justice to the true situation. In referring to cuts, the hon. Gentleman did not state the correct position.

**Mr. Charles Hendry (High Peak):** Further to the question from the hon. Member for Bolsover (Mr. Skinner), will my right hon. Friend arrange an early debate on the extremely high levels of pay of top executives in local government—especially in the light of the fact that the county director of Derbyshire, who earns £70,000 a year, has ignored three requests from me to say by how much his salary and those of his senior executives have risen over the past five years? Should there not be a debate, so that those figures can be brought out into the open?

**Mr. Newton:** I have already referred to the Greenbury committee. If there is a subsequent debate, my hon. Friend might be able to raise those evidently related matters.

**Mr. Michael Connarty (Falkirk, East):** As to the VE day celebrations, will the Leader of the House arrange for a Scottish Office Minister to come to the House to explain how that Department is dealing with the concerns expressed in early-day motion 871?

*[That this House is deeply concerned that the intention of the Royal Proclamation of 22nd June 1994, that 8th May 1995 should be a Bank Holiday to commemorate the 50th anniversary of V.E. Day, is being undermined in Scotland; notes that unlike other parts of the United Kingdom 1st May is an annual Bank Holiday fixed by statute for Scotland; notes that in a letter of 22nd February 1995, replying to a question to the Prime Minister by the honourable Member for Falkirk East, the Department of the Environment stated 'In Scotland the anniversary will be marked by an additional day's Bank Holiday for this year only'; notes, however, that it appears that correspondence between the then Minister for Industry and Local Government in the Scottish Office, the honourable Member for Eastwood, and CBI Scotland encouraged employers to treat 8th May 1995 as a replacement for the 1st May public holiday; notes that this has led some employers such as the Post Office to withdraw the traditional May Day holiday on 1st May and substitute 8th May, in effect forcing employees to pay for their own V.E. Day holiday; and urges public and private companies to negotiate an additional holiday on 8th May so that Scots can celebrate the anniversary of the peace won by the sacrifices of so many. [R] Relevant registered interest declared.]*

Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that Monday 1 May is a statutory bank holiday in Scotland, and that most public workers will get an extra day's holiday on 8 May?



[Mr. Michael Connarty]

However, because of interference by a Scottish Office Minister, the Post Office is denying that holiday to its workers, and the Scottish Office is denying it to its workers.

Will the Department of Trade and Industry explain, even at this late date, why it will not compel the Post Office to go to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service to avoid a strike on Monday to preserve a national holiday in Scotland, which would bring the good name of the VE day celebrations into disrepute?

**Mr. Newton:** I will bring the hon. Gentleman's questions to the attention of my right hon. Friend the Secretary of State.

**Mr. Harry Barnes** (Derbyshire, North-East): As the Leader of the House is aware, it would be possible to include the Civil Rights (Disabled Persons) Bill on tomorrow's Order Paper, but only if that Bill finishes in Committee. Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that 113 amendments have been tabled in the name of the hon. Member for Richmond, Yorks (Mr. Hague), who is the Minister concerned? The filibuster involved is worse than that seen on the Floor of the House last year in respect of the previous Civil Rights (Disabled Persons) Bill.

Will the Leader of the House take action to ensure that the current Bill is allowed to progress this afternoon, so that it can be debated in the House tomorrow—as required by many hon. Members and the public?

**Mr. Newton:** It is not for me to comment on proceedings in a Committee at which I have not been present, and it would be improper for me to seek to control them. The hon. Gentleman will acknowledge that a wide range of issues require thorough discussion. He can hardly accuse the Government of being unhelpful in a week in which we tabled a money resolution for his Bill.

**Mr. Piara S. Khabra** (Ealing, Southall): I was surprised to hear one Conservative Back-Bench Member remark that 93 per cent. of the population are satisfied with the health service. The fact is that 93 per cent. of the population are dissatisfied with the state of the health service. May I ask the Leader of the House to reconsider, and to approve a Supply day debate on the state of the NHS?

**Mr. Newton:** All I will say is that I will add that request to the list of comparable requests, starting with that of the hon. Member for Dewsbury (Mrs. Taylor).

**Mr. Jimmy Hood** (Clydesdale): May I raise with the Leader of the House the problem of community care, and in particular Orchard house, a nursing home in my constituency? It was recently the subject of a "Frontline Scotland" investigative programme, which exposed malpractice, mistreatment and criminal neglect of residents in that home. Because of the seriousness of the allegations, I ask the Leader of the House for a debate next week on that very important subject, because there are a considerable number of residents in nursing homes such as Orchard house, who need to be protected. I think that the House should have a debate on that.

**Mr. Newton:** I know that the hon. Gentleman will understand that it would be quite wrong for me to seek to comment on allegations of the kind that he has just made

or reported, and I shall not attempt to do so. The proper course would be for such allegations to be investigated by the appropriate authorities—the social work department, as it would be in Scotland, or the Secretary of State; I am not sure which. I shall ensure that his remarks are drawn to my right hon. Friend's attention.

**Mr. Andrew Miller** (Ellesmere Port and Neston): As the Leader of the House is nervous about bringing the Secretary of State for Health before the House on a Supply day on London health before the local elections, will he at least ask her to come before the House next week to answer a specific question on an analysis that has been done on Government figures, which show that 74 out of the top 100 prescribed drugs cost less than the £5.25 cost of a prescription, and, what is more, one third of those drugs cost less than £1? That is taxation of the sick. It is about time that the Government answered that important question.

**Mr. Newton:** It is only slightly less than a fortnight ago that the issue of prescription charges was debated on the Floor of the House with the Minister of State. I certainly do not envisage further time for debates in the near future.

**Mr. Derek Foster** (Bishop Auckland): Will the Leader of the House find time for an early debate on education administration in central and local government? Is he aware that such a debate would enable clarification of remarks made to the House by the Prime Minister? Does he recall that, on 16 March, the Prime Minister told the House that there were two education administrators for every three teachers? Yet, in Prime Minister's Question Time last Tuesday, the Prime Minister said that those figures came from "Social Trends".

On checking with the Library of the House of Commons, I am assured that no such figures exist in "Social Trends". The reality is that, in the Prime Minister's own constituency, in Cambridgeshire, there is in fact one administrator for 16 teachers. Does the Leader of the House not think that it would be appropriate to have such a debate, so that we could raise those issues?

**Mr. Newton:** I do not think that it would be appropriate to have such a debate.

**Mr. Jeremy Corbyn** (Islington, North): Will the Leader of the House find time for an early debate on the question of the property of former Ministers and Prime Ministers: what belongs to them, what is personal to them and what is claimed to be their property merely because they held high office?

The revulsion throughout the country at the money that is to be paid to the Churchill family for the papers must be aired in the House. Above all, we need to know that other former Prime Ministers or their families will not make a killing out of selling their papers, which they gained solely by being in office, as a result of being elected and therefore being public servants?

**Mr. Newton:** I will observe in passing that it seems to me to be quite difficult to argue that letters written by a schoolboy to his mother in his early years can be counted as state papers. Clearly, there have been difficulties in determining precisely what is and what is not, but, as I understand it, the trustees of the National Heritage Memorial Fund took careful legal advice on the question of ownership and valuation before making their decision.



announcement in due course. We expect that any reviews of metropolitan areas will be conducted after the commission has completed the shire district structural reviews, which we hope will be by early 1996.

**Mr. Rendel:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Environment, when he will make an announcement in response to the final recommendation of the Local Government Commission concerning the move of Billericay from Basildon district council to form Brentwood and Billericay district council. [22002]

**Mr. Curry:** Basildon district is to be referred to the Local Government Commission for a further review which will examine the structure of local government in the area. No decision on boundaries can sensibly be taken until the commission has made its recommendations on the wider question of structure.

#### Cammell Laird Site, Birkenhead

**Mr. Frank Field:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Environment if he will report the progress which has been made since last summer with his attempts to use the offices of English Partnership to set up a venture with English Partnership and VSEL on the Lairds site in Birkenhead. [22213]

**Sir Paul Beresford:** English Partnerships and VSEL have been working closely together on proposals for the redevelopment of the Cammell Laird site. One important objective, the continued use of the northern part of the site for ship repair activity, has been secured following the announcement today of the sale of that part of the site to the newly named Cammell Laird Industries. This follows closely on the decision of Mackie Automotive Systems to establish themselves in one of the existing buildings on the southern part of the site.

VSEL and English Partnership intend to continue to work together within a broad framework to achieve development of the rest of the site and build on the increased industrial interest that is being shown; they are discussing the form that arrangement might take.

#### Housing Benefit (Reversionary Interest)

**Mr. Rooker:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Environment if he will change the housing benefit regulations to adopt the definition of reversionary interest in use in Northern Ireland. [20346]

**Mr. Roger Evans:** I have been asked to reply.

A recent Court of Appeal judgment has held that property in England or Wales which the claimant owns but which is let to tenants is a reversionary interest. This means that in all cases the value of such property has to be disregarded as a capital resource when entitlement to housing benefit is assessed. We propose to bring forward amending regulations to rectify this situation. We are currently considering the form that this amendment should take.

### PRIME MINISTER

#### Engagements

**Sir Peter Tapsell:** To ask the Prime Minister, if he will list his official engagements for Tuesday 2 May. [20380]

**Mr. Harry Greenway:** To ask the Prime Minister, if he will list his official engagements for Tuesday 2 May 1995. [20379]

**The Prime Minister:** This morning I had meetings with ministerial colleagues and others. In addition to my duties in this House, I shall be having further meetings later today.

#### Barings Bank

**Mr. MacShane:** To ask the Prime Minister what meetings he has had with directors or executives of Barings Bank since 1990. [21130]

**The Prime Minister:** None. However, directors and executives of Barings Bank have been present at a number of functions that I have attended since 1990.

#### Crown Copyright

**Mr. Mackinlay:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will make a statement on the ownership of (a) top copies of his speeches, (b) treaty agreements signed by him in his capacity as Prime Minister, (c) original copies of letters received by him from her Majesty, (d) original copies of correspondence or other communications received by him from the heads of Government and (e) original copies of correspondence, minutes, records of meetings or other documents and communications with or in relation to or from ministers or public bodies. [22216]

**The Prime Minister:** Papers in all the categories listed belong to the Crown with the exception of top copies of speeches made in a personal capacity or as a constituency Member of Parliament, and correspondence of a purely personal nature.

#### Churchill Papers

**Mr. Mackinlay:** To ask the Prime Minister, pursuant to his oral Answer of 27 April to the right hon. Member for Yeovil, (Mr. Ashdown), *Official Report*, column 97, if he will place in the Library details of those papers of Sir Winston Churchill being purchased by the National Heritage Memorial Fund. [22215]

**The Prime Minister:** This is a matter for the National Heritage Memorial Fund. I have asked the Chairman to write to the hon. Member, placing a copy of his letter in the Library of the House.

#### Equal Opportunities

**Ms Eagle:** To ask the Prime Minister (1) what progress has been made within his Department on equal opportunities matters; [21512]

(2) what progress he hopes to achieve in his Department over the next three months to push forward the declaration signed in October 1994 at the Vienna conference in preparation for the fourth UN conference on women; and if he will agree to incorporate a section on equal opportunities in his Department's annual report; [21514]

(3) if he will publish the gender assessment being prepared by his Department; [21513]

(4) which Minister in his Department has responsibility for equal opportunities issues. [21511]



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(3) if he will publish the gender assessment being prepared by his Department; [21513]

(4) which Minister in his Department has responsibility for equal opportunities issues. [21511]



OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0637

NAMED DAY QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 2 MAY 1995  
ANSWERED ON

Lab - Thurrock

35 N      Mr Andrew Mackinlay

To ask the Prime Minister, if he will make a statement on the ownership of (a) top copies of his speeches, (b) treaty agreements signed by him in his capacity as Prime Minister, (c) original copies of letters received by him from Her Majesty, (d) copies of correspondence or other communications received by him from the heads of Government and (e) original copies of correspondence, minutes, records of meetings or other documents and communications with or in relation to or from other ministers or public bodies. (22216)

PRIME MINISTER

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HO95/310

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

PARLIAMENTARY CLERK

I enclose a suggested draft reply and background note to Mr Andrew Mackinlay's Parliamentary Question to the Prime Minister about the ownership of certain categories of papers.

The reply has been cleared with Treasury Solicitor (Mr Carpenter) and Mr John Holroyd, No 10.

*Pat Andrews*

MISS P M ANDREWS

Historical and Records Section  
1 May 1995



OPSS/1194/95-1-0637

Parliamentary Question

For answer on

Answered on

Lab - Thurrock

35 - Mr Andrew Mackinlay

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DRAFT REPLY

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ABR



## BACKGROUND NOTE

By convention outgoing Prime Ministers have been allowed to take away with them (or have stored for them) certain categories of papers, including copies of official papers relating to their period(s) of office as Prime Minister. These have been described variously as "personal", "private" and/or "the No 10 papers". The last description distinguishes between these papers and the Cabinet and Cabinet Committee papers to which a former Prime Minister, like other Ministers, may have personal access after relinquishing office, but may not take away.

In 1991 the Prime Minister agreed that the terms "personal" and/or "private" should be defined more precisely than in the past so that material removed from official custody at the end of an Administration would contain no official material other than that which, like speeches and copies of letters sent to members of the public, is already in the public domain.

Mr Mackinlay's Question refers to the "top copies" of speeches and "original copies" of other categories of papers. Assuming that these terms mean the same thing, ie top copies, none of the categories listed would have been removed by outgoing Prime Ministers under the pre 1991 convention. A list of the pre-1991 categories is at Annex A, the post 1991 categories are shown at Annex B.



**ANNEX A**

PAPERS COMPRISING A FORMER PRIME MINISTER'S 'PERSONAL' ARCHIVE

1. Copies of outgoing Personal Minutes (those signed by the Prime Minister) excluding those marked TOP SECRET.
2. Copies of all personal telegrams and messages sent to or received from overseas, again excluding those marked TOP SECRET.
3. Copies of any letters sent to The Queen, excluding those marked TOP SECRET.
4. Copies of all other letters signed by the Prime Minister.
5. Copies of personal correspondence relating to Ministerial appointments.
6. Copies of speeches and related material.
7. Copies of the typed daily diary for the whole Administration.
8. Files held in the Private Office which are personal rather than official.



**ANNEX B**

- i Copies of letters signed by the Prime Minister (letters to members of the public and parliamentary colleagues).
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- iii Copies of personal letters to the Sovereign (excluding those marked TOP SECRET) subject to the approval of the Royal Archivist).
- iv Copies of published correspondence relating to Ministerial appointments.
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- vii Personal files held in Private Office.



H095/310

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

PARLIAMENTARY CLERK

I enclose a suggested draft reply and background note to Mr Andrew Mackinlay's Parliamentary Question to the Prime Minister about the ownership of certain categories of papers.

The reply has been cleared with Treasury Solicitor (Mr Carpenter) and Mr John Holroyd, No 10.

*Pat Andrews*

MISS P M ANDREWS

Historical and Records Section  
1 May 1995



Public  
Records

2972

Notices of Questions: 27th April 1995

No. 97

35 Mr Andrew Mackinlay (Thurrock): To ask the Prime Minister, if he will make a statement on the ownership of (a) top copies of his speeches, (b) treaty agreements signed by him in his capacity as Prime Minister, (c) original copies of letters received by him from Her Majesty, (d) original copies of correspondence or other communications received by him from the heads of Government and (e) original copies of correspondence, minutes, records of meetings or other documents and communications with or in relation to or from other ministers or public bodies. (22216)

36 Mr Andrew Mackinlay (Thurrock): To ask the Prime Minister, pursuant to his oral Answer of 27th April, if he will place in the Library details of those papers of Sir Winston Churchill being purchased by the National Heritage Memorial Fund. (22215)

37 Anna Coffey (Stockport): To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security, what plans he has to exclude sheltered accommodation for the elderly and special accommodation for other special needs groups provided by housing associations from the proposed changes to housing benefit based on a calculation of an average area rent. (22218)

38 Anna Coffey (Stockport): To ask the President of the Board of Trade, pursuant to his oral Answer to the honourable Member for North East Milton Keynes of 5th April, Official Report, column 1722, and his Answer of 27th April, on what date he expects all schools in the area for which the Communications Association has franchises to be connected to the cable network; and if he will make a statement. (22217)

39 Mr Rhodri Morgan (Cardiff West): To ask the Secretary of State for Wales, what further progress he has to report on the appointment of a director for research and development for the NHS in Wales; and if the post will be established as a civil service or as an academic post. (22333)

40 Mr Rhodri Morgan (Cardiff West): To ask the Secretary of State for Wales, when he anticipates having available the full set of data on waiting list figures for those waiting more than six months for their first out-patient appointment and 18 months or more for in-patient treatment for each health authority. (22332)

41 Mr Win Griffiths (Bridgend): To ask the Secretary of State for Wales, what were the scientific considerations behind his approval of the estimation of an extra 0.36 million tonnes of sand and other materials from the Naval Bank before commencement of the Bristol Channel Study on the impact of dredging on the coastal environment. (22186)

42 Mr Mark Fisher (Stoke on Trent Central): To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage, if he will publish the names of those people who advised the National Lottery Heritage Fund on the valuation of the Churchill papers. (22117)

43 Mr Mark Fisher (Stoke on Trent Central): To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage, if he will publish both the identities of the valuers and their valuation advice for all future purchases financed by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. (22118)

44 Mr Mark Fisher (Stoke on Trent Central): To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage, if he will publish all the valuation advice received by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. (22119)

45 Mr Mark Fisher (Stoke on Trent Central): To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage, if he will publish the legal advice he has received on the ownership of copyright of the Churchill papers. (22120)

MCF -  
draft  
18.00 pm on  
Monday

Pat. Andrews

217 6010.



OPSS/1194/95-1-0637

Parliamentary Question

For answer on

Answered on

Lab - Thurrock

35 - Mr Andrew Mackinlay

To ask the Prime Minister, if he will make a statement on the ownership of (a) top copies of his speeches, (b) treaty agreements signed by him in his capacity as Prime Minister, (c) original copies of letters received by him from Her Majesty, (d) copies of correspondence or other communications received by him from the heads of Government and (e) original copies of correspondence, minutes, records of meetings or other documents and communications with or in relation to or from other ministers or public bodies.

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## BACKGROUND NOTE

By convention outgoing Prime Ministers have been allowed to take away with them (or have stored for them) certain categories of papers, including copies of official papers relating to their period(s) of office as Prime Minister. These have been described variously as "personal", "private" and/or "the No 10 papers". The last description distinguishes between these papers and the Cabinet and Cabinet Committee papers to which a former Prime Minister, like other Ministers, may have personal access after relinquishing office, but may not take away.

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***Historical and Records Section***

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HO95/301

MR HOLROYD

- John

PQ: PRIME MINISTER'S PAPERS

I attach a copy of Mr Andrew Mackinlay's PQ about Prime Minister's papers together with a brief draft reply which I have cleared with Treasury Solicitor and a background note.

I should be grateful if you could let me know if you are content with this. Sorry for the draft state - I am tidying it up whilst awaiting the PQ folder.

Pat Andrews

MISS P M ANDREWS

Historical and Records Section  
28 April 1995



⊗

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Excluding  
TOP SECRET

Excluding those  
marked  
TOP SECRET



**The Prime Minister:** I refer the hon. Member to the answer I gave some moments ago.

**Dr. Jones:** The Prime Minister will be aware from the latest economic figures that a large proportion of the 0.8 per cent. growth in the first quarter was attributed not to manufacturing but to sales of national lottery tickets. Is not the Prime Minister concerned that using the proceeds of the lottery to enrich one or maybe two Tory Members will put the faltering recovery in further jeopardy? Will the right hon. Gentleman have a word with the hon. Member for Davyhulme (Mr. Churchill) and ask him to pay the money back?

**The Prime Minister:** I am inclined to say to the hon. Lady, come off it. The growth in the economy was 4 per cent. last year, and is estimated at 3 per cent. this year and 3 per cent. next year. When did the Labour party in Government ever produce such growth figures? The answer is that it never did. The hon. Lady knows that growth has primarily been built on exports. When was there an export record similar to that which British industry has enjoyed over the past 14 months? Nine or 10 months out of the last 13 or 14 months, there has been a new record in exports as our competitiveness and capacity to penetrate markets in Europe and the rest of the world increase. That is what is happening with economic growth at the moment, and it has never been matched by the Labour party.



### Civil Servants

**Mr. Milburn:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list the individual value of each (a) compulsory early retirement and (b) flexible early retirement package received by civil servants leaving his Department on grounds of limited efficiency in each of the last five years. [22081]

**Mr. Dorrell:** No early retirements on the grounds of limited efficiency have been made since the Department was created in April 1992.

**Mr. Ainger:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage how many civil service appointments were made to administrative assistant and administrative officer posts in his Department and the agencies for which he is accountable in each quarter from September 1993 until April 1995. [21763]

**Mr. Dorrell [holding answer 1 May 1995]:** The Department of National Heritage and its two agencies, the Historic Royal Palaces Agency and Royal Parks Agency have made the following appointments at the administrative assistant and administrative officer grades since September 1993. The figures exclude short-term casual appointments.

	September 1993	October-December	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	January-March
<b>DNH</b>							
AOs	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
AAs	4	5	nil	nil	nil	nil	9
<b>RPA</b>							
AOs	nil	1	nil	1	nil	3	1
AAs	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	1	nil
<b>HRPA</b>							
AOs	nil	nil	nil	nil	2	1	nil
AAs	1	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

### Blue Plaques

**Mr. Redmond:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage (1) what are the current planning instructions issued to local authorities in respect of blue plaque schemes denoting historical places of interest; and if he will make a statement; [20708]

(2) what representations he has received in respect of the blue plaque placed by Calderdale district council on the Old Bridge inn at Ripponden, West Yorkshire; and if he will make a statement. [20713]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I have not received any representations about the plaque on the Old Bridge inn. No instructions have been issued to local authorities by my Department in respect of plaques which they or others choose to affix to buildings to mark their historical interest. Apart from the blue plaque scheme for London, which is administered by English Heritage, it is the responsibility of those who wish to place commemorative plaques on buildings to ensure their historical accuracy and to obtain any necessary listed building consents.

### Churchill Papers

**Mr. Fisher:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list the name of foreign organisations or individuals who are (a) bidding for and (b) negotiating with the trustees for the purchase of the Churchill Trust papers. [22302]

**Mr. Dorrell:** There are no foreign bidders negotiating with the Churchill trustees; the papers have already been secured for the nation.

**Mr. Fisher:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if the Churchill Trust owned the copyright in the Churchill archives; and if Her Majesty's Government have purchased all copyright in these documents. [22301]

**Mr. Dorrell:** Copyright in the non-state papers remains with whoever owned it prior to the sale of the documents to Churchill college. The Crown has retained its copyright in the state papers which it has given to the college.

### Inheritance Tax

**Mr. Faulds:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will specify the amounts of inheritance tax or its equivalent satisfied in connection with the acceptance of objects and property which have been covered in the public accounts by means of resort to the reserve in respect of each of the last 10 financial years; and what was the average annual figure of resort to the reserve for that purpose over the 10-year period in question. [20246]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The amount of tax satisfied in accepting works of art or land and buildings in lieu of tax through the public expenditure reserve over the last 10 years is as follows:

	£
1985-86	1,367,600
1986-87	1,745,500
1987-88	7,338,444
1988-89	5,584,674
1989-90	9,977,898
1990-91	—
1991-92	2,144,172
1992-93	4,324,875
1993-94	1,114,660
1994-95	3,759,616

The average annual resort to the reserve over this 10 year period was £3,735,744.



**Mr. Dorrell:** I have no plans to change the present level of Government support for the acceptance in lieu scheme. This scheme, together with all my Department's spending commitments, is, however, being examined in our fundamental expenditure review. This is currently in progress and I cannot at this stage anticipate its findings.

## PRIME MINISTER

### Ministerial Documents

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will make it his policy to ensure that documents originated or acquired by Ministers in the course of their official duties are not sold by them or their heirs and assigns. [22621]

**The Prime Minister:** By convention, Prime Ministers, on leaving office, have taken with them copies of certain documents which they dealt with personally while in office. These include some documents originated or acquired by them in the course of their official duties. This convention has not applied to Ministers other than former Prime Ministers. The extent to which former Prime Ministers or their heirs and assigns may dispose of such papers, and how, depends on the circumstances of each case.

It is my policy that in future material removed from official custody at the end of an Administration should contain no official material other than that which is already in the public domain.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister in what circumstances a document subject when originated to the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts may be classified other than a state paper. [22527]

**The Prime Minister:** Documents originating from other than official sources, and which contain official information that should not be disclosed, come within the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts but are not state papers.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister (1) if retired Ministers are required to submit their memoirs for approval under the Official Secrets Acts before publication; [22531]

(2) if the right hon. Nigel Lawson submitted his memoirs for approval under the official Secrets Acts before publication, with particular reference to mention of the Governor of the Bank of England. [22622]

**The Prime Minister:** There is no requirement for former Ministers to submit their memoirs under the Official Secrets Acts before publication. The report of the Committee of Privy Counsellors on Ministerial Memoirs, Cmnd. 7386, recommended that former Ministers who wished to make public an account bearing on their ministerial life should let the Secretary of the Cabinet see in advance the full text of what they propose to say. The Cabinet Secretary offers advice to the author of the text, including on whether it contains material contravening the requirements of national security.

My right hon. and noble Friend Lord Lawson submitted his memoirs to the Cabinet Secretary in the normal way, without any particular reference.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will refer to the Nolan committee the propriety of

Ministers or their heirs retaining and using for private gain information or documents acquired in the course of their official duties. [22526]

**The Prime Minister:** I have no plans to do so.

### Engagements

**Sir Peter Tapsell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [21122]

**Mr. Harry Greenway:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [21121]

**The Prime Minister:** This morning I presided at a meeting of the Cabinet and had meetings with ministerial colleagues and others. In addition to my duties in this House, I shall be having further meetings later today.

### Central Computer Database

**Mr. Cohen:** To ask the Prime Minister what plans there are to create a central computerised database on individuals using the database of the national insurance recording system 2—to be available to other Government Departments; and if he will make a statement. [22540]

**The Prime Minister:** The recently announced replacement of the national insurance recording system—NIRS2—does not include any plans to create a separate computer database on individuals, nor does it involve extending access arrangements to the NIRS2 database to other than existing users of the current NIRS system.

### Churchill Documents

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister, pursuant to his oral answer of 27 April to the right hon. Member for Yeovil (Mr. Ashdown), *Official Report*, column 978, what steps he has taken to establish whether the papers sold by the Churchill family to the national heritage memorial fund were at any time covered by the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts. [22423]

**The Prime Minister:** Churchill college has been advised on which papers in the Churchill archive can be released to researchers and which need to be withheld.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister what steps the Government took to purchase the annotated eight-page typescript of Sir Winston Churchill's El Alamein speech sold by Sotheby's in December 1994; and whether this is included in the Churchill documents purchased by the national heritage memorial fund. [22421]

**The Prime Minister:** The manuscript to which the hon. Member refers was sold by a private owner and was one of many which Sir Winston Churchill gave away during his lifetime. At no time did it form part of the Churchill archive and it does not do so now. It is for the national institutions which maintain archives to decide whether to commit funds to the purchase of papers which appear on the open market.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister how many of the papers sold by the Churchill family to the national heritage memorial fund are to be found in the Public Record Office in their original or a duplicate form; and what copyright fees have to be paid to the Churchill family when such documents in either location are reproduced. [22525]



OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0646

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 3 MAY 1995  
ANSWERED ON 4 MAY 1995

Lab - Great Grimsby

79            Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, if he will refer to the Nolan Committee the propriety of ministers or their heirs retaining and using for private gain information or documents acquired in the course of their official duties. (22526)

PRIME MINISTER

I have no plans to do so.



OPSS/1994/95-1-0646

Ordinary written question

For answer on

Answered on

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I have no plans to do so.



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DRAFT REPLY

~~I believe that satisfactory answers to~~  
~~No. As I have explained in my previous Answer [No ] to the Hon~~  
~~Member steps have been taken to ensure that material removed from~~  
~~official custody in future does not contain official material.~~

I have no plans to do so.

REB



## BACKGROUND NOTE

By convention outgoing Prime Ministers have been allowed to take away with them (or have stored for them) certain categories of papers, including copies of official papers relating to their period(s) of office as Prime Minister. These have been described variously as "personal", "private" and/or "the No 10 papers". The last description distinguishes between these papers and the Cabinet and Cabinet Committee papers to which a former Prime Minister like other Ministers, may have personal access after relinquishing office, but may not take away.

This convention does not apply to Ministers other than former Prime Ministers. Ministers are not entitled to remove documents originated or acquired by virtue of their office; it follows that they are not entitled to sell them.

In 1991 the Prime Minister agreed that the terms "personal" and/or "private" should be defined more precisely than in the past so that material removed from official custody at the end of an Administration would contain no official material other than that which, like speeches and copies of letters sent to members of the public, is already in the public domain.



**The Prime Minister:** The papers purchased by the national heritage memorial fund are the non-state papers. They are not normally to be found in the Public Record Office in either original or duplicate form. Copyright in the papers purchased by the national heritage memorial fund is a matter for the copyright owners.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister whether he will request the trustees of the national lottery fund to hand back the Churchill papers to the family in return for the money they have received. [22419]

**The Prime Minister:** No. The integrity of the Churchill archive has now been secured for the nation by the purchase of the non-state papers from the Churchill family and by the transfer of the state papers similarly to Churchill college.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will make it his policy to reduce the fees charged for access to, and reproduction of the Churchill papers; and if he will publish the proposed scale of charges. [22420]

**The Prime Minister:** No fees are levied on access to the Churchill papers at Churchill college. Reproduction is a matter for the copyright owners as is the question of charges. A licence has been granted which waives the copyright fee in respect of the reproduction of Crown copyright material for the purposes of research and private study. Other charges, for example the commercial use of the papers, will be levied in accordance with normal practice.

#### Civil Servants

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister whether civil servants who have been allowed to publish material which relies in any particular on what they have learnt or done in the course of their employment by the Crown are expected to hand to the Crown any profit derived by the author from the publication. [22424]

**The Prime Minister:** The extent to which a civil servant may be required to account to the Crown for any profit made from such publication will depend on whether the author produced all or part of the work during official time and whether the work is based on or otherwise used Crown copyright material.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister in what circumstances civil servants may publish without prior approval any material based directly or indirectly on what they have learnt or done in the course of their employment by the Crown. [22422]

**The Prime Minister:** Civil servants must clear in advance material for publication which draws on official material or experience.

**Mr. Milburn:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list the individual value of each (a) compulsory early retirement and (b) flexible early retirement package received by civil servants leaving his Department on grounds of limited efficiency in each of the last five years. [22092]

**The Prime Minister [holding answer 2 May 1995]:** For these purposes my office is part of the Cabinet Office—Office of Public Service and Science. I refer the hon. Member to the reply given today by my right hon. Friend the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

#### Hospitality

**Mr. Tony Banks:** To ask the Prime Minister how much was spent on official hospitality in his official capacities in the financial year 1994–95. [21215]

**The Prime Minister [holding answer 1 May 1995]:** The provisional total is £30,000

#### Rules of Succession

**Mr. Mackinlay:** To ask the Prime Minister (1) in which country of which Her Majesty is Head of State the inheritance of the Crown is prohibited to adherents of certain religions; [20852]

(2) in which countries of which Her Majesty the Queen is Head of State (a) the oldest child and (b) the oldest male child of the monarch succeed to the throne. [20853]

**The Prime Minister [holding answer 25 April 1995]:** I am not aware that any other Commonwealth realm has rules relating to the succession to the throne.

#### WALES

##### Equal Opportunities

**Ms Eagle:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what progress has been made within his Department on equal opportunities matters. [21471]

**Mr. Redwood:** My Department has a full programme to promote equal opportunities for all staff. It includes detailed programmes of action for women, for staff with a disability and for staff from ethnic minorities. Progress is monitored continuously and a report produced annually. Monitoring shows, for example, that the proportion of women in middle and senior management grades is increasing.

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**Mr. Barry Jones:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what is his policy concerning green barriers. [22112]

**Mr. Gwilym Jones:** Green barriers are a matter for local planning authorities, which may if they wish include proposals for such areas in their development plans together with appropriate policies.

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**Mr. Barry Jones:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what is his policy concerning green belts; and if he will make a statement. [22113]

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**Mr. Barry Jones:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales when he last met the Wales TUC; and if he will make a statement. [22115]



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ANSWERED ON 3 MAY 1995

Lab - Great Grimsby

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12/03



BACKGROUND NOTE

Charges for the use of Crown Copyright is a matter for HMSO; they are levied according to the amount and type of use requested.

Although HMSO has a "scale of charges" for certain categories of material, in this case they will prefer to consider each application on its merits.

The Deed of Gift transferring ownership of the papers included a Copyright Licence so that the papers may be freely used for the purposes of historical research and private study; charges will only be imposed in cases where there is an intention to use the papers for commercial purposes.



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OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0647

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 3 MAY 1995  
ANSWERED ON 4 MAY 1995

Lab - Great Grimsby

76            Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, whether he will request the trustees of the National Lottery Fund to hand back the Churchill papers to the family in return for the money they have received.

(22419)

**PRIME MINISTER**

No. The integrity of the Churchill Archive has now been secured for the nation by the purchase of the non-State papers from the Churchill family and by the transfer of the State papers similarly to Churchill College.



OPSS/1994/95-1-0647

Ordinary written question

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To ask the Prime Minister, whether he will request the trustees of the National Lottery Fund to hand back the Churchill papers to the family in return for the money they have received.

DRAFT REPLY

No. The integrity of the Churchill Archive has now been secured for the nation by the purchase of the non-State papers from the Churchill family and by the transfer of the State papers similarly to Churchill College.

18/13



BACKGROUND NOTE

The papers in the Churchill Archive purchased from the family and their Trustees by the National Heritage Memorial Fund have now passed into the ownership of the new Sir Winston Churchill Archive Trust. It is unlikely that they could be handed back to the family now even if there was a wish to do so.

The Answer drafted in reply to Mr Austin Mitchell's Question as to whether the papers could be handed back in return for the money paid for them concentrates on the fact that in purchasing the papers the Government has secured them, intact, for the nation.



British apple? Is he doing all that he can to encourage research and marketing opportunities to ensure that we sell as many, if not more, Bramley apples abroad as we do at home?

**Mr. Jack:** My hon. Friend gives me an irresistible invitation to canter through the orchards of East Anglia to see the Bramley apples and I should be happy to undertake such a visit with him at the start of the season. I assure him that we shall continue to do all that we can to promote the Bramley apple. Under the marketing and development scheme, we have already given some £150,000 to enable a significant marriage between east Kent packers and home-grown fruits. That newly consummated enterprise will enable our Bramley apples to be even better marketed in the forthcoming season.

**Mr. John D. Taylor:** As one of the main production areas of Bramley apples in the United Kingdom is County Armagh in Northern Ireland—I declare a personal interest in that respect—will the Minister confirm that any scheme to promote the sale and enjoyment of the Bramley apple will extend to the entire United Kingdom?

**Mr. Jack:** The right hon Gentleman is right. We try hard to ensure that all sections of the United Kingdom's apple-producing industry receive help with marketing. In that respect, I assure him that we are in apple pie order.

#### Veal Crates

16. **Mr. Harry Greenway:** To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food what progress he has made in getting the Commission to bring forward its review of the use of veal crates. [20952]

**Mrs. Browning:** My right hon. Friend the Minister has secured the Commission's agreement to bring forward this year, instead of in 1997, its report, which will trigger the Council's review of the directive on the welfare of calves.

**Mr. Greenway:** Does my hon. Friend agree that a new victory in Europe is needed in the form of a total and final ban on veal crates? Will she accept my congratulations on the fact that the Government have achieved a partial victory in bringing forward the date for consideration of the future of the veal crate from 1997 to next year? Will she go all out for a total ban on that disgraceful and unacceptable form of veal production?

**Mrs. Browning:** Yes, indeed, that is why we are seeking a total ban throughout the European Community on calves raised in crates, which are deprived of roughage and iron. We want calves to be raised in a much more welfare-friendly way, as indeed they are in this country. Yet again Britain leads the way in Europe and as soon as the rest bring their standards up to ours, the better.

#### Live Animal Exports

17. **Mr. Fishburn:** To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food what steps he is taking to ensure that the legal trade in live animal exports is able to continue when the specified welfare standards are met. [20953]

**Mrs. Browning:** The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food sets statutory requirements to protect the welfare of animals in transit, which provide a framework within which livestock hauliers may lawfully carry out their trade.

**Mr. Fishburn:** Does my hon. Friend agree that, in the history of Britain, those who have inveighed against free trade have invariably allied themselves with the illiberal and the intolerant? Is not that true of those who call for a unilateral ban on the free trade of livestock?

**Mrs. Browning:** Indeed. Anyone who is seriously concerned about the welfare of animals will recognise the greater prize of improving standards of animal welfare throughout the Community and will not just pull up the drawbridge, saying, "We are all right; never mind about the welfare of animals on the other side of the channel."

#### PRIME MINISTER

##### Engagements

Q1. **Mr. Canavan:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [20962]

**The Prime Minister (Mr. John Major):** This morning, I presided at a meeting of the Cabinet and had meetings with ministerial colleagues and others. In addition to my duties in the House, I shall be having further meetings later today.

**Mr. Canavan:** In view of renewed speculation that the Thatcher dynasty might emulate the Churchill dynasty by winning the lottery jackpot, will the Prime Minister set an example by ensuring free access to all his prime ministerial papers before they, along with him, are very soon consigned to the dustbin of history?

**The Prime Minister:** I agreed in 1991 that I shall remove from my office, in due course, only papers of a truly personal nature and no official material, other than that which, like speeches, is already in the public domain. I hope that my successors will follow that convention.

Q2. **Mr. Whittingdale:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [20963]

**The Prime Minister:** I refer my hon. Friend to the answer I gave some moments ago.

**Mr. Whittingdale:** Is my right hon. Friend aware that his visit yesterday to meet the victims of the IRA's continued brutality will be widely welcomed? Does he agree that Sinn Fein's protestations to be a democratic, political party ring hollow while it continues to orchestrate and to defend vicious attacks on the police and civilians?

**The Prime Minister:** Sinn Fein's mask slipped yesterday and it reminded us vividly of its character. As a result, I shall consider over the weekend whether the exploratory dialogue can go ahead. I shall probably decide that it should do so, because I wish Sinn Fein to become a fully democratic and peaceful party, playing a full part in negotiations with other parties. The purpose of the exploratory dialogue is to help to bring that about. As we have come this far, the wider interests of the people of Northern Ireland should not be abandoned without holding Sinn Fein's feet to the fire in face-to-face negotiations.

**Mr. Blair:** May I say that I associate myself entirely with those remarks?



**Mr. Dorrell:** I have no plans to change the present level of Government support for the acceptance in lieu scheme. This scheme, together with all my Department's spending commitments, is, however, being examined in our fundamental expenditure review. This is currently in progress and I cannot at this stage anticipate its findings.

## PRIME MINISTER

### Ministerial Documents

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will make it his policy to ensure that documents originated or acquired by Ministers in the course of their official duties are not sold by them or their heirs and assigns. [22621]

**The Prime Minister:** By convention, Prime Ministers, on leaving office, have taken with them copies of certain documents which they dealt with personally while in office. These include some documents originated or acquired by them in the course of their official duties. This convention has not applied to Ministers other than former Prime Ministers. The extent to which former Prime Ministers or their heirs and assigns may dispose of such papers, and how, depends on the circumstances of each case.

It is my policy that in future material removed from official custody at the end of an Administration should contain no official material other than that which is already in the public domain.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister in what circumstances a document subject when originated to the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts may be classified other than a state paper. [22527]

**The Prime Minister:** Documents originating from other than official sources, and which contain official information that should not be disclosed, come within the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts but are not state papers.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister (1) if retired Ministers are required to submit their memoirs for approval under the Official Secrets Acts before publication; [22531]

(2) if the right hon. Nigel Lawson submitted his memoirs for approval under the official Secrets Acts before publication, with particular reference to mention of the Governor of the Bank of England. [22622]

**The Prime Minister:** There is no requirement for former Ministers to submit their memoirs under the Official Secrets Acts before publication. The report of the Committee of Privy Counsellors on Ministerial Memoirs, Cmnd. 7386, recommended that former Ministers who wished to make public an account bearing on their ministerial life should let the Secretary of the Cabinet see in advance the full text of what they propose to say. The Cabinet Secretary offers advice to the author of the text, including on whether it contains material contravening the requirements of national security.

My right hon. and noble Friend Lord Lawson submitted his memoirs to the Cabinet Secretary in the normal way, without any particular reference.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will refer to the Nolan committee the propriety of

Ministers or their heirs retaining and using for private gain information or documents acquired in the course of their official duties. [22526]

**The Prime Minister:** I have no plans to do so.

### Engagements

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**Mr. Harry Greenway:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [21121]

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### Central Computer Database

**Mr. Cohen:** To ask the Prime Minister what plans there are to create a central computerised database on individuals using the database of the national insurance recording system 2—to be available to other Government Departments; and if he will make a statement. [22540]

**The Prime Minister:** The recently announced replacement of the national insurance recording system—NIRS2—does not include any plans to create a separate computer database on individuals, nor does it involve extending access arrangements to the NIRS2 database to other than existing users of the current NIRS system.

### Churchill Documents

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister, pursuant to his oral answer of 27 April to the right hon. Member for Yeovil (Mr. Ashdown), *Official Report*, column 978, what steps he has taken to establish whether the papers sold by the Churchill family to the national heritage memorial fund were at any time covered by the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts. [22423]

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It is my policy that in future material removed from official custody at the end of an Administration should contain no official material other than that which is already in the public domain.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister in what circumstances a document subject when originated to the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts may be classified other than a state paper. [22527]

**The Prime Minister:** Documents originating from other than official sources, and which contain official information that should not be disclosed, come within the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts but are not state papers.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister (1) if retired Ministers are required to submit their memoirs for approval under the Official Secrets Acts before publication; [22531]

(2) if the right hon. Nigel Lawson submitted his memoirs for approval under the official Secrets Acts before publication, with particular reference to mention of the Governor of the Bank of England. [22622]

**The Prime Minister:** There is no requirement for former Ministers to submit their memoirs under the Official Secrets Acts before publication. The report of the Committee of Privy Counsellors on Ministerial Memoirs, Cmnd. 7386, recommended that former Ministers who wished to make public an account bearing on their ministerial life should let the Secretary of the Cabinet see in advance the full text of what they propose to say. The Cabinet Secretary offers advice to the author of the text, including on whether it contains material contravening the requirements of national security.

My right hon. and noble Friend Lord Lawson submitted his memoirs to the Cabinet Secretary in the normal way, without any particular reference.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will refer to the Nolan committee the propriety of

Ministers or their heirs retaining and using for private gain information or documents acquired in the course of their official duties. [22526]

**The Prime Minister:** I have no plans to do so.

### Engagements

**Sir Peter Tapsell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [21122]

**Mr. Harry Greenway:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [21121]

**The Prime Minister:** This morning I presided at a meeting of the Cabinet and had meetings with ministerial colleagues and others. In addition to my duties in this House, I shall be having further meetings later today.

### Central Computer Database

**Mr. Cohen:** To ask the Prime Minister what plans there are to create a central computerised database on individuals using the database of the national insurance recording system 2—to be available to other Government Departments; and if he will make a statement. [22540]

**The Prime Minister:** The recently announced replacement of the national insurance recording system—NIRS2—does not include any plans to create a separate computer database on individuals, nor does it involve extending access arrangements to the NIRS2 database to other than existing users of the current NIRS system.

### Churchill Documents

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister, pursuant to his oral answer of 27 April to the right hon. Member for Yeovil (Mr. Ashdown), *Official Report*, column 978, what steps he has taken to establish whether the papers sold by the Churchill family to the national heritage memorial fund were at any time covered by the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts. [22423]

**The Prime Minister:** Churchill college has been advised on which papers in the Churchill archive can be released to researchers and which need to be withheld.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister what steps the Government took to purchase the annotated eight-page typescript of Sir Winston Churchill's El Alamein speech sold by Sotheby's in December 1994; and whether this is included in the Churchill documents purchased by the national heritage memorial fund. [22421]

**The Prime Minister:** The manuscript to which the hon. Member refers was sold by a private owner and was one of many which Sir Winston Churchill gave away during his lifetime. At no time did it form part of the Churchill archive and it does not do so now. It is for the national institutions which maintain archives to decide whether to commit funds to the purchase of papers which appear on the open market.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister how many of the papers sold by the Churchill family to the national heritage memorial fund are to be found in the Public Record Office in their original or a duplicate form; and what copyright fees have to be paid to the Churchill family when such documents in either location are reproduced. [22525]



**Mr. Dorrell:** I have no plans to change the present level of Government support for the acceptance in lieu scheme. This scheme, together with all my Department's spending commitments, is, however, being examined in our fundamental expenditure review. This is currently in progress and I cannot at this stage anticipate its findings.

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Lab - Great Grimsby

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It is my policy that in future material removed from official custody at the end of an Administration should contain no official material other than that which is already in the public domain.



Ordinary written question

For answer on

Answered on

Lab - Great Grimsby

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To ask the Prime Minister, if he will make it his policy to ensure that documents originated or acquired by Ministers in the course of their official duties are not sold by them or by their heirs and assigns.

DRAFT REPLY - with Sir R Butler's suggested amendments in ms.

It is the Crown's position that documents originated or acquired by Ministers by virtue of their office are Crown property and may not be sold by their heirs and assigns.

By convention, however, Prime Ministers, on leaving office, have taken with them copies of <sup>certain</sup> documents which they dealt with personally whilst in office. These include some documents originated or acquired by them in the course of their official duties. This convention has not applied to Ministers other than former Prime Ministers. <sup>Former Prime Ministers are not</sup>

<sup>The way in which former PM's or their heirs & assigns may dispose</sup> ~~debarred from selling such papers~~

of such papers depends on the circumstances of each case. It is my policy that in future material removed from official custody at the end of an Administration should contain no official material other than that which is already in the public domain.

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Ordinary written question

For answer on

Answered on

Lab - Great Grimsby

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It is the Crown's position that documents originated or acquired by Ministers by virtue of their office are Crown property and may not be sold by their heirs and assigns.

By convention, however, Prime Ministers, on leaving office, have taken with them copies of <sup>copies</sup> documents which they dealt with personally whilst in office. These include some documents originated or acquired by them in the course of their official duties. ~~The question~~ This convention has not applied to Ministers other than former Prime Ministers.

*The way in which or how they and assigns <sup>whether</sup> dispose of such papers depends on the circumstances of each case.*

It is my policy that in future material removed from official custody at the end of an Administration should contain no official material other than that which is already in the public domain.

*(Former Prime Ministers are not deterred from selling such)*



## BACKGROUND NOTE

By convention outgoing Prime Ministers have been allowed to take away with them (or have stored for them) certain categories of papers, including copies of official papers relating to their period(s) of office as Prime Minister. These have been described variously as "personal", "private" and/or "the No 10 papers". The last description distinguishes between these papers and the Cabinet and Cabinet Committee papers to which a former Prime Minister like other Ministers, may have personal access after relinquishing office, but may not take away.

This convention does not apply to Ministers other than former Prime Ministers. Ministers are not entitled to remove documents originated or acquired by virtue of their office; it follows that they are not entitled to sell them.

In 1991 the Prime Minister agreed that the terms "personal" and/or "private" should be defined more precisely than in the past so that material removed from official custody at the end of an Administration would contain no official material other than that which, like speeches and copies of letters sent to members of the public, is already in the public domain.



**The Prime Minister:** The papers purchased by the national heritage memorial fund are the non-state papers. They are not normally to be found in the Public Record Office in either original or duplicate form. Copyright in the papers purchased by the national heritage memorial fund is a matter for the copyright owners.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister whether he will request the trustees of the national lottery fund to hand back the Churchill papers to the family in return for the money they have received. [22419]

**The Prime Minister:** No. The integrity of the Churchill archive has now been secured for the nation by the purchase of the non-state papers from the Churchill family and by the transfer of the state papers similarly to Churchill college.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will make it his policy to reduce the fees charged for access to, and reproduction of the Churchill papers; and if he will publish the proposed scale of charges. [22420]

**The Prime Minister:** No fees are levied on access to the Churchill papers at Churchill college. Reproduction is a matter for the copyright owners as is the question of charges. A licence has been granted which waives the copyright fee in respect of the reproduction of Crown copyright material for the purposes of research and private study. Other charges, for example the commercial use of the papers, will be levied in accordance with normal practice.

#### Civil Servants

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister whether civil servants who have been allowed to publish material which relies in any particular on what they have learnt or done in the course of their employment by the Crown are expected to hand to the Crown any profit derived by the author from the publication. [22424]

**The Prime Minister:** The extent to which a civil servant may be required to account to the Crown for any profit made from such publication will depend on whether the author produced all or part of the work during official time and whether the work is based on or otherwise used Crown copyright material.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister in what circumstances civil servants may publish without prior approval any material based directly or indirectly on what they have learnt or done in the course of their employment by the Crown. [22422]

**The Prime Minister:** Civil servants must clear in advance material for publication which draws on official material or experience.

**Mr. Milburn:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list the individual value of each (a) compulsory early retirement and (b) flexible early retirement package received by civil servants leaving his Department on grounds of limited efficiency in each of the last five years. [22092]

**The Prime Minister [holding answer 2 May 1995]:** For these purposes my office is part of the Cabinet Office—Office of Public Service and Science. I refer the hon. Member to the reply given today by my right hon. Friend the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

#### Hospitality

**Mr. Tony Banks:** To ask the Prime Minister how much was spent on official hospitality in his official capacities in the financial year 1994–95. [21215]

**The Prime Minister [holding answer 1 May 1995]:** The provisional total is £30,000

#### Rules of Succession

**Mr. Mackinlay:** To ask the Prime Minister (1) in which country of which Her Majesty is Head of State the inheritance of the Crown is prohibited to adherents of certain religions; [20852]

(2) in which countries of which Her Majesty the Queen is Head of State (a) the oldest child and (b) the oldest male child of the monarch succeed to the throne. [20853]

**The Prime Minister [holding answer 25 April 1995]:** I am not aware that any other Commonwealth realm has rules relating to the succession to the throne.

#### WALES

##### Equal Opportunities

**Ms Eagle:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what progress has been made within his Department on equal opportunities matters. [21471]

**Mr. Redwood:** My Department has a full programme to promote equal opportunities for all staff. It includes detailed programmes of action for women, for staff with a disability and for staff from ethnic minorities. Progress is monitored continuously and a report produced annually. Monitoring shows, for example, that the proportion of women in middle and senior management grades is increasing.

##### Green Barriers

**Mr. Barry Jones:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what is his policy concerning green barriers. [22112]

**Mr. Gwilym Jones:** Green barriers are a matter for local planning authorities, which may if they wish include proposals for such areas in their development plans together with appropriate policies.

##### Green Belts

**Mr. Barry Jones:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what is his policy concerning green belts; and if he will make a statement. [22113]

**Mr. Gwilym Jones:** It is for local planning authorities to decide whether green belts are necessary and useful within their area. It is then for an authority to promote a green belt through the development plan system allowing public consultation and discussion of both the principle and the detail of any proposals in the context of the whole plan.

##### Wales TUC

**Mr. Barry Jones:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales when he last met the Wales TUC; and if he will make a statement. [22115]



OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0645

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 3 MAY 1995  
ANSWERED ON 4 MAY 1995

Lab - Great Grimsby

78            Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, in what circumstances civil servants may publish without prior approval any material based directly or indirectly on what they have learnt or done in the course of their employment by the Crown. (22422)

PRIME MINISTER

Civil Servants must clear in advance material for publication which draws on official information or experience.



OPSS/1994/95-1-0645

Ordinary written question

For answer on

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Lab - Great Grimsby

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Civil Servants must clear in advance material for publication which draws on official information or experience.

R&R



BACKGROUND NOTE

The Answers to two Questions from Mr Austin Mitchell (Nos 75 and 78 on the Order Paper) about publications by civil servants based on material to which they have had access during the course of their employment are drawn from the guidance given in the Civil Service Management Code, Section 4.2 (extract attached).



**CIVIL SERVICE MANAGEMENT CODE - PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT**

## **4.2 Confidentiality and Official Information**

### **Rules**

**4.2.1** Departments and agencies must remind staff on appointment, retirement or resignation that they are bound by the provisions of the criminal law, including the Official Secrets Acts, which protect certain categories of official information, and by their duty of confidentiality owed to the Crown as their former employer.

### **Standards of conduct to be reflected in local staff regulations**

**4.2.2** Civil servants are expected to be prepared to make available official information which is not held in confidence within Government, in accordance with Government policy and departmental or agency instructions. They must not, without relevant authorisation, disclose official information which has been communicated in confidence within Government or received in confidence from others.

**4.2.3** Civil servants must continue to observe this duty of confidentiality after they have left Crown employment.

**4.2.4** Civil servants must not take part in any activities or make any public statement which might involve the disclosure of official information or draw upon experience gained in their official capacity without the prior approval of their department or agency. They must clear in advance material for publication, broadcasts or other public discussion which draws on official information or experience.

**4.2.5** Civil servants must not publish or broadcast personal memoirs reflecting their experience in Government, or enter into commitments to do so, whilst in Crown employment. The permission of the Head of their Department and the Head of the Home Civil Service must be sought before entering into commitments to publish such memoirs after leaving the service.

**4.2.6** Civil servants must not seek to frustrate the policies or decisions of Ministers by the use or disclosure outside the Government of any information to which they have had access as civil servants.

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OPSS/1994/95-1-0644

Ordinary written question

For answer on

Answered on

Lab - Great Grimsby

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1803



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My right hon. and noble Friend Lord Lawson submitted his memoirs to the Cabinet Secretary in the normal way, without any particular reference.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will refer to the Nolan committee the propriety of

Ministers or their heirs retaining and using for private gain information or documents acquired in the course of their official duties. [22526]

**The Prime Minister:** I have no plans to do so.

### Engagements

**Sir Peter Tapsell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [21122]

**Mr. Harry Greenway:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [21121]

**The Prime Minister:** This morning I presided at a meeting of the Cabinet and had meetings with ministerial colleagues and others. In addition to my duties in this House, I shall be having further meetings later today.

### Central Computer Database

**Mr. Cohen:** To ask the Prime Minister what plans there are to create a central computerised database on individuals using the database of the national insurance recording system 2—to be available to other Government Departments; and if he will make a statement. [22540]

**The Prime Minister:** The recently announced replacement of the national insurance recording system—NIRS2—does not include any plans to create a separate computer database on individuals, nor does it involve extending access arrangements to the NIRS2 database to other than existing users of the current NIRS system.

### Churchill Documents

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister, pursuant to his oral answer of 27 April to the right hon. Member for Yeovil (Mr. Ashdown), *Official Report*, column 978, what steps he has taken to establish whether the papers sold by the Churchill family to the national heritage memorial fund were at any time covered by the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts. [22423]

**The Prime Minister:** Churchill college has been advised on which papers in the Churchill archive can be released to researchers and which need to be withheld.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister what steps the Government took to purchase the annotated eight-page typescript of Sir Winston Churchill's El Alamein speech sold by Sotheby's in December 1994; and whether this is included in the Churchill documents purchased by the national heritage memorial fund. [22421]

**The Prime Minister:** The manuscript to which the hon. Member refers was sold by a private owner and was one of many which Sir Winston Churchill gave away during his lifetime. At no time did it form part of the Churchill archive and it does not do so now. It is for the national institutions which maintain archives to decide whether to commit funds to the purchase of papers which appear on the open market.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister how many of the papers sold by the Churchill family to the national heritage memorial fund are to be found in the Public Record Office in their original or a duplicate form; and what copyright fees have to be paid to the Churchill family when such documents in either location are reproduced. [22525]



OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0642

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 3 MAY 1995  
ANSWERED ON 4 MAY 1995

Lab - Great Grimsby

70 Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, pursuant to his oral Answer of 27 April to the Right Honourable Member for Yeovil, Official Report column 978, what steps he has taken to establish whether the papers sold by the Churchill family to the National Heritage Fund were at any time covered by the provisions of the official secrets acts. (22423)

**PRIME MINISTER**

Churchill College have been advised on which papers in the Churchill Archive can be released to researchers and which need to be withheld.



OPSS/1994/95-1-0642

Ordinary written question

For answer on

Answered on

Lab - Great Grimsby

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**DRAFT REPLY**

Churchill College have been advised on which papers in the Churchill Archive can be released to researchers and which need to be withheld.

FERS.



Ordinary written question

For answer on

Answered on

Lab - Great Grimsby

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To ask the Prime Minister, pursuant to his oral Answer of 27 April to the Right Honourable Member for Yeovil, Official Report column 978, what steps he has taken to establish whether the papers sold by the Churchill family to the National Heritage Fund were at any time covered by the provisions of the official secrets acts.

DRAFT REPLY

The papers sold by the Churchill family were the non-State papers. As I said in my Answer to which the Hon Member refers, the Government decided that the State papers should be transferred to Churchill College at the same time.

Churchill College have been advised on which papers, <sup>in the Churchill Archive</sup> ~~originally classified under the Official Secrets Act,~~ can be released to researchers and which ~~papers~~ <sup>need to</sup> be withheld.



BACKGROUND NOTE

In his reply to the Right Honourable Member for Yeovil, Mr Paddy Ashdown MP, the Prime Minister made it clear that the papers purchased by the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) were the personal or non-State papers and that the Government had decided at the same time to transfer the state papers, similarly, to Churchill College.

The reply to Mr Austin Mitchell's Question about whether the papers purchased by the NHMF were at any time covered by the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts draws on the earlier reply for which the Hansard Extract is attached. (Oral Answers 27 April 1995, Col 978).



## PRIME MINISTER

## Engagements

**Q1. Mr. John Greenway:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 27 April. [19637]

**The Prime Minister (Mr. John Major):** This morning, I presided at a meeting of the Cabinet and had meetings with ministerial colleagues and others. In addition to my duties in the House, I shall be having further meetings later today.

**Mr. Greenway:** Would my right hon. Friend care to comment on the council tax levels set by the district councils in my area for middle-range band D house? Labour York is charging £101, a 21 per cent. increase; Liberal Democrat Ryedale is charging £78, a massive 57 per cent. increase, while in neighbouring Conservative Hambleton, householders are getting a £32 refund. Does that not show that Labour remains the high-tax party; that a protest vote for the Liberal Democrats can prove very expensive and that people are better off under the Tories?

**The Prime Minister:** I can confirm what my hon. Friend has said. Examples similar to those that he has given can be found right around the country. The Labour party has sought repeatedly during the local election campaign to mislead people with comparisons on council tax, but it knows, as everyone else should know, that, band for band, like for like, Conservative councils are infinitely cheaper than Labour councils and substantially cheaper than Liberal Democrat councils.

**Mr. Blair:** Can the Prime Minister sympathise in any way with the anger of nurses, who will be paid differently for the same job, according not to their performance, but to the money in the hospital trust?

**The Prime Minister:** We have done for nurses precisely what they asked of us. We have provided them with their own review body and met in full its recommendations. That is something that no previous Government were prepared to give nurses. We have given them that. A great many nurses have now accepted the national settlement, to which, of course, must be added the local settlements.

**Mr. Blair:** The Prime Minister is surely aware that the review body set a national figure and that it included the local component because of Government pressure to do so. He therefore cannot shuffle off responsibility on to it. Is not the effect of Government policy on the health service now to pit nurse against nurse, hospital against hospital, doctor against doctor? The result will be to divide and rule and the commercialisation, demoralisation and break-up of the health service, when people want to see the national health service run as a proper national service for the people.

**The Prime Minister:** No Government at any stage have funded the health service as generously in terms of pay or other aspects of it as we do. Set against what the right hon. Gentleman has just had to say, can he perhaps explain whether it is fair or unfair that nurses' pay has risen by an average 78 per cent. in the past six years, which is twice as fast as the economy as a whole? Does he also recall that, under the Labour Government, nurses pay actually fell— It did not even maintain its value—it

fell? Since then, it has increased by 78 per cent., and nurses have, as they have always sought, an independent pay review body that is, I remind the right hon. Gentleman, independent.

**Q2. Mr. Clappison:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 27 April. [19638]

**The Prime Minister:** I refer my hon. Friend to the reply that I gave some moments ago.

**Mr. Clappison:** Does my right hon. Friend agree that those who are indulging in political knockabout on the subject of tower blocks are ducking the real issue, which is how we can help the people who live in tower blocks? Will my right hon. Friend urge all local councils to co-operate with the Government in getting rid of tower blocks?

**The Prime Minister:** I quite agree with my hon. Friend. Yesterday, I tackled serious issues that affect the lives of many people in inner cities. As a smokescreen at that time, the hon. Member for Holborn and St. Pancras (Mr. Dobson) issued a press release purporting to represent my record at Lambeth council. Even a cursory checking would have shown the hon. Gentleman that every aspect of that press release was a falsehood.

It is, of course, more than a quarter of a century ago, so I have had the facts checked. The buildings for which I am supposed to have been responsible were designed and approved by the Labour council, before I was elected to the council, let alone became housing chairman. The Leader of the Opposition may well shift uneasily in his seat. He speaks of higher standards in politics and he allows the Labour party to indulge in falsehoods, day after day.

**Mr. Ashdown:** Would not the Prime Minister's great predecessor, Winston Churchill, turn in his grave if he knew how much of the public's money was now being spent to purchase his state papers, while investment in the nation's real assets—our children and their education—is being cut to ribbons by the present Government?

**The Prime Minister:** The right hon. Gentleman, I am afraid, has his facts entirely wrong about the state papers. What were purchased were the personal papers of Sir Winston, which could have been freely sold to any number of buyers, and which Sir Winston had decreed, through his trustees, should go to his subsequent descendants. It is those papers that have been purchased.

The archive, as a whole, includes state papers and personal papers, many of which have no connection whatsoever with Sir Winston's time in Government. The personal papers could have been freely sold to any number of buyers. It was to maintain the archive intact that the national heritage memorial fund, which is independent, decided to fund the purchase of the personal papers from the Churchill family trustees. The Government decided at the same time to transfer the state papers, similarly, to Churchill college.

There is no question whatever of lottery money having been used to purchase papers that are the property of the state, and the right hon. Gentleman was wrong in his remarks.

**Mr. Jenkin:** May I draw my right hon. Friend's attention to the rather nasty and vindictive policy being pursued by the Lib-Lab pact on Essex county council,



OPSS/1994/95-1-0642

Ordinary written question

For answer on

Answered on

Lab - Great Grimsby

70 Mr Austin Mitchell

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*nm - State papers*

DRAFT REPLY

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*say this does not answer the Q and*

*Sir R Butler suggests:-*

*Churchill College have been advised on which papers in the Churchill Archive can be released to researchers and which need to be withheld*

*come Archive as State*

*PMA suggests as an alternative:-*

*A review was undertaken prior to the completion of negotiations to establish that only non-State papers were included in the sale.*



**Mr. Dorrell:** I have no plans to change the present level of Government support for the acceptance in lieu scheme. This scheme, together with all my Department's spending commitments, is, however, being examined in our fundamental expenditure review. This is currently in progress and I cannot at this stage anticipate its findings.

## PRIME MINISTER

### Ministerial Documents

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will make it his policy to ensure that documents originated or acquired by Ministers in the course of their official duties are not sold by them or their heirs and assigns. [22621]

**The Prime Minister:** By convention, Prime Ministers, on leaving office, have taken with them copies of certain documents which they dealt with personally while in office. These include some documents originated or acquired by them in the course of their official duties. This convention has not applied to Ministers other than former Prime Ministers. The extent to which former Prime Ministers or their heirs and assigns may dispose of such papers, and how, depends on the circumstances of each case.

It is my policy that in future material removed from official custody at the end of an Administration should contain no official material other than that which is already in the public domain.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister in what circumstances a document subject when originated to the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts may be classified other than a state paper. [22527]

**The Prime Minister:** Documents originating from other than official sources, and which contain official information that should not be disclosed, come within the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts but are not state papers.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister (1) if retired Ministers are required to submit their memoirs for approval under the Official Secrets Acts before publication; [22531]

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My right hon. and noble Friend Lord Lawson submitted his memoirs to the Cabinet Secretary in the normal way, without any particular reference.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will refer to the Nolan committee the propriety of

Ministers or their heirs retaining and using for private gain information or documents acquired in the course of their official duties. [22526]

**The Prime Minister:** I have no plans to do so.

### Engagements

**Sir Peter Tapsell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [21122]

**Mr. Harry Greenway:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Thursday 4 May. [21121]

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### Central Computer Database

**Mr. Cohen:** To ask the Prime Minister what plans there are to create a central computerised database on individuals using the database of the national insurance recording system 2—to be available to other Government Departments; and if he will make a statement. [22540]

**The Prime Minister:** The recently announced replacement of the national insurance recording system—NIRS2—does not include any plans to create a separate computer database on individuals, nor does it involve extending access arrangements to the NIRS2 database to other than existing users of the current NIRS system.

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**The Prime Minister:** The manuscript to which the hon. Member refers was sold by a private owner and was one of many which Sir Winston Churchill gave away during his lifetime. At no time did it form part of the Churchill archive and it does not do so now. It is for the national institutions which maintain archives to decide whether to commit funds to the purchase of papers which appear on the open market.

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OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0640

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 3 MAY 1995  
ANSWERED ON 4 MAY 1995

Lab - Great Grimsby

68            Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, in what circumstances a document subject when originated to the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts may be classified other than as a state paper.        (22527)

**PRIME MINISTER**

Documents originating from other than official sources, and which contain official information that should not be disclosed, come within the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts but are not State papers.



OPSS/1994/95-1-0640

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For answer on

Answered on

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18/08



## BACKGROUND NOTE

The Official Secrets Act are concerned with the unauthorised disclosure of information affecting the national interest in a specified way rather than in the status of documents. The Act applies to Crown Servants, Government contractors and to others who have, or have had, official information in their possession. The Act applies also to persons who have been members of the security and intelligence services or have been notified that they are subject to the provisions of the Act, even if no damage is caused by disclosure.

An official document may carry a security classification or privacy marking in order to ensure the secure handling of the information which the document contains. However, the security classification and privacy marking system is not a guide to whether or not material is covered by the Official Secrets Act. Similarly, not all information that Crown Servants are required to hold in confidence will be protected by classification or a privacy marking.

Examples of documents originating from non-official sources that would be subject to the provisions of the Official Secrets Act but which are not State papers are:-

- an internal document produced by a firm that has had access to official information,
- a letter from a member of the public alleging activities by another member of the public that are in breach of the Official Secrets Acts.



**Mr. Dorrell:** I have no plans to change the present level of Government support for the acceptance in lieu scheme. This scheme, together with all my Department's spending commitments, is, however, being examined in our fundamental expenditure review. This is currently in progress and I cannot at this stage anticipate its findings.

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OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0641  
0643

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 3 MAY 1995  
ANSWERED ON 4 MAY 1995

Lab - Great Grimsby

69            Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, if retired Ministers are required to submit their memoirs for approval under the Official Secrets Acts before publication. (22622)

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Mr Lawson submitted his memoirs to the Cabinet Secretary under the Radcliffe principles in the normal way, without any particular reference.



OPSS/1994/95-1-0643

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON WEDNESDAY 3 MAY 1995

Lab - Great Grimsby  
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Mr Lawson submitted his memoirs to the Cabinet Secretary under the Radcliffe principles in the normal way, without any particular reference.

13/83





CABINET OFFICE

Miss Andrews

With the compliments of  
The Private Secretary to the  
*Secretary of the Cabinet*

for information, in case you  
didn't see these.

Stephanie.

70 Whitehall, London SW1A 2AS  
Telephone 071-270 0101







justified, in the absence of alternative regulatory arrangements offering equivalent protection. I do not therefore propose to make any change at the present time.

#### GPs' and Consultants' Earnings

**Mr. Peter Bottomley:** To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he will estimate the effects of income tax at the rates of 1978 and 1995 on the average general practitioner's and on the average NHS consultant's earnings. [21741]

**Sir George Young:** Based on expected levels of average net incomes for general practitioners providing general medical services in 1994-95, a single GP will pay over £65 a week less income tax in 1995-96 than under a 1978-79 indexed tax regime. In addition, a GP could also earn income from non-GMS sources. For the purposes of the calculation, it has been assumed that the GP has no tax allowances or reliefs except for the basic personal allowance.

It is not possible to produce a comparable estimate for consultants because the latest available data relate to 1991-92 levels of earnings.

#### Retail Prices Indexes

**Mrs. Jane Kennedy:** To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer what proportion of the retail prices index is comprised of water rates; and how the weighting of water rates within the retail prices index has changed over the last five years. [22544]

**Mr. Nelson [holding answer 4 May 1995]:** The information requested is available in table A3 of the publication "Retail Prices Index February 1995"; CSO "Business Monitor" MM23, a copy of which is available in the Library.

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**Mr. Mackinlay:** To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer how frequently and by what methods the Inland Revenue makes audits of drivers working at the unlicensed private hire or mini-cab firms within Greater London; and if he will make a statement. [21172]

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##### Churchill Documents

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will set up an independent committee to examine the history of the ownership of the papers which the Churchill family have sold to the national heritage memorial fund; and if the family has a right to charge for their reproduction. [22528]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I will not be setting up an independent committee to examine the history of ownership of the papers which have been acquired for Churchill college, Cambridge through lottery funds distributed by the national heritage memorial fund.

Subject to the fair dealing and any other available exceptions in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, it is for the copyright owners to license reproductions of copyright material and to charge for such reproductions if they think it appropriate. The owners of the copyright in the non-state papers sold to Churchill college retain this right in those papers but have granted a licence to enable the papers to be copied without payment of a royalty in the circumstances referred to in sections 37 to 43 of the 1988 Act—copying by libraries and archives. The Crown has retained similar rights in respect of the state papers and has also granted a similar licence.

**Mr. Fisher:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage (1) if he will publish the names of those people who advised the national heritage memorial fund on the valuation of the Churchill papers; [22117]

(2) if he will publish both the identities of the valuers and their valuation advice for all future purchases financed by the national heritage memorial fund; [22118]

(3) if he will publish all the valuation advice received by the national heritage memorial fund. [22119]

**Mr. Dorrell [holding answer 2 May 1995]:** This is a matter for the national heritage memorial fund, which is an independent body. I understand, however, that the chairman has written to the hon. Member. I have asked him to place copies of his letter in the Library of the House.



**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage who will grant requests to reproduce documents purchased from the Churchill family by the national heritage memorial fund; and what steps will be taken to ensure that the family do not charge for the reproduction of any document at any time covered by the Official Secrets Acts. [22623]

**Mr. Dorrell:** Permission to reproduce the documents from the Churchill archive for commercial purposes will have to be sought from the copyright owners. Copyright in the non-state papers is vested in the Churchill family; copyright in the state paper is vested in the Crown.

Any person who wishes to reproduce for commercial purposes a work in which copyright subsists must ensure that he or she has the appropriate permission.

## FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS

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**Mr. Foulkes:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what is his estimate of the number of refugees from Haiti currently on the Turks and Caicos Islands; what action is being taken to capture and contain them; what further action he proposes to deal with their return; and if he will make a statement. [22428]

**Mr. Baldry:** There are no accurate figures for the number of Haitian migrants in the Turks and Caicos Islands—TCI. The total Haitian population in the territory is estimated to be around 8,000 of whom 1,500 hold work permits.

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The TCI Government have negotiated a draft agreement with the Haitian Government on the orderly repatriation of Haitians identified as economic migrants by the registration project.

Meanwhile the surge in illegal Haitian immigration into the TCI over Easter has forced the TCI Government to conduct regular immigration sweeps to identify, screen and repatriate recent arrivals in advance of any registration project.

In parallel, the TCI authorities are seeking to prevent further undetected arrivals of illegal immigrants with the temporary support of the West Indies guardship and units of the US coast guard.

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**Mr. Baldry:** There have been a number of exchanges. Most recently our consul-general in Los Angeles pressed the San Diego authorities on 8 February 1994 for information from the medical examiner's records for the United Kingdom coroner. The San Diego county sheriff has said he will release the medical examiner's report as soon as his investigation is concluded. The consul-general is keeping in touch with the San Diego authorities.

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**Mr. Baldry:** The Spiro family died in the United States of America and it is for the authorities of that country to pursue investigations into the incident.

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**Mr. Foulkes:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what plans he has to deal with the Cuban refugees currently remaining on the Cayman islands; what discussions he has with the Governments of the United States and Cuba to try to prevent further exodus of Cubans to the Cayman islands; and if he will make a statement. [22426]

**Mr. Baldry:** I refer the hon. Member to the statement issued on 2 May by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The decision to repatriate any future Cuban migrants who fail the refugee screening process in the Cayman islands was taken with the full agreement of the Cuban Government. The United States Government have now announced a similar policy.

**Mr. Foulkes:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what is his estimate of the cost of the United Kingdom police sent to the Cayman islands to help deal with the Cuban refugees; how this is to be met; and if he will make a statement. [22427]

**Mr. Baldry:** The cost of deploying United Kingdom police to the Cayman islands, including transport, is estimated to be £375,000. It will be met in full by the Cayman islands Government.

**Mr. Foulkes:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what estimate he has made of the total cost of the Cuban refugees on the Cayman islands including any repatriation and the costs of keeping those who are housed at Guantanamo; how he plans such costs should be met; what discussions he has had with the Government of the United States about their responsibilities for the costs involved; and if he will make a statement. [22425]

**Mr. Baldry:** The total cost to date is approximately £2.7 million, the majority of which has been met by the Cayman islands Government. We have spent £175,000 in providing material and technical assistance. We are also pursuing the possibility of EU funding for the continuing cost to the Cayman islands Government.

The US Government agreed in December 1994 to offer up to 900 places in their safe haven at Guantanamo bay for Cuban migrants who volunteer to transfer from the Caymans. A total of 723 have so far done so. The Cayman islands Government agreed to meet the cost of transferring and supporting these migrants in Guantanamo bay. Subsistence costs in Guantanamo are US\$10 per



justified, in the absence of alternative regulatory arrangements offering equivalent protection. I do not therefore propose to make any change at the present time.

#### GPs' and Consultants' Earnings

**Mr. Peter Bottomley:** To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he will estimate the effects of income tax at the rates of 1978 and 1995 on the average general practitioner's and on the average NHS consultant's earnings. [21741]

**Sir George Young:** Based on expected levels of average net incomes for general practitioners providing general medical services in 1994-95, a single GP will pay over £65 a week less income tax in 1995-96 than under a 1978-79 indexed tax regime. In addition, a GP could also earn income from non-GMS sources. For the purposes of the calculation, it has been assumed that the GP has no tax allowances or reliefs except for the basic personal allowance.

It is not possible to produce a comparable estimate for consultants because the latest available data relate to 1991-92 levels of earnings.

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**Mr. Dorrell:** The financial and other relationships between S4C and Teledwyr Annibynol Cymru form part of the terms of reference of the study my Department has commissioned from Mr. John Beastall.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage on how many occasions in the last year he has formally met the chairman of S4C to discuss the affairs of the authority. [22637]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I have formally met the chairman of S4C once in the last year.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list all meetings between his Department and officials of S4C since January 1994. [22635]

**Mr. Dorrell:** Since January 1994, my Department has held formal meetings with S4C on three occasions: 16 March 1994, 1 July 1994 and 8 March 1995. My officials responsible for broadcasting matters are, of course, in regular contact with S4C.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list by grade those of his officials whose duties are related solely to S4C. [22638]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I have no officials whose duties are related solely to S4C.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list by grade the staff in his Department whose duties involve S4C who are able to conduct their responsibilities through the medium of Welsh. [22636]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I have no staff whose duties involve S4C who are able to conduct their responsibilities through the medium of Welsh.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what consultation (a) his Department and (b) the Welsh Language Board had with the S4C Authority before S4C's service provision was split; and what was the statutory basis of the decision. [22650]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The Welsh Fourth Channel Authority was established under the Broadcasting Act 1980, and now operates as S4C under the Broadcasting Act 1990. The Government undertook wide consultation prior to the introduction of legislation on both occasions. One of the S4C's statutory duties is to ensure that a substantial proportion of the programmes that it broadcasts are in Welsh and the programmes broadcast between 6.30pm and 10pm each day consist mainly of programmes in Welsh. How it carries out this remit is an editorial matter for S4C.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what were the staffing levels of S4C at 31 March in each year since 1991 and on 31 December 1994. [22825]

**Mr. Dorrell:** S4C publishes figures for the average number of employees in each calendar year in its annual report and accounts, copies of which are laid before Parliament and are in the Library of the House. Figures for the last four years are as follows

1991:	116
1992:	108
1993:	199
1994:	127

The 1994 annual report and accounts have not yet been published.

### Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what were the costs of the investigations instigated by his Department into the alleged misuse of the BS15 for matching private and public funds for the support of the arts. [23014]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The investigation was carried out by Mr. John Beastall, who is a Treasury civil servant. My Department is responsible for travel costs arising from his study. The cost of these is expected to amount to £320.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will make a statement on investigations (a) instigated and (b) evaluated by his Department into the alleged misuse of the BSIS for matching private and public funds for the support of the arts. [23015]

**Mr. Dorrell:** My Department has received the report which I announced on 27 February had been commissioned from Mr. John Beastall, *Official Report*, column 680. Once the findings have been evaluated, I shall make his report available to the House.

Mr. Beastall was asked in his review to take account of reports received by my Department from the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts and from the Welsh Fourth Channel Authority, S4C. He has also drawn on an examination of the relevant records and a series of interviews with staff of S4C and the companies and organisations involved in the applications, conducted, at S4C's request, by Grant Thornton, S4C's auditors.

### Churchill Papers

**Mr. Fisher:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list the names of foreign organisations or individuals who have been (a) negotiating with the trustees or (b) bidding for the Churchill Trust Papers over the past five years. [22945]

**Mr. Dorrell:** This is a matter for the Churchill family trustees.

**Mr. Fisher:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage (1) if he will publish the legal advice he has received on the ownership of copyright of the Churchill papers; [22120]

(2) when his Department began inquiries into the ownership of copyright of the Churchill papers; and at what cost in legal advice and action; [22121]

(3) what advice he has taken on the ownership of copyright of the Churchill papers. [22122]

**Mr. Dorrell [holding answer 2 May 1995]:** The Government have received advice that copyright in state papers belongs to the Crown. It has also been advised that it does not own the copyright in the non-state papers in the Churchill archive.

The Government took advice on these subjects in July 1991 and again in May 1994. The advice cost £3,100 exclusive of VAT.

### Cinema Ownership

**Mr. Cran:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will make it his policy to promote diversity in the ownership of cinemas in the United Kingdom. [21990]

**Mr. Dorrell:** It is not the government's policy to interfere in the ownership of private companies, except in circumstances defined in legislation.



## Staff numbers not employed in entry clearance work—1994–95

	Head of Post	Minister	Counsellor	First Secretary	Second Secretary	Third Secretary	Support	LE	Total
Lagos	1	—	1	3	6	12	5	164	192
Madras	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	20.35	22.35
Moscow	1	1	8	12	19	18	17	113	189
New Delhi	1	1	6	10	10	3	13	286	330
New York	2	—	4	7	8	9	2	102.5	134.5
St Petersburg	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	11	14

## Telephones

**Mr. Donohoe:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what use his Department makes of hand-held and car-based mobile telephones; what were the costs for each financial year of these services since mobile telephones were first introduced to his Department; and how many mobile telephones are currently in use. [23451]

**Mr. Goodlad [holding answer 9 May 1995]:** We supply mobile phones to individuals and departments where this enhances the effectiveness of their work. We cannot provide a breakdown of costs prior to 1993 without incurring disproportionate cost. Costs for the financial years since are:

'1993–94	'1994–95
£	£
80,415	116,302.36

<sup>1</sup> Aid Wing figures not available.

There are 195 handportable sets and 11 car phones in use within the diplomatic and aid wings of the FCO.

**Mr. Donohoe:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what representations his Department has made to the Department of Trade and Industry concerning the need for legislation to prevent the cloning of mobile telephones. [23470]

**Mr. Goodlad [holding answer 9 May 1995]:** Neither the FCO nor the ODA have made representations to the DTI regarding the need for legislation to prevent the cloning of mobile telephones.

**Mr. Donohoe:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what steps his Department has taken to prevent the cloning of telephones being utilised by his Department; and if his Department has discussed this matter with any official agencies. [23456]

**Mr. Goodlad [holding answer 9 May 1995]:** The FCO understands there are no commercially available means to prevent cloning. For its part, the Department has initiated thorough checks of itemized billing to ensure unusual call patterns and excessive costs are highlighted and investigated. Additionally international calls are barred wherever possible.

**Mr. Donohoe:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs how many mobile telephones being utilised by his Department have been cloned during the last 12 months. [23425]

**Mr. Goodlad [holding answer 9 May 1995]:** This Department has had 10 mobile telephones cloned between November 1994 and April 1995. The ODA has had none.

**Mr. Donohoe:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what costs his Department has incurred during the last 12 months as a result of cloning of mobile telephones being utilised by his Department, with particular reference to the making of unauthorised calls. [23491]

**Mr. Goodlad [holding answer 9 May 1995]:** This Department has not incurred any costs for the unauthorised use or reprogramming of cloned telephones. All identified costs—approximately £4,000—have been absorbed by the cellular telephone companies.

## Rwanda

**Mr. Worthington:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what representations he has made to China in respect of arms sales to Rwanda in breach of the United Nations Security Council resolutions. [23616]

**Mr. Douglas Hogg:** None.

The UN sanctions committee has received no evidence of any arms sales by China to Rwanda in breach of the UN arms embargo.

## Central Africa

**Mr. Worthington:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs when the proposed conference on regional problems in Central Africa, as proposed by the UK at the United Nations Council, will take place. [23614]

**Mr. Douglas Hogg:** We recognise the important role of the countries of the region in the search for solutions to this problem in Central Africa. The UN Secretary-General is pursuing proposals for a regional conference on peace and security in the Great Lakes region but no date has yet been set.

## GCHQ Wartime Archive

**Mr. Allason:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what plans he has to authorise the transfer of all GCHQ's remaining wartime archive to Bletchley park. [23414]

**Mr. Hurd:** None. Bletchley park is not an authorised repository for public records. GCHQ will continue to review its holdings of the wartime archives of the Government code and cypher school, for possible release through the Public Records Office.



## Written Answers to Questions

Tuesday 9 May 1995

### CHURCH COMMISSIONERS

#### Pensions

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Right hon. Member for Selby, representing the Church Commissioners, what steps are being taken to maintain the value of pensions to the clergy.

**Mr. Alison:** Clergy pensions are increased in line with the previous year's national minimum stipend. The most recent increase, which took effect on 1 April 1995, was 3.3 per cent.

On the wider issue of the funding of clergy pensions, a joint paper produced by the Central Board of Finance, the Church Commissioners and the Church of England Pensions Board was recently discussed at a national conference with the chairmen and secretaries of diocesan boards of finance. The draft paper will, after further discussion and refinement, be presented to the General Synod in July. It contains proposals for the establishment of a separate funded pension scheme. It is intended that the proposed arrangements will create a firm basis on which to provide continued security for the clergy in their retirement, as well as leaving sufficient funds to support the national ministry, particularly in poorer dioceses and parishes.

### DUCHY OF LANCASTER

#### Directory of Westminster and Whitehall

**Mr. Henderson:** To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster what were the costs of producing and advertising the 1995 *Directory of Westminster and Whitehall*; and how much revenue the Government estimate will be recouped from sales. [22900]

**Mr. Horam:** HMSO has not produced a 1995 *Directory of Westminster and Whitehall*, although a commercial publication bearing that title is believed to be imminent.

#### Training

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23290]

**Mr. Horam:** Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Records Office.

## LORD CHANCELLOR'S DEPARTMENT

### Statute of Westminster

**Mr. Mackinlay:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department, pursuant to his answer of 3 May, column 208, if it is his intention to consult other countries under section 2 of the Statute of Westminster Act 1931 in respect of those aspects of the Regency Act 1937 that are to be varied by the Statute Law (Repeals) Bill [Lords] currently before Parliament; and if he will make a statement. [23167]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** It is not my intention, being advised that no such consultation is necessary or appropriate.

### Public Records

**Mr. Flynn:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department on what occasions in the last 30 years he or his predecessors have authorised the deposit of public records in the Churchill archives; and under what provision of the Public Records Act this was done. [22914]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** Under section 4(1) of the Public Records Act 1958 the Lord Chancellor has the power, now delegated to the Keeper of Public Records, to appoint places of deposit for public records to be kept outside the public Record Office itself. The Churchill archives centre, Cambridge has not been appointed a place of deposit for public records under the Act; it follows that there has been no authorisation under the Act for public records to be deposited there nor are any of the Churchill papers at the Churchill archive centre public records within the meaning of the Act.

## TRANSPORT

### British Transport Police

**Mr. Key:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport if he will make a statement on progress in discussions between his Department and the Home Office on extending the powers and jurisdiction of the British Transport Police. [21565]

**Mr. Watts:** Discussions are continuing.

### Acoustic Fencing (Motorways)

**Mr. Chidgey:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport what new sections of Britain's motorway network will be covered by acoustic fencing in the next year. [22123]

**Mr. Watts:** This is an operational matter for the Highways Agency. I have asked its chief executive to write to the hon. Member.

*Letter from Lawrie Haynes to Mr. David Chidgey, dated 9 May 1995:*

As you know, the Minister for Railways and Roads, Mr John Watts, has asked me to reply to your Parliamentary Question asking the Secretary of State for Transport, what new sections of Britain's motorway network will be covered by acoustic fencing in the next year.

Only schemes which had a start of works prior to April 1995 and are still under construction are included. It is dependent on the contractor's programme and progress.



periods, because otherwise people like the unscrupulous Liberal Democrats will hijack and use them for electioneering purposes?

**Mr. Dorrell:** In these days of propriety, it would be improper for me to intervene in the arguments between Opposition parties. What I will say to the hon. Gentleman is that the announcement of the Sports Council distribution to which he referred was made not during an election period, but on the Friday after the election period was over.

**Mr. Banks:** We dream of getting £680,000 of the lottery in my constituency. I do not mind if the Liberals want to make the announcement first. I am an enthusiastic lottery punter and I look forward to winning the biggy so that I can clear off to the Caribbean, but a feeling exists in the east end that Camelot is creaming off far more than we are. Would it not be possible to have local committees that could take the money that goes into the lottery locally? We could then allocate some of the resources to good causes for the localities, rather than the money coming up to central London so that a bunch of toffs can allocate it to well-heeled Tories.

**Mr. Dorrell:** The hon. Gentleman's ambition to win the lottery and go to the Caribbean is widely shared on his behalf. On the suggestion that there should be local committees to distribute lottery proceeds, the different lottery distributors have set up structures to ensure that they are offered advice about the local scene before decisions are made. That is why the Arts Council takes the advice of the regional arts board, and why the Sports Council takes the advice of regional sports councils in making lottery distribution decisions. However, a national lottery needs to have a distribution process that culminates in an identifiable national distributor and that is subject, of course, to all the normal propriety disciplines imposed by the National Audit Office.

**Mr. Jopling:** Is the Secretary of State aware that Cumbria, despite having 20 applications currently under consideration, has so far received nothing from the sport and arts fund? Will he draw to the attention of the great and good who distribute that money that Cumbria is not an offshore island and that it is time that something is done?

**Mr. Dorrell:** My right hon. Friend is an effective advocate of his constituents' interests. I am sure that his point will be taken on board. My right hon. Friend will understand that a precise regional balance is not sought in each month's allocation but, taking the distribution programme as a whole, my right hon. Friend is right that we must ensure that proper regional balance is observed.

**Mr. Jessel:** Does my right hon. Friend agree that there are far too many reviews? Surely there is no need for any review of the careful, and still-recent, decision of the House that one quarter of the lottery's turnover should go to the five sets of good causes—the arts, heritage, sports, charities and the millennium fund. Will my right hon. Friend refuse to listen to the whiners, whingers, complainers and other small-minded and tiresome persons?

**Mr. Dorrell:** I shall certainly try to avoid listening to small-minded and tiresome persons. I agree wholeheartedly with my hon. Friend that we must allow the guidelines time to work before reaching considered judgments in assessing them. I repeat my original reply—that

the Government will keep the guidelines under review. This is a new project, and clearly it is important that, as it matures, we learn the lessons of our experience.

**Mr. Chris Smith:** Would it not be sensible to remove the existing requirement whereby the main distributive bodies are not allowed to seek applications but must simply sit and receive them? That system leads directly to the sort of disastrous decision taken over the Churchill papers. Surely it would be more sensible to take a more strategic approach, whereby the boards could consult widely with local authorities, business, trade unions and voluntary organisations to identify gaps and a proper pattern of provision.

**Mr. Dorrell:** The hon. Gentleman seems slightly at variance with the hon. Member for Newham, North-West (Mr. Banks), who was anxious that there should clearly be local input in the distribution process. One of the best ways is to ensure, before a lottery award is made, that there is clear evidence that the proposal has widespread and deeply felt local support. The most effective method is to ensure that lottery money is available to support local initiatives rather than engage in a kind of "goslot", which seems to be wanted by the hon. Gentleman.

**9. Mr. Steen:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will make a statement as to the way in which grants from the proceeds of the national lottery will be publicised and the speed with which grants are made by the grant-making body set up for that purpose. [22472]

**Mr. Sproat:** The manner in which national lottery awards are publicised is a matter for each of the 11 independent distributing bodies. Distributing bodies are dealing with applications for funding as quickly as possible, given the need to ensure that their systems and procedures are robust and each application receives due consideration.

**Mr. Steen:** I congratulate the Government on a great success story—another one. The public would like a bit more information. Will my hon. Friend the Minister consider providing information about how much money has already been raised for good causes? The public would also like to know how much money has been given to good causes. Would it not be a good idea if the regulator published a list every month of all the awards made by the five agencies, so that the public could have a one-stop shop printout of all the awards made, without having to approach all the agencies that give them?

**Mr. Sproat:** From memory, I can say that £495 million has been given to good causes, of which almost £60 million has already been allocated. As to my hon. Friend's interesting suggestion of collating information about the recipients of lottery awards and their value, if that were to help the House, I would certainly agree. My Department would do that, rather than the regulator. If the House wanted that information, we would certainly be prepared to place it in the Library at regular intervals.

**Ms Armstrong:** Since much of the publicity surrounding the lottery and allocation from the lottery has not been helpful or in the best interests of this country and how it orders its priorities, is it not time that everything was re-examined? Many charities which have worked for years to raise money and ensure the protection of the most vulnerable in our society are now losing millions of pounds because of the way in which money is provided through the



## Written Answers to Questions

Tuesday 9 May 1995

### CHURCH COMMISSIONERS

#### Pensions

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Right hon. Member for Selby, representing the Church Commissioners, what steps are being taken to maintain the value of pensions to the clergy.

**Mr. Alison:** Clergy pensions are increased in line with the previous year's national minimum stipend. The most recent increase, which took effect on 1 April 1995, was 3.3 per cent.

On the wider issue of the funding of clergy pensions, a joint paper produced by the Central Board of Finance, the Church Commissioners and the Church of England Pensions Board was recently discussed at a national conference with the chairmen and secretaries of diocesan boards of finance. The draft paper will, after further discussion and refinement, be presented to the General Synod in July. It contains proposals for the establishment of a separate funded pension scheme. It is intended that the proposed arrangements will create a firm basis on which to provide continued security for the clergy in their retirement, as well as leaving sufficient funds to support the national ministry, particularly in poorer dioceses and parishes.

### DUCHY OF LANCASTER

#### Directory of Westminster and Whitehall

**Mr. Henderson:** To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster what were the costs of producing and advertising the 1995 *Directory of Westminster and Whitehall*; and how much revenue the Government estimate will be recouped from sales. [22900]

**Mr. Horam:** HMSO has not produced a 1995 *Directory of Westminster and Whitehall*, although a commercial publication bearing that title is believed to be imminent.

#### Training

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23290]

**Mr. Horam:** Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Records Office.

## LORD CHANCELLOR'S DEPARTMENT

### Statute of Westminster

**Mr. Mackinlay:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department, pursuant to his answer of 3 May, column 208, if it is his intention to consult other countries under section 2 of the Statute of Westminster Act 1931 in respect of those aspects of the Regency Act 1937 that are to be varied by the Statute Law (Repeals) Bill [Lords] currently before Parliament; and if he will make a statement. [23167]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** It is not my intention, being advised that no such consultation is necessary or appropriate.

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**Mr. Flynn:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department on what occasions in the last 30 years he or his predecessors have authorised the deposit of public records in the Churchill archives; and under what provision of the Public Records Act this was done. [22914]

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Only schemes which had a start of works prior to April 1995 and are still under construction are included. It is dependent on the contractor's programme and progress.



My right hon. Friend the Prime Minister is currently on an official visit to Moscow as part of the VE day commemorations.

**Sir Peter Tapsell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Tuesday 9 May. [21899]

**Mr. Newton:** I have been asked to reply.

My right hon. Friend the Prime Minister is currently on an official visit to Moscow as part of the VE day commemorations.

#### Bank Holidays

**Mr. Foulkes:** To ask the Prime Minister which of his Ministers has responsibility for designation of bank holidays in (a) Scotland, (b) England, (c) Wales and (d) Northern Ireland. [22820]

**The Prime Minister:** Bank holidays are designated in the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971. Power to vary the specified dates or to designate additional dates is exercisable by Her Majesty by royal proclamation or in the case of Northern Ireland by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. By virtue of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's overall responsibility for the 1971 Act, the Treasury currently co-ordinates advice on any designations for royal proclamation in consultation with other Departments as necessary.

#### St. Paul's Angels' Nursery

**Mr. McNamara:** To ask the Prime Minister if he expects to make a further visit to St. Paul's Angels' nursery before September. [23132]

**The Prime Minister:** I currently have no plans to do so.

#### Public Records

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will introduce legislation to prohibit individuals, acting in a private capacity, from charging for the reproduction of any document or other material produced directly or indirectly in the service of the Crown. [23069]

**The Prime Minister:** No. Such legislation is not necessary. It is already the law, under section 163 of the Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988, that Crown copyright subsists in any work made by an officer or servant of the Crown in the course of his or her duties.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will publish the whole of the correspondence with the Churchill family and their advisers relating to the expenditure of £13.5 million on the purchase of public and other records created during Sir Winston Churchill's periods of office as well as the records of all meetings of the commission with the Churchill Trust to discuss the matter. [23070]

**The Prime Minister:** No, it is not my normal practice to publish private correspondence.

Contrary to the impression given in the question, no public records were purchased. The national lottery memorial fund funded the purchase of non-state papers; the Government have transferred the state papers so that the whole archive is preserved, intact, at Churchill college.

#### Training

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Prime Minister what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23280]

**The Prime Minister:** Training and assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Record Office.

#### TRADE AND INDUSTRY

##### Offshore Oil and Gas Structures

**Mr. Clappison:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade if he intends to publish guidelines relating to the abandonment of offshore oil and gas structures. [23517]

**Mr. Eggar:** The Department issued detailed guidelines on Thursday 4 May. Copies have been placed in the Library of the House.

##### Executive Salaries

**Mr. Norman Hogg:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade what proposals he has to introduce statutory controls over the salaries of senior executives. [21632]

**Mr. Jonathan Evans:** Sir Richard Greenbury's committee is considering the structure within which remuneration for directors of public companies is determined and disclosed. Once it has made its recommendations, the Government will consider whether any of these should be reinforced by legislative change. But executive salary levels and details of remuneration packages are matters for individual companies and their shareholders. It is not for Government to intervene in these decisions or to limit companies' ability to pay competitive salaries.

**Mr. John Owen Jones:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade what proposals he has to introduce statutory controls over the salaries of senior executives. [21634]

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##### Small Businesses

**Mr. Hutton:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade if he will make a statement about his Department's policy towards promoting employment in small businesses. [21644]

**Mr. Page:** The Government fully recognise and appreciate the importance of small businesses to the economy and the vital contribution they make to job creation.



OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0654

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 5 MAY 1995  
ANSWERED ON

Lab - Great Grimsby

125 Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, if he will publish the whole of the correspondence with the Churchill family and their advisers relating to the expenditure of £13.5m on the purchase of public and other records created during Sir Winston Churchill's period of office as well as the records of all meetings of the Commission with the Churchill Trust to discuss the matter.

(23070)

PRIME MINISTER

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OPSS/1994/95-1-0654

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MBG



BACKGROUND NOTE

Mr Austin Mitchell's Parliamentary Question refers to the purchase of "public or other records created during Sir Winston Churchill's period of office". The Answer, as well as stating that it is not normal practice to publish the correspondence relating to the sale/purchase, attempts again to set the record straight on what was purchased by the National Heritage Memorial Fund and what was not.



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OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0653

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 5 MAY 1995  
ANSWERED ON

Lab - Great Grimsby

123            Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, if he will introduce legislation to prohibit individuals, acting in a private capacity, from charging for the reproduction of any document or other material produced directly or indirectly in the service of the Crown.            (23069)

**PRIME MINISTER**

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OPSS/1994/95-1-0653

Ordinary written question

For answer on

Answered on

Lab - Great Grimsby

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RB



BACKGROUND NOTE

As the Answer to Mr Mitchell's Parliamentary Question states, legislation already exists to prevent the circumstances he describes from occurring. Crown Copyright subsists in documents emanating from Crown Service, as described in Section 163 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (copy attached).

It is for the person seeking to use material subject to copyright to ensure that the appropriate permission is sought and, if required, the fee paid to the copyright owner.

Responsibility for Crown Copyright rests with HMSO and the Copyright Act allows for the fee to be waived in certain circumstances.



PART I  
1964 c. 29.

(3) The United Kingdom sector of the continental shelf means the areas designated by order under section 1(7) of the Continental Shelf Act 1964.

British ships,  
aircraft and  
hovercraft.

162.—(1) This Part applies to things done on a British ship, aircraft or hovercraft as it applies to things done in the United Kingdom.

(2) In this section—

1988 c. 12.

“British ship” means a ship which is a British ship for the purposes of the Merchant Shipping Acts (see section 2 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988) otherwise than by virtue of registration in a country outside the United Kingdom; and

“British aircraft” and “British hovercraft” mean an aircraft or hovercraft registered in the United Kingdom.

## CHAPTER X

### MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

#### *Crown and Parliamentary copyright*

Crown copyright.

163.—(1) Where a work is made by Her Majesty or by an officer or servant of the Crown in the course of his duties—

(a) the work qualifies for copyright protection notwithstanding section 153(1) (ordinary requirement as to qualification for copyright protection), and

(b) Her Majesty is the first owner of any copyright in the work.

(2) Copyright in such a work is referred to in this Part as “Crown copyright”, notwithstanding that it may be, or have been, assigned to another person.

(3) Crown copyright in a literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work continues to subsist—

(a) until the end of the period of 125 years from the end of the calendar year in which the work was made, or

(b) if the work is published commercially before the end of the period of 75 years from the end of the calendar year in which it was made, until the end of the period of 50 years from the end of the calendar year in which it was first so published.

(4) In the case of a work of joint authorship where one or more but not all of the authors are persons falling within subsection (1), this section applies only in relation to those authors and the copyright subsisting by virtue of their contribution to the work.

(5) Except as mentioned above, and subject to any express exclusion elsewhere in this Part, the provisions of this Part apply in relation to Crown copyright as to other copyright.

(6) This section does not apply to a work if, or to the extent that, Parliamentary copyright subsists in the work (see sections 165 and 166).

Copyright in Acts  
and Measures.

164.—(1) Her Majesty is entitled to copyright in every Act of Parliament or Measure of the General Synod of the Church of England.





## THE TREASURY SOLICITOR

Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS

Direct Line 0171 210 3450 Direct Fax 0171 210 3503

Office of Public Service & Science Legal Adviser

### MINUTE

**To:** Miss P Andrews  
Cabinet Office  
Historical & Records Section

**From:** Michael Carpenter

**Room:** -

**Date:** 4 May 1995

c.c. Mr P Jenkins

#### Churchill Archive : Austin Mitchell PQs

1. I suggest the following by way of answer to PQ 98:  
*Under the Copyright, Designs & Patents Act 1988 (Section 163)*  
"No. It is already the law that Crown copyright subsists in any work made by an officer or servant of the Crown in the course of his duties."

*9 Leg is not necessary.*

2. As for PQ 100, I understand that the line will be that it is not the practice to publish such correspondence. You may wish to rebut the inference in the question that public records were purchased. I would suggest the following answer;

"No. It would be inconsistent with normal practice to do so. Contrary to the impression given in the question, there was no purchase of documents subject to the Public Records Act 1958". *of public records.*

*M.C.*





**THE TREASURY SOLICITOR****Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS****Direct Line 0171 210 3450 Direct Fax 0171 210 3503****Office of Public Service & Science Legal Adviser****FACSIMILE**

<b>To:</b>	<b>Miss P Andrews Cabinet Office</b>	<b>From:</b>	<b>Michael Carpenter</b>
<b>Dept:</b>	<b>Historical &amp; Records Section</b>	<b>No. of Pages:</b>	<b>2 inclusive</b>
<b>Fax No:</b>	<b>217 6010</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>4 May 1995</b>

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**Re: Churchill Archive : Austin Mitchell PQs**

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**If this facsimile does not reach you in its entirety, please contact my secretary on 0171-210 3006.**





CABINET OFFICE

Miss Andrews

With the compliments of  
The Private Secretary to the  
*Secretary of the Cabinet*

for information.

Stephane

70 Whitehall, London SW1A 2AS  
Telephone 071-270 0101





UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

LIBRARY

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN



**Mr. Sproat:** After initial consultation with staff through formal working parties, my Department published in November 1994 an equal opportunities policy statement and an equal opportunities action plan for 1994-95. The policy statement and action plan are consistent with government policy and have recently been updated to reflect the considerable progress made in this area. The documents underline the Department's commitment to be an equal opportunities employer.

### Tourism

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage (1) what programmes analysis review has been carried out as the value of the expenditure of public money on promoting tourism; [22529]

(2) what contribution is made from public funds to the promotion of tourism in the United Kingdom; for what public purpose or purposes; and if he will publish the available evidence on the return produced. [22522]

**Mr. Dorrell:** This financial year the combined grant-in-aid allocation to the British Tourist Authority and the national tourist boards for England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland is close to £90 million. In addition, local authorities in England spend some £62.7 million annually on direct tourism promotion.

The British Tourist Authority and the English tourist board have evaluation studies attached to all their major programmes. Although it is extremely difficult to establish the link between tourist board activity and tourist spend, research undertaken on behalf of the BTA indicates that its activities may stimulate as much as £10 in incremental revenue per £1 spent.

**Mr. Pendry:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what is his assessment of proposals made by the British Tourist Authority's VAT working group's report for a reduction in the level of value added tax levied on the accommodation sector. [22947]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The report does not take account of all the different costs to business in other member states and therefore I believe does not demonstrate that UK tourism operators are placed at an overall competitive disadvantage because of the level of VAT alone. The Government are working with the industry on a range of measures to improve the competitiveness of British tourism.

**Mr. Pendry:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what representations he has made to other Departments with regard to the report prepared by the British Tourist Authority's VAT working party. [22948]

**Mr. Dorrell:** My right hon. and learned Friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer has received a copy of the final report and is aware of the industry's views.

### Churchill Documents

**Mr. Cohen:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage in what circumstances historians and others wanting to use the Churchill papers, following their purchase for the state, will have to pay a copyright fee; to whom such copyright proceeds would go; what is the estimated amount of such proceeds per annum; and if he will make a statement. [22447]

**Mr. Dorrell:** Anyone wishing to use the Churchill papers for commercial purposes will need to seek permission from the copyright owners. Copyright in the non-state papers is vested in the Churchill family; copyright in the state papers is vested in the Crown. The proceeds go to the copyright owners; it is not possible to estimate the amount per annum of such proceeds as this is entirely dependent upon the use made of the papers.

**Mr. Cohen:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will make a statement on his consultations with the national heritage memorial fund in respect of the decision to purchase the Churchill papers. [22448]

**Mr. Dorrell:** Under the National Lottery etc. Act 1993, the national heritage memorial fund is responsible for distributing 20 per cent. of the net proceeds from the national lottery for expenditure on or connected with the national heritage. Individual funding decisions on applications are made entirely independently of Government. However, once the NHMF had reached its decision to fund the purchase of the non-state papers in the archive, the Government chose to transfer the state papers in the archive to Churchill college in order that it be retained intact for the nation.

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage how many items in the Churchill papers recently purchased (a) are state papers, (b) are private papers and (c) have been the subject of dispute as to whether they are state or private. [22934]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The Government are of the view that none of the papers recently purchased by the national heritage memorial fund was a state paper.

**Mr. Fisher:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list the state papers or classes of state papers which Her Majesty's Government has given to Churchill college and the Churchill archive. [22946]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The classes of state papers transferred to the Churchill college by the Crown were those listed as "official" in the catalogue of the Chartwell papers which is available at Churchill college, Cambridge and in the national register of archives, Chancery lane. They include papers relating to Sir Winston Churchill's appointments as Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, President of the Board of Trade, Home Secretary, First Lord of the Admiralty, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Minister of Munitions, Secretary of State for War and Air, Colonial Secretary, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Prime Minister and to the Cabinet, War Council, War Cabinet and Committee of Imperial Defence.

The remaining classes in the catalogue also contain a number of state papers; ownership of these was transferred at the same time.

### National Vocational Qualifications

**Mr. Barron:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage how many, and what proportion of, vacancies advertised by his Department, and by each of his Department's agencies, in the last three years have listed the attainment of NVQs as an acceptable entry requirement; and, of those, how many have required (i) level 1 NVQs, (ii) level 2 NVQs, (iii) level 3 NVQs and (iv) other level NVQs. [22981]



assumed the original schedule for the termination of these payments.

Early termination will mean that electricity prices will fall sooner than anticipated, which may result in some corresponding increase in the output of carbon dioxide in the short-term. I am determined to ensure that we sustain momentum for increased energy efficiency, and continue to give the strong lead we have established internationally on climate change, most recently at the first conference of parties to the climate change convention in Berlin. I am therefore pleased to announce that I shall make available to the Energy Saving Trust an additional £25 million a year to promote energy efficiency measures, from 1996 until the gas and electricity markets are fully liberalised.

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## LORD CHANCELLOR'S DEPARTMENT

### Historical Documents

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department what advice he gives to Departments concerning the training of persons with responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held in those Departments. [23180]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** Guidance is issued by the Keeper of Public Records. Section 3(2) of the Public Records Act 1958 prescribes that every person responsible for public records shall perform his duties under such guidance, which is detailed in the Public Record Office's "Manual of Records Administration".

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23283]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Record Office.

### Female Poll Tax and Fine Defaulters

**Ms Janet Anderson:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department how many cases of women being gaoled for poll tax and fine default have had those convictions ruled unlawful in the High Court since 1989. [23151]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** The question concerns a specific operational matter on which the chief executive of the Court Service is best placed to provide an answer and I have accordingly asked the chief executive to reply direct.

*Letter from M. Huebner to Ms Janet Anderson, dated 10 May 1995:*

The Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department, has asked me to reply to your question about the number of convictions which have been ruled unlawful by the High Court involving women gaoled for poll tax and fine default.

I am sorry to have to tell you that this information is not available and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost.

### State Papers

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department what is the official definition of a state paper. [22935]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** I understand the expression "State Papers" to signify those papers which are created or acquired by Ministers, officials or other Crown servants by virtue of the office they hold under, or their service to, the Crown. Whether or not the Crown can claim ownership of any wider class of papers will depend on the circumstances of the case.

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department in what circumstances state papers are permitted to be held in private hands. [22936]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** State papers are normally held by the Crown. In very rare circumstances, they may be held in private hands, normally when permission has exceptionally been given to a former Minister or public servant to retain possession of them. Examples of such circumstances are given in part 1 of the report of the Committee of Privy Counsellors on Ministerial Memoirs, Cmnd 6386, also known as the Radcliffe committee.

### Solicitors

**Mr. Redmond:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department what action he plans to take in respect of solicitors who persuade criminals to take civil cases against the police. [22732]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** Solicitors are duty bound to act in the best interests of and on the instructions of their clients and, subject to means and eligibility tests, will apply for legal aid to take or defend actions where appropriate on behalf of their clients.

### Legal Aid

**Mr. Redmond:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department if he will take urgent action to limit legal aid in fraud cases to a maximum of £10,000. [22742]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** The Lord Chancellor has recently announced the proposals he intends to take forward following the consultation paper on legal aid for the apparently wealthy. The Lord Chancellor will issue a Green Paper on the future of legal aid very soon. That will address the provision of legal aid in both civil and criminal cases.



## Written Answers to Questions

Tuesday 9 May 1995

### CHURCH COMMISSIONERS

#### Pensions

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Right hon. Member for Selby, representing the Church Commissioners, what steps are being taken to maintain the value of pensions to the clergy.

**Mr. Alison:** Clergy pensions are increased in line with the previous year's national minimum stipend. The most recent increase, which took effect on 1 April 1995, was 3.3 per cent.

On the wider issue of the funding of clergy pensions, a joint paper produced by the Central Board of Finance, the Church Commissioners and the Church of England Pensions Board was recently discussed at a national conference with the chairmen and secretaries of diocesan boards of finance. The draft paper will, after further discussion and refinement, be presented to the General Synod in July. It contains proposals for the establishment of a separate funded pension scheme. It is intended that the proposed arrangements will create a firm basis on which to provide continued security for the clergy in their retirement, as well as leaving sufficient funds to support the national ministry, particularly in poorer dioceses and parishes.

### DUCHY OF LANCASTER

#### Directory of Westminster and Whitehall

**Mr. Henderson:** To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster what were the costs of producing and advertising the 1995 *Directory of Westminster and Whitehall*; and how much revenue the Government estimate will be recouped from sales. [22900]

**Mr. Horam:** HMSO has not produced a 1995 *Directory of Westminster and Whitehall*, although a commercial publication bearing that title is believed to be imminent.

#### Training

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23290]

**Mr. Horam:** Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Records Office.

## LORD CHANCELLOR'S DEPARTMENT

### Statute of Westminster

**Mr. Mackinlay:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department, pursuant to his answer of 3 May, column 208, if it is his intention to consult other countries under section 2 of the Statute of Westminster Act 1931 in respect of those aspects of the Regency Act 1937 that are to be varied by the Statute Law (Repeals) Bill [Lords] currently before Parliament; and if he will make a statement. [23167]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** It is not my intention, being advised that no such consultation is necessary or appropriate.

### Public Records

**Mr. Flynn:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department on what occasions in the last 30 years he or his predecessors have authorised the deposit of public records in the Churchill archives; and under what provision of the Public Records Act this was done. [22914]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** Under section 4(1) of the Public Records Act 1958 the Lord Chancellor has the power, now delegated to the Keeper of Public Records, to appoint places of deposit for public records to be kept outside the public Record Office itself. The Churchill archives centre, Cambridge has not been appointed a place of deposit for public records under the Act; it follows that there has been no authorisation under the Act for public records to be deposited there nor are any of the Churchill papers at the Churchill archive centre public records within the meaning of the Act.

## TRANSPORT

### British Transport Police

**Mr. Key:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport if he will make a statement on progress in discussions between his Department and the Home Office on extending the powers and jurisdiction of the British Transport Police. [21565]

**Mr. Watts:** Discussions are continuing.

### Acoustic Fencing (Motorways)

**Mr. Chidgey:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport what new sections of Britain's motorway network will be covered by acoustic fencing in the next year. [22123]

**Mr. Watts:** This is an operational matter for the Highways Agency. I have asked its chief executive to write to the hon. Member.

*Letter from Lawrie Haynes to Mr. David Chidgey, dated 9 May 1995:*

As you know, the Minister for Railways and Roads, Mr John Watts, has asked me to reply to your Parliamentary Question asking the Secretary of State for Transport, what new sections of Britain's motorway network will be covered by acoustic fencing in the next year.

Only schemes which had a start of works prior to April 1995 and are still under construction are included. It is dependent on the contractor's programme and progress.



My right hon. Friend the Prime Minister is currently on an official visit to Moscow as part of the VE day commemorations.

**Sir Peter Tapsell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Tuesday 9 May. [21899]

**Mr. Newton:** I have been asked to reply.

My right hon. Friend the Prime Minister is currently on an official visit to Moscow as part of the VE day commemorations.

### Bank Holidays

**Mr. Foulkes:** To ask the Prime Minister which of his Ministers has responsibility for designation of bank holidays in (a) Scotland, (b) England, (c) Wales and (d) Northern Ireland. [22820]

**The Prime Minister:** Bank holidays are designated in the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971. Power to vary the specified dates or to designate additional dates is exercisable by Her Majesty by royal proclamation or in the case of Northern Ireland by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. By virtue of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's overall responsibility for the 1971 Act, the Treasury currently co-ordinates advice on any designations for royal proclamation in consultation with other Departments as necessary.

### St. Paul's Angels' Nursery

**Mr. McNamara:** To ask the Prime Minister if he expects to make a further visit to St. Paul's Angels' nursery before September. [23132]

**The Prime Minister:** I currently have no plans to do so.

### Public Records

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will introduce legislation to prohibit individuals, acting in a private capacity, from charging for the reproduction of any document or other material produced directly or indirectly in the service of the Crown. [23069]

**The Prime Minister:** No. Such legislation is not necessary. It is already the law, under section 163 of the Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988, that Crown copyright subsists in any work made by an officer or servant of the Crown in the course of his or her duties.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will publish the whole of the correspondence with the Churchill family and their advisers relating to the expenditure of £13.5 million on the purchase of public and other records created during Sir Winston Churchill's periods of office as well as the records of all meetings of the commission with the Churchill Trust to discuss the matter. [23070]

**The Prime Minister:** No, it is not my normal practice to publish private correspondence.

Contrary to the impression given in the question, no public records were purchased. The national lottery memorial fund funded the purchase of non-state papers; the Government have transferred the state papers so that the whole archive is preserved, intact, at Churchill college.

X

### Training

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Prime Minister what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23280]

**The Prime Minister:** Training and assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Record Office.

## TRADE AND INDUSTRY

### Offshore Oil and Gas Structures

**Mr. Clappison:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade if he intends to publish guidelines relating to the abandonment of offshore oil and gas structures. [23517]

**Mr. Eggar:** The Department issued detailed guidelines on Thursday 4 May. Copies have been placed in the Library of the House.

### Executive Salaries

**Mr. Norman Hogg:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade what proposals he has to introduce statutory controls over the salaries of senior executives. [21632]

**Mr. Jonathan Evans:** Sir Richard Greenbury's committee is considering the structure within which remuneration for directors of public companies is determined and disclosed. Once it has made its recommendations, the Government will consider whether any of these should be reinforced by legislative change. But executive salary levels and details of remuneration packages are matters for individual companies and their shareholders. It is not for Government to intervene in these decisions or to limit companies' ability to pay competitive salaries.

**Mr. John Owen Jones:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade what proposals he has to introduce statutory controls over the salaries of senior executives. [21634]

**Mr. Jonathan Evans:** Sir Richard Greenbury's committee is considering the structure within which remuneration for directors of public companies is determined and disclosed. Once it has made its recommendations, the Government will consider whether any of these should be reinforced by legislative change. But executive salary levels and details of remuneration packages are matters for individual companies and their shareholders. It is not for the Government to intervene in these decisions or to limit companies' ability to pay competitive salaries.

### Small Businesses

**Mr. Hutton:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade if he will make a statement about his Department's policy towards promoting employment in small businesses. [21644]

**Mr. Page:** The Government fully recognise and appreciate the importance of small businesses to the economy and the vital contribution they make to job creation.



**Mr. Dorrell:** The financial and other relationships between S4C and Teledwyr Annibynnol Cymru form part of the terms of reference of the study my Department has commissioned from Mr. John Beastall.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage on how many occasions in the last year he has formally met the chairman of S4C to discuss the affairs of the authority. [22637]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I have formally met the chairman of S4C once in the last year.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list all meetings between his Department and officials of S4C since January 1994. [22635]

**Mr. Dorrell:** Since January 1994, my Department has held formal meetings with S4C on three occasions: 16 March 1994, 1 July 1994 and 8 March 1995. My officials responsible for broadcasting matters are, of course, in regular contact with S4C.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list by grade those of his officials whose duties are related solely to S4C. [22638]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I have no officials whose duties are related solely to S4C.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list by grade the staff in his Department whose duties involve S4C who are able to conduct their responsibilities through the medium of Welsh. [22636]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I have no staff whose duties involve S4C who are able to conduct their responsibilities through the medium of Welsh.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what consultation (a) his Department and (b) the Welsh Language Board had with the S4C Authority before S4C's service provision was split; and what was the statutory basis of the decision. [22650]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The Welsh Fourth Channel Authority was established under the Broadcasting Act 1980, and now operates as S4C under the Broadcasting Act 1990. The Government undertook wide consultation prior to the introduction of legislation on both occasions. One of the S4C's statutory duties is to ensure that a substantial proportion of the programmes that it broadcasts are in Welsh and the programmes broadcast between 6.30pm and 10pm each day consist mainly of programmes in Welsh. How it carries out this remit is an editorial matter for S4C.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what were the staffing levels of S4C at 31 March in each year since 1991 and on 31 December 1994. [22825]

**Mr. Dorrell:** S4C publishes figures for the average number of employees in each calendar year in its annual report and accounts, copies of which are laid before Parliament and are in the Library of the House. Figures for the last four years are as follows

1991: 116  
1992: 108  
1993: 199  
1994: 127

The 1994 annual report and accounts have not yet been published.

### Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what were the costs of the investigations instigated by his Department into the alleged misuse of the BS15 for matching private and public funds for the support of the arts. [23014]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The investigation was carried out by Mr. John Beastall, who is a Treasury civil servant. My Department is responsible for travel costs arising from his study. The cost of these is expected to amount to £320.

**Dr. Howells:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will make a statement on investigations (a) instigated and (b) evaluated by his Department into the alleged misuse of the BSIS for matching private and public funds for the support of the arts. [23015]

**Mr. Dorrell:** My Department has received the report which I announced on 27 February had been commissioned from Mr. John Beastall, *Official Report*, column 680. Once the findings have been evaluated, I shall make his report available to the House.

Mr. Beastall was asked in his review to take account of reports received by my Department from the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts and from the Welsh Fourth Channel Authority, S4C. He has also drawn on an examination of the relevant records and a series of interviews with staff of S4C and the companies and organisations involved in the applications, conducted, at S4C's request, by Grant Thornton, S4C's auditors.

### Churchill Papers

**Mr. Fisher:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list the names of foreign organisations or individuals who have been (a) negotiating with the trustees or (b) bidding for the Churchill Trust Papers over the past five years. [22945]

**Mr. Dorrell:** This is a matter for the Churchill family trustees.

**Mr. Fisher:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage (1) if he will publish the legal advice he has received on the ownership of copyright of the Churchill papers; [22120]

(2) when his Department began inquiries into the ownership of copyright of the Churchill papers; and at what cost in legal advice and action; [22121]

(3) what advice he has taken on the ownership of copyright of the Churchill papers. [22122]

**Mr. Dorrell [holding answer 2 May 1995]:** The Government have received advice that copyright in state papers belongs to the Crown. It has also been advised that it does not own the copyright in the non-state papers in the Churchill archive.

The Government took advice on these subjects in July 1991 and again in May 1994. The advice cost £3,100 exclusive of VAT.

### Cinema Ownership

**Mr. Cran:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will make it his policy to promote diversity in the ownership of cinemas in the United Kingdom. [21990]

**Mr. Dorrell:** It is not the government's policy to interfere in the ownership of private companies, except in circumstances defined in legislation.



assumed the original schedule for the termination of these payments.

Early termination will mean that electricity prices will fall sooner than anticipated, which may result in some corresponding increase in the output of carbon dioxide in the short-term. I am determined to ensure that we sustain momentum for increased energy efficiency, and continue to give the strong lead we have established internationally on climate change, most recently at the first conference of parties to the climate change convention in Berlin. I am therefore pleased to announce that I shall make available to the Energy Saving Trust an additional £25 million a year to promote energy efficiency measures, from 1996 until the gas and electricity markets are fully liberalised.

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## LORD CHANCELLOR'S DEPARTMENT

### Historical Documents

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department what advice he gives to Departments concerning the training of persons with responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held in those Departments. [23180]

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**Ms Janet Anderson:** To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department how many cases of women being gaoled for poll tax and fine default have had those convictions ruled unlawful in the High Court since 1989. [23151]

**Mr. John M. Taylor:** The question concerns a specific operational matter on which the chief executive of the Court Service is best placed to provide an answer and I have accordingly asked the chief executive to reply direct.

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**Mr. John M. Taylor:** The Lord Chancellor has recently announced the proposals he intends to take forward following the consultation paper on legal aid for the apparently wealthy. The Lord Chancellor will issue a Green Paper on the future of legal aid very soon. That will address the provision of legal aid in both civil and criminal cases.



### Afghanistan

**Mr. Madden:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, pursuant to his answer of 27 April, *Official Report*, column 638, when Her Majesty's Government will decide how much funding is to be made available to British non-governmental organisations for emergency aid to Afghan refugees and displaced persons for (a) rehabilitation and (b) other purposes. [23133]

**Mr. Baldry** [*holding answer 10 May 1995*]: I have nothing to add to my previous answer.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

### Women in Science, Engineering and Technology

**Mrs. Gillan:** To ask the Chairman of the Administration Committee if he has considered an application for an exhibition relating to women in science, engineering and technology to be displayed in the Upper Waiting Hall.

**Mr. Michael J. Martin:** I understand that, under procedures agreed by the Administration Committee, arrangements have been made for the exhibition to be held in the Upper Waiting Hall from Monday 3 July to Friday 7 July 1995.

## WALES

### European Structural Funds

**Mr. Wigley:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what is his policy with regard to the provision of matching funds to help applications for assistance from the EU in Wales under objective 5B schemes. [23074]

**Mr. Redwood:** The objective 5(b) single programming document for rural Wales 1994-99 makes available European structural funds grants averaging some £23 million a year to support national public expenditure on projects averaging some £34 million and private sector contributions of around £5 million a year. These figures clearly demonstrate that without substantial domestic expenditure to support projects it would not be possible to utilise the structural funds grant resources being made available.

Funding for projects can come from a variety of sources including local authorities, Government agencies, training and enterprise councils and voluntary bodies as well as from my Department. It is for applicants to determine whom they should approach to seek funding for any project. Those approached for matching funding, including my Department, will need to satisfy themselves that there is no legal or other constraint to them providing such funding and consider, *inter alia*, the quality of the project, whether it represents good value for money and what other funding approaches they have received before deciding whether they wish to invest in the project.

### Historical Documents

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23275]

**Mr. Redwood:** I refer the hon. Member to the reply given to him today by my right hon. and learned Friend the Lord Chancellor.

### Voluntary Organisations

**Mr. Sweeney:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what plans he has to review the way in which his Department assists local support services for voluntary organisations. [24170]

**Mr. Richards:** I have today issued a consultation paper seeking comments on the effectiveness of current arrangements for delivering support services to voluntary organisations at local level. The paper also seeks views on the best way of channelling support from the Welsh Office to the organisations providing such services. I shall welcome comments from voluntary organisations throughout Wales, from those who have links with the voluntary sector and from the organisations which the Department currently funds. A copy of the consultation paper has been placed in the Libraries of the House.

## EDUCATION

### Inspection Training

**Mr. Blunkett:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education what is the cost of sending (a) a primary school teacher and (b) a secondary school teacher on additional inspector training; what is the cost of the place on the course and the additional cost of any supply teaching which has to be provided; and which body meets this cost; [23649]

(2) how many (a) primary and (b) secondary school teachers have attended additional inspector training this year. [23650]

**Mr. Forth:** These are matters for Her Majesty's chief inspector of schools, who heads the Office for Standards in Education. I have asked Mr. Chris Woodhead to write to the hon. Member.

### Pupils

**Mr. Blunkett:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education if she will list for each local education authority (a) the proportion and (b) the number of pupils in grant-maintained (i) primary and (ii) secondary schools. [23651]

**Mr. Robin Squire:** The information requested is set out in the tables.

#### Primary

LEA area	Number of pupils in GM primary schools	Percentage of maintained primary pupils in GM schools
Avon	0	0
Barking	0	0
Barnet	758	3
Barnsley	0	0
Bedfordshire	586	1
Berkshire	2,390	4
Bexley	643	4
Birmingham	1,655	2
Bolton	380	2
Bradford	1,538	4



### Teacher Training

**Mr. Blunkett:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education if she will estimate the number of hours which staff in her Department spend on issues relating to teacher training in (a) whole-time equivalents and (b) cost terms. [23637]

**Mr. Robin Squire:** The number of full-time equivalents working on issues relating to teacher training including teacher supply in the Department is 14.8. Each member of staff works a contractual 41-hour week. The cost of employing these staff during the financial year 1995-96 is estimated at £656,279.

### Indonesian Students

**Mrs. Clwyd:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education how many Indonesian nationals studied in the United Kingdom in each year since 1980. [23234]

**Mr. Boswell:** The available information is shown in the following table.

*Numbers of full-time students from Indonesia studying in further and higher education in the United Kingdom*

Academic year	Numbers
1979-80	600
1980-81	1
1981-82	300
1982-83	200
1983-84	300
1984-85	300
1985-86	400
1986-87	600
1987-88	600
1988-89	600
1989-90	600
1990-91	500
1991-92	500
1992-93	500
1993-94 <sup>2</sup>	700

<sup>1</sup> Data are not available for 1980-81.

<sup>2</sup> Provisional estimate.

Rounded to nearest hundred.

#### Sources:

Universities Statistical Record.

Further Education Statistical Record.

Welsh Office.

Scottish Office Education Department.

Department of Education for Northern Ireland.

### Administrative Staff

**Mr. Robert Banks:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education (1) if he will make a statement about the success of (a) North Yorkshire county council education department and (b) other county councils in England over the last five years in reducing the levels of managerial and administrative staff as a result of improved technology and the advent of local management of schools; [23174]

(2) what was the estimated percentage reduction in administrative staff in the education departments of county councils in England resulting from the introduction of local management of schools; and what was the actual percentage achieved; [23176]

(3) what assessment he has made of the effect of high-technology computer systems in the last five years on the establishment of managerial and administrative staff within the education departments of county councils; [23175]

(4) what reductions have been made in the last five years in the managerial and administrative staff of the education departments of county councils as a result of local management of schools; [23177]

(5) what changes of staff numbers in each of the education departments of county councils in England have occurred since the introduction of local management of schools. [22788]

**Mr. Robin Squire:** I refer the hon. Member to the reply that I gave to the hon. Member for Sheffield, Brightside (Mr. Blunkett) on 28 March 1995, *Official Report*, column 570.

### Historical Documents

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by her Department. [23289]

**Mr. Robin Squire:** Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Record Office.

### National Vocational Qualifications

**Mr. Barron:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education how many, and what proportion of, vacancies advertised by her Department, and by each of her Department's agencies, in the last three years have listed the attainment of NVQs as an acceptable entry requirement; and, of those, how many have required (i) level 1 NVQs, (ii) level 2 NVQs, (iii) level 3 NVQs and (iv) other level NVQs. [22984]

**Mr. Forth:** The Department and its agency have held 19 recruitment competitions in the last three years of which three have listed the attainment of NVQs as an acceptable entry qualification. Of those, all have required NVQ level 1.

### Further Education Funding Council

**Mr. Jim Cunningham:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education when she was consulted by the Further Education Funding Council on its decision to have the right not to disclose its deliberations; and what plans she has to review the council's provisions on the disclosure of information. [22680]

**Mr. Boswell:** Since its establishment, the Further Education Funding Council has published a bulletin after each council meeting, each committee with delegated authority and each regional committee meeting. The council has proposed to make the minutes and agendas of those meetings available in future. My right hon. Friend has no plans to review these procedures.

**Mr. Jim Cunningham:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education what discussions she has had with the Further Education Funding Council on the setting up of an independent panel to oversee the council; and if she will make a statement. [22684]

**Mr. Boswell:** My right hon. Friend is aware that the Further Education Funding Council is consulting on the possibility of establishing an independent panel to



Over three quarters of the economically inactive males—about 1.1 million people—included in this figure stated, in reply to the LFS, that they did not want a job.

#### Earnings

**Mr. Barron:** To ask the Secretary of State for Employment what was the average weekly wage in each year since 1965. [22987]

**Mr. Oppenheim:** Information on the average weekly earnings of all full-time employees on adult rates of pay has been available only since 1983. The most convenient source is table 17 of recent reports of the new earnings survey. The 1994 report contains the information for 1984 to 1994 and the 1993 report that for 1983 to 1993. Table 16 contains information for males and females separately.

Between 1971 and 1983, the available information is for full-time men aged 21 and over and full-time women aged 18 and over. The information for 1974 to 1983 is in table 30 of the 1984 new earnings survey report and that for 1971 to 1973 is in table 15 of the 1980 report.

The available information for the years between 1955 and 1968 is in tables 54 and 55 of "British Labour Statistics Historical Abstract 1986-1968".

Copies of the publications are available in the Library.

**Mr. Barron:** To ask the Secretary of State for Employment (1) what has been the average weekly wage for (a) part-time male employees and (b) part-time female employees in each socio-economic group in each year since 1865; [22989]

(2) what has been the average weekly wage for (a) full-time male employees and (b) full-time female employees in each socio-economic group in each year since 1965. [23001]

**Mr. Oppenheim:** No information on average earnings in each socio-economic group is available before an earnings question was introduced into the labour force survey at the end of 1992. For the years since 1971, information on average weekly earnings in each major occupation group can be found in the reports of the new earnings survey, copies of which are available in the Library.

#### Employment Medical Advisory Service

**Mr. Galbraith:** To ask the Secretary of State for Employment what representations he has received (a) in favour of and (b) against the proposals for the employment medical advisory service; and if he will make a statement. [22803]

**Mr. Oppenheim:** None.

**Mr. Galbraith:** To ask the Secretary of State for Employment what plans he has to change the employment medical advisory service; and if he will make a statement. [22800]

**Mr. Oppenheim:** In 1994 the Health and Safety Executive began a prior options study to consider whether any of the functions currently carried out by the employment medical advisory service could be undertaken by other means. The report of the study has not yet been completed.

**Mr. Galbraith:** To ask the Secretary of State for Employment how many doctors were employed by the employment medical advisory service in each of the last five years for which figures are available. [22801]

**Mr. Oppenheim:** The number of doctors employed in the employment medical advisory service of the Health and Safety Executive at 1 April in each of the last five years was as follows:

1991:47  
1992:52  
1993:55  
1994:47  
1995:35

The 1995 figures are not completely comparable with those of earlier years due to the effect of changes in the management structure of the service. Numbers are planned to rise to 39.5 by 1 April 1996.

#### Historical Documents

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Secretary of State for Employment what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23288]

**Miss Widdecombe:** Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the keeper of public records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Record Office.

#### Licensed Premises

**Mr. Martyn Jones:** To ask the Secretary of State for Employment how many people were employed in licensed premises in (a) 1980, (b) 1985, (c) 1990 and (d) 1994. [23273]

**Mr. Oppenheim:** The information requested is provided in the following table:

*Employees in licensed premises in Great Britain at  
December of each year*

	<i>Thousands</i>			
	1980	1985	1990	1994
Restaurants, snack bars, cafes etc. <sup>1</sup>	185	221	306	307
Public houses and bars	236	259	338	329
Nightclubs and licensed clubs	136	141	148	136
Hotel trade and tourist accommodation <sup>1 2</sup>	204	221	274	298
<b>Total<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>761</b>	<b>841</b>	<b>1,066</b>	<b>1,070</b>

*Source:*

Workforce in Employment survey.

*Notes:*

<sup>1</sup> Includes some unlicensed premises.

<sup>2</sup> In 1994 includes other tourist or short stay accommodation.

<sup>3</sup> Due to rounding totals may not equal sum of component industries.

#### Telephones

**Mr. Donohoe:** To ask the Secretary of State for Employment what use his Department makes of hand-held and car-based mobile telephones; what were the costs for each financial year of these services since mobile telephones were first introduced to his Department; and how many mobile telephones are currently in use. [23440]

**Miss Widdecombe [holding answer 9 May 1995]:** Within the Department, mobile telephone are used by staff whose duties involve travel away from the office or where personal safety may be compromised by the need to work



the attainment of national vocational qualifications as an acceptable entry requirement; and, of those, how many have required (i) level 1 NVQs, (ii) Level 2 NVQs, (iii) level 3 NVQs and (iv) other level NVQs. [22978]

**Mr. Hague:** The Benefits Agency, Child Support Agency and Contributions Agency all accept NVQs as an acceptable entry requirement, although detailed information in the form requested is not readily available and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost. Other parts of the Department where recruitment has been more limited, are considering accepting NVQs for future recruitment exercises.

#### Benefit Payment Card

**Mr. Dewar:** To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security what he estimates in current cost terms will be the annual cost of administering and maintaining the benefit payment card system when fully operational. [23008]

**Mr. Arbuthnot:** The estimated gross running costs in the feasibility study were £77 million per annum before offsetting savings from phasing out the current system. Competitive proposals, including running costs, are now being sought from five potential prime contractors.

**Mr. Dewar:** To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security how many benefit payment cards he estimates will have to be issued if all benefit payments at post offices are to be automated; and if he will list the benefits involved and his estimate of the numbers of recipients involved with each benefit. [23004]

**Mr. Arbuthnot:** There are currently around 19,000,000 customers who choose to be paid their benefits at post offices. All of these will receive a card and all social security benefits payable by the DSS will be involved.

**Mr. Dewar:** To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security when he intends to issue the first benefit payment cards; and when he expects that all benefits payable at post offices will be included in the system. [23006]

**Mr. Arbuthnot:** The first benefit payment cards are expected to be issued in 1996 and the whole implementation process is expected to take up to three years.

**Mr. Dewar:** To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security how many post offices in the United Kingdom will be adopted for the use of benefit payment cards. [23005]

**Mr. Arbuthnot:** All post offices will be able to make benefit payments using the card.

**Mr. Dewar:** To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security what will be the cost of issuing benefit payment cards to all recipients of DSS benefits receiving payment through post offices, including the costs of installing equipment in the post offices concerned. [23003]

**Mr. Arbuthnot:** The feasibility study estimated set up costs to be £135 million. Competitive proposals, including set up costs, are now being sought from five potential contractors.

#### Housing Benefit

**Mr. George Robertson:** To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security if he will provide, for each district and metropolitan borough council in England and Wales, for each available year since 1991-92, (a) a breakdown of the numbers of housing benefit claimants, split into rent rebate and rent allowance categories and the total amounts paid

under each heading, (b) the numbers and amount of housing benefit backdated payments, regulation 72(15) and the amount paid as a percentage of each local authority's housing benefit expenditure, (c) the number, amount and percentage of amount in relation to total housing benefit expenditure in relation to discretionary payments, regulation 69(8) revised to regulation 61(2) and (d) the numbers and amounts of each category of housing benefit overpayment and the amount as a percentage of the authority's overall housing benefit expenditure. [23172]

**Mr. Roger Evans:** I refer the hon. Member to the reply I gave to the hon. Member for Clydesdale (Mr. Hood) on 23 February, *Official Report*, column 283.

#### Historical Documents

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23278]

**Mr. Hague:** Staff in the Department of Social Security who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents are trained by the Public Record Office and by departmental staff already experienced in the work.

#### Non-British Nationals

**Mr. Dicks:** To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security (1) how many non-British nationals are currently claiming social security benefits; and what is the cost of the Exchequer of paying such benefit; [23416]

(2) how many non-European Union nationals are currently claiming social security benefits; and what is the cost to the Exchequer of paying such benefits. [23417]

**Mr. Hague:** The information requested is not available as nationality is not a condition of benefit entitlement.

#### Correspondence

**Mr. Steen:** To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security when he expects to reply to the letter dated 28 February from the hon. Member for South Hams about Mr. Lord McLeod of Murtwell cottage, Murtwell, Diptford, South Devon; what are the reasons for the delay in replying; and if he will make a statement. [23420]

**Mr. Burt:** I replied to the hon. Member on 4 May.

#### Benefits: Capital Limits

**Mr. David Atkinson:** To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security if he will list all the current capital limits to the entitlement to benefits and other assistance together with the year of introduction; what was the value of each in real terms at the time of the introduction; and if he will make a statement. [16611]

**Mr. Roger Evans [pursuant to his reply 30 March, *Official Report*, column 779]:** The information regarding the Social Fund capital limit for funeral and maternity payments, up to age 60, was incorrect. The correct information is as follows:



The Government encourage the role played by small businesses in job creation by creating an economic environment in which they can flourish and grow. This includes stabilising interest rates and inflation and reducing legislative and administrative burdens.

My Department is developing a network of business links based on partnerships between local authorities, TECs, chambers of commerce, and enterprise agencies, to develop a wide range of high-quality business support services, particularly to businesses with the potential for growth.

It is my intention that the wide range of services delivered by my Department will be available through the business link network.

#### British Beef Co. Ltd.

**Mrs. Helen Jackson:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade what were the outstanding liabilities of British Beef when it went into receivership. [22606]

**Mr. Jonathan Evans:** British Beef Co. Ltd. went into administrative receivership on 23 March 1995. The joint receivers have informed my officials that the directors estimated the realisable value of the company's assets at that date to be £14 million and that secured creditors were owed £8.5 million, preferential creditors £0.75 million and unsecured creditors £6 million.

#### Copyright and Rights of Performers Regulations 1995

**Mr. Key:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade what representations he has received from representatives of the performing arts about the draft Copyright and Rights of Performers Regulations 1995; and if he will make a statement. [21567]

**Mr. Ian Taylor:** About 500 representations have been received in response to the consultative draft of these regulations issued by my Department with a request for comments by 28 April. Some 460 of these were from representatives of the performing arts, the great majority being from individual performers belonging to the Musicians Union or other performers' organisations and expressed in near identical terms. The remainder of the submissions were from other interested parties, most in the form of responses by national organisations replying on behalf of all their members. I am considering all the representations received and will in due course lay a statutory instrument before Parliament under the affirmative resolution procedure.

#### Accounting Officers

**Mr. Meacher:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade how many times in the last 10 years, and on which dates, his departmental accounting officer has issued a minute in that role; and what was the issue in each case. [22557]

**Mr. Heseltine:** Where a Minister overrules an accounting officer's advice on an issue of propriety or regularity or one of value for money the accounting officer should request a written instruction from the Minister to take the action in question.

The cases where such an instruction has been issued were set out in the reply given to the hon. Member for Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney (Mr. Rowlands) on 8 March 1994, *Official Report*, column 211. No new cases have arisen since then.

All such instructions are reported to the Comptroller and Auditor General who, after making whatever investigations he considers appropriate, will report his findings to the Public Accounts Committee.

#### Public Records

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade, pursuant to his answer of 2 May, column 131, to what extent (a) professional historians and (b) qualified archivists are involved at any stage in the 10-year and 25-year sifts. [22939]

**Mr. Heseltine:** (a) When the Department needs the advice of a professional historian, it obtains this via the Public Record Office, which maintains close links with the academic community.

(b) Those staff at the Public Record Office whose role is to guide and inspect the work of my Department's records review section include one qualified archivist who carries out checks on 10-year sifts and two to three qualified archivists who are involved with the 25-year reviews.

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade, pursuant to his answer of 2 May, column 131, what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [22940]

**Mr. Heseltine:** The Department provides internal, on-the-job training for records review staff, who are also supported by on-the-job coaching from qualified archivist staff from the Public Record Office. The Department also avails itself of formal training courses, annual conferences and special seminars provided by the Public Records Office.

#### Private Finance Initiative

**Mr. Simpson:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade, what percentage of his Department's budget is allocated to initiatives which have been undertaken to secure private finance for his Department's projects. [22793]

**Mr. Heseltine:** The private finance initiative within the DTI is one of the responsibilities of the MINIS—management information system for Ministers—unit within the finance and resource management division of my Department. This unit is expected to cost £249,000 in 1995–96 against a total gross running costs provision of £318,883.

#### Brent Spar Oil Platform

**Mr. Llew Smith:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade what representations have been received by Her Majesty's Government in regard to the permission given to Shell to scuttle the Brent Spar oil platform in the Atlantic. [22928]

**Mr. Eggar:** Under the terms of section 1(3) of the Petroleum Act 1987 Shell UK Exploration and Production was required to consult a number of interested parties about its abandonment programme for the Brent Spar



### Rail Franchises

**Ms Glenda Jackson:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport if the French National rail company, Société Nationale des Chemins de Fers, is allowed to submit bids to operate rail franchises in Great Britain. [22913]

**Mr. Watts:** There are no restrictions preventing foreign national rail companies from bidding for franchises.

### Ferry Evacuation

**Mr. Flynn:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport which are the four British registered ferries which do not have 100 per cent. dry-shod evacuation; which routes they sail on, and what are the evacuation arrangements on these ferries. [22907]

**Mr. Norris:** This is an operational matter for the Marine Safety Agency. I have asked its chief executive to write to the hon. Member.

*Letter from R. M. Bradley to Mr. Paul Flynn, dated 9 May 1995:*

The Secretary of State for Transport has asked me to reply to your question about four ferries which do not have 100 per cent dry-shod evacuation.

There are four UK registered vessels, which ply on the following routes and have evacuation arrangements as described:

PRIDE OF BRUGES—Dover to Calais.

Lifeboats and Marine Evacuation Systems are provided for 1158 persons and inflatable liferafts with overside ladders for 300 persons. The maximum permitted number of persons on board is 1400.

PRIDE OF CHERBOURG—Portsmouth to Cherbourg.

Lifeboats are provided for 798 persons and inflatable liferafts with overside ladders for 610 persons. The maximum permitted number of persons on board is 1297.

PRIDE OF HAMPSHIRE—Portsmouth to Cherbourg.

Lifeboats are provided for 798 persons and inflatable liferafts with overside ladders for 600 persons. The maximum permitted number of persons on board is 1302.

PIONEER—Plies between ports on the West Coast of Scotland, Western Isles and Northern Ireland. Lifeboats are provided for 80 persons and inflatable liferafts with overside ladders for 275 persons. The maximum permitted number of persons on board is 294.

### Lyme Bay Activity Centre

**Sir James Spicer:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport what action he has taken in respect of the papers on the Lyme Bay rescue operation forwarded to him in December 1994 on the direction of the trial judge. [23163]

**Mr. Norris:** HM Coastguard conducted its own internal investigation into the rescue operation. This was made available to the court during the trial of the company owning the activity centre, the managing director and the manager. HM Coastguard took action to discipline certain officers and to improve procedures and performance at the local rescue centre. In the light of the remarks of the trial judge I have asked John Reeder QC to conduct a review with the following terms of reference:

In the light of Coastguard internal inquiry, the evidence presented to the Lyme Bay trial and the judge's comments in his summing up—

- (i) to review all the actions, both internal and external taken by Coastguard during and subsequent to the tragedy.
- (ii) to consider how far this action was appropriate and whether any further action was necessary, and
- (iii) to make recommendations.

Consideration under item (ii) should cover the suggestion by the hon. Member for Dorset, West that harbourmasters should be given a more formal role in Coastguard's emergency procedures.

The findings will be published.

### Liverpool Vehicle Registration Office

**Mr. Frank Field:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport what representation he has had from employees in the Liverpool vehicle registration office about the closure of the Liverpool office; and if he will make a statement. [23161]

**Mr. Norris:** Four hon. Members in the Liverpool area have drawn my attention to a letter dated 28 March which they received from two representatives of the Civil and Public Services Association on behalf of the staff about the closure of the Liverpool vehicle registration office. I have replied to these and the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency has replied to another. The lease of the accommodation for this office has expired and it formed part of a review of DVLA's local office structure last year, which concluded that vehicle registration offices should close progressively over the next three years, dependent on other arrangements being made for the work of the offices. No firm date has yet been fixed for the closure of the office and the staff will be kept fully informed of any plans to do so, with a minimum of six months' notice.

### Road Safety

**Mr. Peter Bottomley:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport if he will make a statement on his Department's policies for reducing death and injury on the roads. [23653]

**Mr. Norris:** We have today published the "Road Safety Report 1995", which describes measures being taken to reduce road accident casualties. Copies have been placed in the Library.

**Dr. John Cunningham:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport what plans he has to increase the level of funding made available to Cumbria county council for the implementation of road safety schemes; and if he will make a statement. [22737]

**Mr. Norris:** We are making available £50 million to local authorities for local safety schemes in 1995-96. This is planned to rise to £55 million in 1996-97 and to £60 million in 1997-98. The allocation of funds depends on the relative merits of the bid plans put forward by local authorities.

### Public Records

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23277]

**Mr. Norris:** Training is provided under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It includes courses on the appraisal of records arranged by the Public Record Office.



My right hon. Friend the Prime Minister is currently on an official visit to Moscow as part of the VE day commemorations.

**Sir Peter Tapsell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list his official engagements for Tuesday 9 May. [21899]

**Mr. Newton:** I have been asked to reply.

My right hon. Friend the Prime Minister is currently on an official visit to Moscow as part of the VE day commemorations.

#### Bank Holidays

**Mr. Foulkes:** To ask the Prime Minister which of his Ministers has responsibility for designation of bank holidays in (a) Scotland, (b) England, (c) Wales and (d) Northern Ireland. [22820]

**The Prime Minister:** Bank holidays are designated in the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971. Power to vary the specified dates or to designate additional dates is exercisable by Her Majesty by royal proclamation or in the case of Northern Ireland by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. By virtue of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's overall responsibility for the 1971 Act, the Treasury currently co-ordinates advice on any designations for royal proclamation in consultation with other Departments as necessary.

#### St. Paul's Angels' Nursery

**Mr. McNamara:** To ask the Prime Minister if he expects to make a further visit to St. Paul's Angels' nursery before September. [23132]

**The Prime Minister:** I currently have no plans to do so.

#### Public Records

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will introduce legislation to prohibit individuals, acting in a private capacity, from charging for the reproduction of any document or other material produced directly or indirectly in the service of the Crown. [23069]

**The Prime Minister:** No. Such legislation is not necessary. It is already the law, under section 163 of the Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988, that Crown copyright subsists in any work made by an officer or servant of the Crown in the course of his or her duties.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will publish the whole of the correspondence with the Churchill family and their advisers relating to the expenditure of £13.5 million on the purchase of public and other records created during Sir Winston Churchill's periods of office as well as the records of all meetings of the commission with the Churchill Trust to discuss the matter. [23070]

**The Prime Minister:** No, it is not my normal practice to publish private correspondence.

Contrary to the impression given in the question, no public records were purchased. The national lottery memorial fund funded the purchase of non-state papers; the Government have transferred the state papers so that the whole archive is preserved, intact, at Churchill college.

#### Training

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Prime Minister what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23280]

**The Prime Minister:** Training and assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Record Office.

### TRADE AND INDUSTRY

#### Offshore Oil and Gas Structures

**Mr. Clappison:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade if he intends to publish guidelines relating to the abandonment of offshore oil and gas structures. [23517]

**Mr. Eggar:** The Department issued detailed guidelines on Thursday 4 May. Copies have been placed in the Library of the House.

#### Executive Salaries

**Mr. Norman Hogg:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade what proposals he has to introduce statutory controls over the salaries of senior executives. [21632]

**Mr. Jonathan Evans:** Sir Richard Greenbury's committee is considering the structure within which remuneration for directors of public companies is determined and disclosed. Once it has made its recommendations, the Government will consider whether any of these should be reinforced by legislative change. But executive salary levels and details of remuneration packages are matters for individual companies and their shareholders. It is not for Government to intervene in these decisions or to limit companies' ability to pay competitive salaries.

**Mr. John Owen Jones:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade what proposals he has to introduce statutory controls over the salaries of senior executives. [21634]

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#### Small Businesses

**Mr. Hutton:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade if he will make a statement about his Department's policy towards promoting employment in small businesses. [21644]

**Mr. Page:** The Government fully recognise and appreciate the importance of small businesses to the economy and the vital contribution they make to job creation.



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**Mr. Hutton:** To ask the President of the Board of Trade if he will make a statement about his Department's policy towards promoting employment in small businesses. [21644]

**Mr. Page:** The Government fully recognise and appreciate the importance of small businesses to the economy and the vital contribution they make to job creation.



OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0655

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 5 MAY 1995  
ANSWERED ON 10 MAY 1995

Lab - Pendle

124            Mr Gordon Prentice

To ask the Prime Minister, what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department.            (23280)

PRIME MINISTER

Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Record Office.



OPSS/1994/95-1-0655

Ordinary Written question

For answer on

Answered on

Lab - Pendle

99 Mr Gordon Prentice

To ask the Prime Minister, what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department.

DRAFT REPLY

Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Record Office.

B32B



#### BACKGROUND NOTE

1. Formal training in records management is provided by the Civil Service College; the liaison officers of the Public Records Office have for many years provided formal training, conferences and seminars to supplement departmental training.
2. In April this year the Public Record Office started a programme of formal training courses in all aspects of records management which includes a module on appraisal of records covering the principles and procedures for identifying those records of sufficient historical significance to merit permanent preservation at the Public Record Office or an approved place of deposit.
3. Departmental files are subject to a two stage review process; five years after they have passed out of active use and when they are 25 years old to decide if they should be kept permanently.



PQ 99

Mr Gordon Prentice: To ask the Prime Minister, what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department.

### **DRAFT REPLY**

**Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Records Office.**

#### BACKGROUND NOTE

1. Formal training in records management ~~has been provided at~~ <sup>is</sup> the Civil Service College, ~~for a number of years (since 1988?).~~ <sup>by</sup> the liaison officers of the Public Records Office have for many years provided formal training, conferences and seminars to supplement ~~training provided by the [department].~~

<sup>departmental training.</sup>  
2. In April this year the Public Records Office started a programme of formal training courses in all aspects of records management which includes a module on appraisal of records ~~which covers~~ the principles and procedures for identifying those records of sufficient historical significance to merit permanent preservation at the Public Record Office or an approved place of deposit.

3. Departmental files are ~~normally~~ subject to a two stage review process; ~~files are normally reviewed~~ 5 years after they have passed out of active use, and when they are 25 years old to decide if they should be kept permanently.

AG\PRENTICE



6010



HOUSE OF LORDS,  
LONDON SW1A 0PW  
0171 219 6097

TO PARLIAMENTARY CLERKS  
(see attached)

4 May 1995

*Dear Colleague,*

**GORDON PRENTICE PQ ON TRAINING FOR THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR  
ASSESSING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF DOCUMENTS**

Gordon Prentice tabled an Ordinary Written Question today to eighteen departments for answer by Thursday 11 May, as follows:

"To ask ... what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department."

Gordon Prentice has tabled a number of other questions on this subject to this and other Departments which appear to have been prompted by the debate surrounding the Churchill Papers.

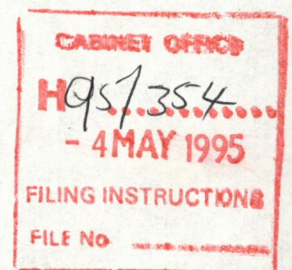
Advice on the assessment of the historical significance of public records is given by the Public Record Office, an Executive Agency of the Lord Chancellor's Department. On advice from the Public Record Office, the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department, will be replying as follows:

"Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Record Office."

Our recommendation is that other Departments reply in like terms, although they may wish to add any details of departmental training.

Any queries on the above should be addressed to Robert Wright on 0171 219 8810.

*Yours,*  
*R. Fisk*  
ROGER FISK  
PARLIAMENTARY CLERK  
LORD CHANCELLOR'S DEPARTMENT





MAFF  
Attorney General's Office  
Defence  
Duchy of Lancaster  
Education  
Employment  
Environment  
Health  
Home Office  
LCD  
Lord President's Office  
National Heritage  
Northern Ireland Office  
Scottish Office  
Social Security  
Transport  
Treasury  
Welsh Office



● Pat RE: PQ (MR. PRENTICE)

UCS have sent to  
the HoL the draft  
of their reply. The  
guidance to other depts.  
involved will be faxed  
to Parliamentary Clerks  
later today / first thing  
in the morning.

Our Parliamentary Section  
will then fax the  
guidance over to us!

Ala



*Party Unit  
HOL 10 min go*

**PUBLIC  
RECORD  
OFFICE**



Public Record Office  
Kew  
Richmond  
Surrey TW9 4DU

**Fax message**

To Alan Glennie

of Cabinet Office  
Historical & Records

Fax No. 0171-217-6010

Date 4/5/95 12:58

Number of pages to follow 3

From FOLCA!!

Department ESD/RNCC

Phone No. 0181-876-3444-2631

Our fax No. 0181-878-8905

**Message**

Alan

Attached is the ~~B/N~~ I passed  
to Robert Wright.

*210-8810  
PAT 8568*

X He confirmed we are coordinating  
the response to the training questions

*[Signature]*

Alan I have told Party Branch X.

But we still need the agreed form of  
reply so that it can go to RB this evening.

*Pat  
4/5*



**File Note**

**By Frank McCall  
Records Management Consultancy Unit**

**Date: 4th May 1995**

**RMCU file ref:**

**Subject: Background Note for PQs by Mr Gordon Prentice  
(Pendle)**

**Guidance and advice**

Staff of the PRO have always provided guidance on the identification of records worthy of permanent preservation.

The PR Act 1958,s.3(2) states that Every person shall perform his duties (i.e. to make arrangements for the selection of those records which ought to be permanently preserved and for their safe keeping) under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records (Mrs Sarah J Tyacke). The Keeper is also responsible for co-ordinating and supervising the performance of these duties.

This responsibility is delegated to staff of the Government Services Department of the PRO.

All departments are provided with a copy of the PRO Manual of Records Administration which provides detailed guidance on the appraisal of records.

**Training**

The report of the Efficiency Scrutiny of the PRO included a recommendation that the PRO develop and deliver formal training and organise seminars for departmental staff.

The PRO has for many years organised conferences and seminars for Departmental Record Officers and their staff.

As part of the Records Management Initiative the Civil Service College introduced a three day training course for records managers and the PRO has always contributed to these courses.

The formal Records Administration Training programme begun in April 1995 offers training for departmental staff on a repayment basis. A copy of the prospectus and programme was sent to the Reference Room at the House of Commons Library in March.

**Frank McCall**





CABINET OFFICE  
 Historical and Records Section  
 Hepburn House  
 Marsham Street  
 London SW1P 4HW  
 Fax 0171 217 6010

ENQUIRIES  
 0171 217

FACSIMILE  
 LEADER

NAME ..... MR FRANK McCALL .....

DEPARTMENT ..... PRO .....

ADDRESS ..... GSD CONSULTANCY .....

.....

..... FAX No 081-878-8905 .....

FROM ..... ALAN GLENNIE .....

DOCUMENT REFERENCE/TITLE .....

..... PQ - GORDON PRENTICE .....

DATE ..... 4/5/95 .....

NUMBER OF PAGES ..... +1 .....

MESSAGE:

Suggested draft reply to Mr Prentice's PQ follows. I am awaiting bibliographic details about Mr Prentice to add to the background note. We are trying to check with Sunigdale about <sup>when</sup> records management training started there.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REQUIRED YES/ NO

URGENT: YES/NO



PQ 99

Mr Gordon Prentice: To ask the Prime Minister, what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department.

### ***DRAFT REPLY***

**Training in assessing the historical significance of departmental records is carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It is provided in a number of different ways, including courses on the appraisal of records and through conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Records Office.**

#### BACKGROUND NOTE

1. Formal training in records management has been provided at the Civil Service College for a number of years (since 1988?). The liaison officers of the Public Records Office have for many years provided formal training, conferences and seminars to supplement training provided by the [department].
2. In April this year the Public Records Office started a programme of formal training courses in all aspects of records management which includes a module on appraisal of records which covers the principles and procedures for identifying those records of sufficient historical significance to merit permanent preservation at the Public Record Office or an approved place of deposit.
3. Departmental files are normally subject to a two stage review process; files are normally reviewed 5 years after they have passed out of active use and when they are 25 years old to decide if they should be kept permanently.

AG\PRENTICE



Fax to: 0171-217-6010

5857-  
2631

To: Miss P Andrews  
Cabinet Office

From: Frank McCall  
Records Management Consultancy Unit  
Government Services Department  
Public Record Office  
Fax No. 0181-878-8905

Number of pages: Two(2)

Date: 4 May 1995

Subject: Parliamentary Questions by Mr Gordon Prentice  
(Pendle)

Pat

I have been unable to make contact with Nicholas; his telephone line is down!

PQs

1. Use of (a) professional historians and (b) qualified archivists

- a. If [department] needed to avail itself of the advice of a professional historian it would do this via the Public Record Office which maintains links with the academic community.
- b. The Public Record Office's staff whose role is to coordinate, supervise and guide the work of the records staff in the [department] includes qualified, trained and experienced archivists and records managers. The staff of the PRO perform this role at all stages in the life-cycle of public records.

2. Training for records staff

Formal training in records management has been provided at the Civil Service College for a number of years (?since 1988). The liaison officers from the Government Services Department of the Public Record Office have for many years provided formal training, conferences and seminars to supplement the training provided by the [department].

continued on following page

CABINET OFFICE  
 H 95/347  
 - 4 MAY 1995  
 FILING INSTRUCTIONS  
 FILE No. \_\_\_\_\_



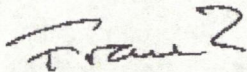
In April of this year the Public Record Office started a programme of formal training courses in all aspects of records management which includes a module on the appraisal of records which covers the principles and procedures for identifying those records of sufficient historical significance to merit permanent preservation at the Public Record Office or an approved place of deposit.

[The [department] [will be/is] sending staff responsible for appraisal on the appropriate courses.]

Text in [] should be changed to suit each department.

Is this OK?

We are getting calls from all over.



Frank McCall



Nick

Confirmation

270 0514.





**CABINET OFFICE**  
 Historical and Records Section  
 Hepburn House  
 Marsham Street  
 London SW1P 4HW  
 Fax 0171 217 6010

**ENQUIRIES**  
 0171 217

**FACSIMILE**  
**LEADER**

NAME ..... *Nick ?* .....

DEPARTMENT ..... *PARLIAMENTARY SECTION* .....

ADDRESS ..... *70 WHITEHALL* .....

.....

..... FAX No ..... *270 - 0514* .....

FROM ..... *ALAN GLENNIE* .....

DOCUMENT REFERENCE/TITLE .....

.....

DATE ..... *4/5/95* .....

NUMBER OF PAGES ..... *+ 2* .....

MESSAGE:

*Re - covers a few files with Pat Andrews here, the following is note received from Public Record Office re PQs from Mr Gordon Prentice. It should not be circulated to OGDs*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REQUIRED YES/ NO

URGENT: YES/NO





*John Weir's  
Office (Tues) wanted*

No. 101

Notices of Questions: 3rd May 1995

3069

- 97 **Mr Gordon Prentice (Pendle):** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. (23281)
- 98 **Mr Austin Mitchell (Great Grimsby):** To ask the Prime Minister, if he will introduce legislation to prohibit individuals, acting in a private capacity, from charging for the reproduction of any document or other material produced directly or indirectly in the service of the Crown. (23069)
- 99 **Mr Gordon Prentice (Pendle):** To ask the Prime Minister, what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. (23280)
- 100 **Mr Austin Mitchell (Great Grimsby):** To ask the Prime Minister, if he will publish the whole of the correspondence with the Churchill family and their advisers relating to the expenditure of £13.5m on the purchase of public and other records created during Sir Winston Churchill's periods of office as well as the records of all meetings of the Commission with the Churchill Trust to discuss the matter. (23070)
- 101 **Mr Michael J. Martin (Glasgow, Springburn):** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, what records are kept at the Glasgow office of Scottish Homes of the number of hours staff spend with Gemini Housing Association Ltd; and if he will make them available for public inspection. (23111)
- 102 **Mr Michael J. Martin (Glasgow, Springburn):** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, which officer in Scottish Homes is empowered to give leave of absence to those employees of Scottish Homes who wish to participate in the activities of Gemini Ltd. (23112)
- 103 **Mr Michael J. Martin (Glasgow, Springburn):** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, on what terms the Gemini Housing Association is allowed to use office equipment and stationery belonging to Scottish Homes at its Glasgow offices; and what charge is made. (23113)
- 104 **Mr Michael J. Martin (Glasgow, Springburn):** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, what method is used to fill vacancies which occur on the Steering Committee of Gemini Housing; and if he will place in the Library a copy of the constitution of the Gemini Housing Association. (23114)
- 105 **Mr John McFall (Dumbarton):** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, what rules and regulations are laid down by his office regarding former Ministers taking up appointments with companies with whom they have been involved while Ministers. (23053)
- 106 **Mr John McFall (Dumbarton):** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, what direct representations the Industry Minister received in writing or in person from Drumkinnon Development Company Ltd, or any associated companies regarding the latter's negotiations with Dumbarton District Council and its subsequent sale of land to Dumbartonshire Enterprise. (23057)
- 107 **Mr John McFall (Dumbarton):** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, on what date the Industry Minister was informed of Dumbartonshire Enterprise's interest in the acquisition of Drumkinnon Bay from the Drumkinnon Development Company. (23059)
- 108 **Mr John McFall (Dumbarton):** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, on what date the Drumkinnon Development Company approached Dumbartonshire Enterprise to negotiate the purchase by the latter of Drumkinnon Bay, Balloch. (23060)

*Pat Andrew  
Action*

*Para  
RR.*

*Para*

*draft  
10-50 cam  
10-100000*

*"not necessary,  
para is to  
do so"*



ALAN

RECORDS MANAGEMENT TRAINING  
CIVIL SERVICE COLLEGE, SUNNINGDALE

I have spoken to the booking office at the college and later to a Martin Barnes (Richard thinks that is who it was!) and have been informed that the First course covering Records Management in its present form was in the early 1980s and was devised by someone called David Edenborough. The course in those days was simply called "RECORDS MANAGEMENT". The course was run from the mid 80s by Andrea Drewitt. Any information pre 1980 may be available from the college library who could dig out the old prospectuses (GTN 3803 4286).

DAVE  
4 MAY 1995



when the Lord Chancellor announced his decision to postpone implementation of the authorised practitioners scheme.

The Legal Aid Board is not subject to scrutiny by the Audit Commission or other monitoring officers and members are not liable to surcharge. It is subject to scrutiny by the Parliamentary Commissioner and the National Audit Office. It is covered by provisions under the citizens charter and performance indicators apply.

The immigration appeal tribunal and adjudicators, the lands tribunal, the pensions appeal tribunal, the value added tax tribunal and the transport tribunal are subject to the scrutiny of the ombudsman and the National Audit Office, to the extent that the courts are. Tribunals have performance indicators.

The Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Conduct is subject to scrutiny by the National Audit Office. For other advisory committees, and the tribunals, the expenditure which is incurred forms part of the Department's total expenditure. The Department's accounts are subject to scrutiny by the National Audit Office.

## PRIME MINISTER

### Government Announcements

**Mr. Mandelson:** To ask the Prime Minister what is the Cabinet Committee on policy co-ordination and presentation in supervising Government announcements, irrespective of department; and how a distinction is made between the objective presentation and timing of these announcements and their use for party political benefits. [24325]

**The Prime Minister:** I published the terms of reference of the ministerial committee on the co-ordination and presentation of government policy on 21 March 1995 *Official Report*, column 112. The committee's terms of reference make it clear that the committee's role is to consider the co-ordination and presentation of Government, as distinct from party, policy. It is therefore subject to the published conventions relating to Government publicity.

### No. 10 Downing Street

**Mr. Redmond:** To ask the Prime Minister what steps he takes to ensure that the address No. 10 Downing street is not used in connection with private business activities. [22899]

**The Prime Minister:** I know of no reason to believe that the No. 10 Downing street address has been improperly used.

### Churchill Papers

**Mr. Redmond:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will list the state papers donated to Churchill college, Cambridge, in each case giving the date the item was donated. [24074]

**The Prime Minister:** The Churchill archive comprises many thousand documents. It would be disproportionately costly to list the state papers in the archive individually.

The papers relating to Sir Winston Churchill's ministerial and prime ministerial appointments, claimed by the Crown as state papers, were transferred to Churchill college on the same day as the agreement to purchase the non-state papers was concluded. The effective date of transfer was 26 April 1995.

### Ministerial Meetings

**Mr. Cox:** To ask the Prime Minister when he last met the current President of the European Commission. [24149]

**The Prime Minister:** I last saw Mr. Santer in Paris on 8 May, and will see him for substantive talks about when he comes to London on 17 May.

### Official Gifts

**Mr. Tony Banks:** To ask the Prime Minister who is responsible for maintaining the official inventory of gifts given to the office of the Prime Minister and kept at No. 10; and what additions have been made to the list since 1979. [23782]

**The Prime Minister:** The inventory is maintained by staff within No. 10 in accordance with the rules in "Questions of Procedure for Ministers" and is subject to the normal audit procedures. The details of gifts received are not made public.

**Mr. Tony Banks:** To ask the Prime Minister what official gifts have been received by officials travelling with him abroad during the last 12 months. [23786]

**The Prime Minister:** Gifts received by officials are dealt with in accordance with the official rules. The details are not made public.

**Mr. Tony Banks:** To ask the Prime Minister how much has been donated to charity arising from the sale of official gifts given to Prime Ministers since 1979. [23788]

**The Prime Minister:** I have made it a practice to donate to charity all the proceeds from sales of gifts which I have retained under the guidelines set out in "Questions of Procedure for Ministers".

**Mr. Tony Banks:** To ask the Prime Minister what has been the total value of gifts to Prime Ministers since 1979 sold from the official inventory. [23787]

**The Prime Minister:** Sales from the inventory have been carried out in accordance with "Questions of Procedure for Ministers". It is not the practice to publish details.

**Mr. Tony Banks:** To ask the Prime Minister what record is kept official gifts given to business representatives travelling with him on official visits abroad. [23789]

**The Prime Minister:** No gifts are given by the British Government. Gifts by foreign Governments are a matter for them.

### Lockerbie

**Mr. Dalyell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will acquire for the Video Library of No. 10 Downing street the video of Alan Francovitch's film. "The Maltese Double Cross". [23721]

**The Prime Minister:** I have no plans to do so.

**Mr. Dalyell:** To ask the Prime Minister for what reason Her Majesty's Government declined to allow Chief Superintendent Gilchrist of Dumfries and Galloway police to interview Mr. O'Neill and Mr. Tuzcu, baggage handlers



Lab - Don Valley

182            Mr Martin Redmond

To ask the Prime Minister, if he will list the state papers donated to Churchill College, Cambridge, in each case giving the date the item was donated. (24074)

**PRIME MINISTER**

The Churchill Archive comprises many thousand documents. It would be disproportionately costly to list the State papers in the Archive individually.

The papers relating to Sir Winston Churchill's Ministerial and Prime Ministerial appointments, claimed by the Crown as State Papers, were transferred to Churchill College on the same day as the agreement to purchase the non-State papers was concluded. The effective date of transfer was 26 April 1995.



HO95/345

~~Sir Robin~~

Context?

Yer Hunka

Stephanie

BBB

12/5

12.5.

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

**CHURCHILL PAPERS; QUESTION TO THE PRIME MINISTER**

I attach a suggested draft reply and background note in respect of Mr Martin Redmond's Question to the Prime Minister in which he asks that the state papers donated to Churchill College should be listed and the date of donation of each item.

The State papers were all donated at the same time and so there is only one relevant date.

The disproportionate cost answer to the first part of the question is in line with that already given by the Secretary of State for National Heritage to an earlier question from Mr Gordon Prentice. He asked how many items in the Churchill Papers recently purchased are state papers, how many are private papers and how many have been the subject of dispute. In reply the Secretary of State said that it would be disproportionately costly to list every item in the Churchill Archive. It would also be costly to list every item in the State papers.

The draft reply has been cleared with Treasury Solicitor (Michael Carpenter).

*Pat Andrews*

MISS P M ANDREWS

Historical and Records Section  
12 May 1995



OPSS/1994/95-1-0671

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON  
ANSWERED ON

Lab - Don Valley

182 Mr Martin Redmond

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DRAFT REPLY

The Churchill Archive comprises many thousand documents. It would be disproportionately costly to list the State papers in the {Churchill} Archive individually.

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182/95



#### BACKGROUND NOTE

This is the first Parliamentary Question relating to the Churchill papers tabled by Mr Martin Redmond, Labour Member of Parliament for the Don Valley.

Many thousands of individual documents comprise the classes of papers claimed by the Crown as State Papers. It would be a lengthy, time-consuming and costly task to list them all as requested by Mr Redmond. The first part of the suggested reply therefore indicates that it would be disproportionately costly to provide the information sought.

Ownership in the State Papers was transferred to the new Sir Winston Churchill Archive Trust for Churchill College by a Deed of Gift which was executed on 26 April 1995 at the same time as the agreement to purchase the non-State papers was concluded.



when the Lord Chancellor announced his decision to postpone implementation of the authorised practitioners scheme.

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**Mr. Dalyell:** To ask the Prime Minister for what reason Her Majesty's Government declined to allow Chief Superintendent Gilchrist of Dumfries and Galloway police to interview Mr. O'Neill and Mr. Tuzcu, baggage handlers



Department is taking to help tourism; and if he will make a statement. [22484]

**Mr. Dorrell:** On 1 March, my Department published "Tourism: Competing with the Best" which set out an action programme for Government and the tourist boards aimed at revitalising the accommodation sector and improving marketing effectiveness. We are making good progress and I intend to make announcements at key stages on all of the initiatives we are pursuing.

**25. Mr. Ian Bruce:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what assessment his Department has made of the effect of the United Kingdom's VAT rate on tourism. [22491]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I am not aware of any conclusive evidence that the UK's VAT rate places the tourism industry at a competitive disadvantage. The report on VAT published by the British Tourist Authority on 1 May does not take account of all the different costs to tourism business in other EU member states.

**26. Mr. Waterson:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what measures he is proposing to encourage domestic and inbound tourism; and if he will make a statement. [22492]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I refer my hon. Friend to the reply I gave earlier today to the hon. Member for Normanton (Mr. O'Brien).

#### Sporting Provision

**20. Mr. Cox:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what plans he has to encourage local authorities' sporting provision. [22486]

**Mr. Sproat:** It is for local authorities to determine their level of expenditure on sporting provision, in the light of their own priorities. The Department recognises the important role that local authorities play in this area and the Sports Council will continue to work closely with them, as appropriate, in pursuing its objectives.

#### Millennium Commission

**23. Mr. Cohen:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what assessment he has made of the most suitable national proposal arising from the consultation on the distribution of the Millennium Commission. [22489]

**Mr. Dorrell:** I understand that the closing date for the first round of applications to the Millennium Commission was Monday 1 May. Around 550 applications have been received, details of which will be published later this month. Successful applicants will be announced in July this year.

**Mr. Fisher:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will list the applications received to date by the Millennium Commission; and if he will place the list in the Library on a monthly basis. [22944]

**Mr. Sproat:** This is a matter for the Millennium Commission. I understand that information on proposals and applications received by the Millennium Commission will be made available by the end of May, and a copy will be placed in the Library of the House. The Millennium

Commission will run a series of time-limited application rounds, and similar information will be made available at the end of each round.

#### Churchill Papers

**24. Mr. Winnick:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will state the latest position over the Churchill papers. [22490]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The non-state papers have been purchased through lottery proceeds awarded by the national heritage memorial fund and are now held at Churchill college, Cambridge. The state papers have been transferred to Churchill college by the Government to ensure the archive remains intact. The entire archive is therefore secure for the future.

#### Team Games

**Mr. Harry Greenway:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what discussion he has had with the Department for Education and with the Treasury with regard to improving the provision of team games in schools; and if he will make a statement. [22850]

**Mr. Sproat:** My Department is working closely with the Department for Education on a major policy paper on sport, including sport in schools, which will be published in early summer. Other Government Departments with an interest, including Her Majesty's Treasury, are in touch with progress.

#### Public Libraries (Statistics)

**Mr. Campbell-Savours:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage how many public library authorities there are in England; how many of these have subscribed to the ProdCom statistics; and what assessment he has made of why the other authorities have not subscribed. [22533]

**Mr. Sproat:** There are 108 public library authorities in England. Information about which statistical publications each authority subscribes to is not held centrally by my Department.

**Mr. Campbell-Savours:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage if he will make a statement on his policy for ensuring the availability of statistics through public and other libraries. [22534]

**Mr. Sproat:** The responsibility for providing public library services, and for choosing their stock including sources of statistical information, rests with local library authorities.

#### ATTORNEY-GENERAL

##### Historical Documents

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Attorney-General what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23242]

**The Attorney-General:** Training is provided under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records. It includes desk training, regular meetings between departmental reviewers and officials at the Public Record Office and



The Government's policies are aimed at creating the right economic conditions for succession—low inflation, sound public finances, markets that work properly, and a minimal regulatory and tax burden on business. That recipe is promoting sustained economic growth.

The training and enterprise councils and the Employment Service provide a wide range of measures to help the long-term unemployed back into work. They include the training for work programme, restart, the job interview guarantee scheme, workstart and community action.

#### Employment (Young People)

**Mr. Barry Jones:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what special measures he will adopt to give employment to young people. [24196]

**Mr. Redwood:** Our policies aim to create the right economic conditions for success; low inflation, sound public finances; markets that work properly; and a minimal regulatory and tax burden on business. That recipe is promoting sustained economic growth and higher living standards, from which all age groups will benefit.

Good education and training and sound careers advice are fundamental to a young person's employment prospects. My plan to raise achievement, strengthen standards and widen choice and opportunity is set out in "People and Prosperity: an Agenda for Action", which was published on 20 March 1995.

#### Minority Languages

**Mr. Roy Hughes:** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales, pursuant to his answer of 7 March to the hon. Member for Meirionnydd Nant Conwy (Mr. Llwyd), *Official Report*, column 152, when Government Departments with an interest in the Council of Europe charter for regional or minority languages will have completed their consideration of its implications; and if he will make a statement. [24754]

**Mr. Gwilym Jones:** The decision whether to sign the charter raises a number of different issues, each of which we must consider fully.

### NORTHERN IRELAND

#### Housing Executive

**Mr. McGrady:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland what consultations have taken place about the amalgamation of the two Housing Executive offices in Newry and the reduced opening hours for the Kilkeel office; and if he will make a statement. [24041]

**Mr. Moss:** This is a matter for the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, but the chief executive has advised me that consultations have taken place with staff and their representatives, the Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance, on the proposed amalgamation of Newry 1 and Newry 2 district offices. In addition, Housing executive officials will consult with Newry and Mourne district council on 7 June 1995.

The Housing Executive's regional director has discussed with local councillors the reduced opening

hours for the Kilkeel office. A new sub-office will be opening in nearby Annalong in the late summer to coincide with the reduced working hours in the Kilkeel office.

### NATIONAL HERITAGE

#### Churchill Papers

**Mr. Kaufman:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage what plans he had made to take action to preserve the Churchill papers intact for the nation before the National Heritage Memorial Fund decided to make national lottery funds available for this purpose. [23693]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The Government had commenced proceedings in the High Court with the object of preserving the papers intact for the nation.

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage who assessed the historical significance of each of the items in the Churchill papers. [23178]

**Mr. Dorrell:** Following their normal procedures, the NHMF took advice on the content of the archive from the British Library and the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts as statutory heritage agencies. Individual historians and other relevant institutions were also consulted.

#### Cinemas

**Mr. MacShane:** To ask the Secretary of State for National Heritage which listed buildings in England are used as cinemas. [23537]

**Mr. Dorrell:** The use of listed cinemas can change, and listed buildings built for another purpose may subsequently have been converted into cinemas. My Department does not monitor such changes. However, English Heritage has provided the following details of listed buildings which it believes are currently used as cinemas:

##### Pre-1916 Cinemas

Electric, King's Quay Street, Harwich

Scala, Market Place, Ilkeston

Picture House, Bridge Street, Stafford

Picture Playhouse, Market Place, Beverley

Dome, Worthing

Gem, ex-Palace of Light, Great Yarmouth

Windsor, Broadstairs

King Edward, Blackpool

Torbay Picture Palace, Paignton

Carlton, Westgate

Duke of York's, Brighton

Electric, Portobello Road, Kensington, London<sup>1</sup>

Ritz, Brixton, London

Cameo/Poly, Upper Regent Street, Westminster, London

1919-28

Apollo, Dock Street, Blackburn

MGM Magdalene Street, Oxford

Plaza, Lower Regent Street, Westminster, London

New Gallery, Regent Street, Westminster, London

1928-40

Gaumont, (now Odeon), Salisbury

Cannon, Lime Street, Liverpool

Gaumont/Astor, Barnstaple



(d) Newry and Mourne district council area, (e) Craigavon district, (f) Belfast, (g) Derry city and (h) Antrim borough. [23722]

**Mr. Ancram:** The number of potential investor visits for the years in question together with the breakdown by district council area are as follows. Information relating to Armagh city and Newry town is not readily available and could be provided only at disproportionate cost.

*Total inward visits to Northern Ireland*

	Total
1990-91	231
1991-92	240
1992-93	216
1993-94	229
1994-95	254

*Total visits by potential investors in the following district councils areas*

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Armagh	3	2	3	—	2
Newry and Mourne	4	4	10	9	19
Craigavon	14	12	15	6	24
Belfast	188	213	141	125	138
Derry	23	28	23	30	31
Antrim	61	81	38	55	40

### Historical Documents

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23281]

**Sir John Wheeler:** Assessments of the historical significance of departmental records held in Northern Ireland is the responsibility of the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland. I have asked its chief executive, Dr. Malcomson, to arrange for a reply to be given about the training of his staff.

Assessment of the historical significance of departmental records held in London is done in consultation with the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. The staff responsible for this work attend courses, conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Record Office, Kew.

*Letter from A. P. W. Malcomson to Mr. Gordon Prentice, dated 5 May 1995:*

I have been asked to reply to your recent Parliamentary Question Number 797 enquiring about the training given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents

held by the Department of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Documents of historical significance originating in the Northern Ireland Departments are transferred to the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) when they have ceased to have recurrent administrative value—usually at twenty years. By this stage, the assessment of their historical significance will have been carried out by curatorial staff of PRONI, who are all graduates (often in history) and are given a two-year training period before being allowed to make independent, but still supervised, decisions.

I hope you find this information helpful.

### Police Complaints

**Mr. Worthington:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland what proposals he has to give powers to the Independent Commission for Police Complaints for Northern Ireland to allow it to supervise inquiries of its own volition. [23600]

**Sir John Wheeler:** There are at present no plans to allow the commission to instigate the supervision of the investigation of a matter which is not the subject of a complaint. However, my right hon. and learned Friend announced on 29 March, *Official Report*, columns 659-61, that the commission will have the power to draw a non-complaint matter to his attention: he will then have the responsibility to refer appropriate cases to the commission for supervision. Draft legislation to give effect to this new power, the Police (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order, was published for consultation on 25 April 1995.

### Telephones

**Mr. Donohoe:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how many mobile telephones being utilised by his Department have been cloned during the last 12 months. [23435]

**Sir John Wheeler** [*holding answer 9 May 1995*]: Three.

**Mr. Donohoe:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland what use his Department makes of hand-held and car-based mobile telephones; what were the costs for each financial year of these services since mobile telephones were first introduced to his Department; and how many mobile telephones are currently in use. [23441]

**Sir John Wheeler** [*holding answer 9 May 1995*]: Within the Northern Ireland Departments and the Northern Ireland Office, hand-held and car-based mobile telephones are used by senior management, private office staff, security personnel, press officers, car pool/official drivers and other staff whose duties require them to be frequently absent from their base and who are required to maintain contact.

The cost of these phones and the number currently in use are as follows:

Department	Number of mobile phones	1987-88 £	1988-89 £	1989-90 £	1990-91 £	1991-92 £	1992-93 £	1993-94 £	1994-95 £	
Education	4	154	335	468	361	450	1,214	2,346	2,807	
Agriculture	69	nil	'10,000	'10,000	'11,000	'11,500	13,600	16,000	22,400	
Finance and Personnel	38	nil	nil	nil	1,670	8,095	9,490	17,303	16,972	
Environment	235	<sup>2</sup> Approximately £50,000 pa operating cost excluding call charges								



way. It is too early to say at this stage what the final outcome will be.

The Scottish Office has found that alternative proposals by contractors can often deliver improved value for money. This, of course, means that the funds voted by Parliament for trunk roads in Scotland will be able to purchase more new construction than would otherwise be possible using traditional tendering methods.

### Gemini Housing Association

**Mr. Michael J. Martin:** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland (1) what records are kept at the Glasgow office of Scottish Homes of the numbers of hours staff spend with Gemini Housing Association Ltd; and if he will make them available for public inspection; [23111]

(2) which officer in Scottish Homes is empowered to give leave of absence to those employees of Scottish Homes who wish to participate in the activities of Gemini Ltd; [23112]

(3) on what terms the Gemini Housing Association is allowed to use office equipment and stationery belonging to Scottish Homes at its Glasgow offices; and what charge is made; [23113]

(4) what method is used to fill vacancies which occur on the steering committee of Gemini Housing; and if he will place in the Library a copy of the constitution of the Gemini Housing Association; [23114]

(5) if he will list the members of Gemini Housing Association and those who have resigned since it was formed; [23115]

(6) what is the monthly rent and rates that Gemini Housing Association pays to Scottish Homes for use of their Glasgow offices; [23116]

(7) if the officers of Scottish Homes who attended the Gemini meeting at Campsie street on 28 April were paid from Scottish Homes' budget; [23117]

(8) to what extent resources given by the chief executive of Scottish Homes to Gemini Ltd exceed the normal start up grants given to newly formed housing associations; and when approval was given by the Scottish Homes Board. [23118]

**Lord James Douglas-Hamilton:** The information requested is a matter for Scottish Homes. I have asked its chairman, Sir James Mellon, to write to the hon. Member.

### Historical Documents

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23279]

**Lord James Douglas-Hamilton:** Scottish Office documents of historical significance are transmitted to the Keeper of the Records of Scotland, whose staff are responsible for selection on historical grounds. These members of staff—curatorial officers of the Scottish Record Office—are qualified archivists, trained by the SRO itself and, increasingly nowadays in possession also of a diploma in archive administration. In addition, they are supervised in the early stages of their work on these records by senior colleagues to ensure that they follow consistently general guidelines laid down over the 25 years or so that the present system has been in operation.

### Population Statistics

**Mr. Darling:** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland what is his estimate of the number of people likely to be living in Scotland aged (i) 65, (ii) 75 and (iii) over 85 years in (a) 1996, (b) 2000 and (c) 2005. [23157]

**Lord James Douglas-Hamilton** [holding answer 9 May 1995]: Projected population figures are given in the table.

Age	Year		
	1996	2000	2005
65	50,600	49,000	49,800
75	38,600	36,100	37,300
85 and over	82,600	92,100	96,400

### Residential Care

**Mr. Darling:** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland what is his estimate of the number of private sector long-term residential places for elderly people in Scotland in 1995 and in 2000; and if he will make a statement. [23159]

**Lord James Douglas-Hamilton** [holding answer 9 May 1995]: The number of private sector residential care home places which will be required for elderly people in the year 2000 cannot be estimated as it will depend on a number of factors. These include not only the numbers of elderly people at that time and their state of health but on the extent to which this form of care is available in other sectors. Cost and quality of residential care will influence the distribution between sectors. At present the cost of care in homes run by local authorities is substantially more than in homes in the private and voluntary sectors. However, there is no indication that the quality of local authority care is higher. The numbers of residential care home places for elderly people in each sector in Scotland and England at 31 March 1994 are set out in the table below.

	Scotland		England	
	Number of places	Places per 1,000 population aged 75+	Number of places	Places per 1,000 population aged 75+
Local authority	8,356	26.0	67,401	19.9
Private	4,693	14.6	163,202	48.3
Voluntary	4,139	12.9	39,359	11.6
Total	17,188	53.5	269,962	79.9



### 159 Grove Green, Leytonstone

**Mr. Cohen:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department who was present at the meeting on 1 December 1994 at which the operational decision was taken to take physical possession of 159 Grove Green road, Leytonstone; and whom they represented. [23545]

**Mr. Maclean:** I understand that the county court made an order for the possession of this property on 11 July 1994 and that the Metropolitan Police were requested to be present on 1 December 1994 when the bailiffs executed the order, to prevent a breach of the peace.

This was an operational matter for the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

### Police Operational Duties and Training

**Mr. Butler:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department for how many hours per day, on average, a police constable (a) performs operational duties, (b) receives training and (c) works on other matters in the latest year for which statistics are available, by police forces. [23599]

**Mr. Maclean:** The only information available relates to the average number of days spent in training by police constables, including probationers, during 1992-93.

Forces	Training days	Average number of days per PC
Avon and Somerset	37,194	16
Bedfordshire	16,717	18
Cambridgeshire	14,056	15
Cheshire	20,773	14
City of London	6,688	12
Cleveland	14,149	13
Cumbria	17,674	20
Derbyshire	30,721	22
Devon and Cornwall	44,487	20
Dorset	15,987	16
Durham	10,614	10
Dyfed Powys	10,241	14
Essex	45,804	20
Gloucestershire	11,930	13
Greater Manchester	65,586	13
Gwent	n/a	n/a
Hampshire	n/a	n/a
Hertfordshire	18,222	14
Humberside	n/a	n/a
Kent	50,259	21
Lancashire	35,215	15
Leicestershire	25,175	18
Lincolnshire	14,391	16
Merseyside	53,859	15
Metropolitan	230,627	11
Norfolk	15,987	14
North Wales	10,829	11
North Yorkshire	20,257	19
Northamptonshire	22,062	25
Northumbria	48,274	17
Nottinghamshire	34,977	20
South Wales	33,019	14
South Yorkshire	36,666	16
Staffordshire	23,603	14
Suffolk	11,940	13
Surrey	n/a	n/a
Sussex	n/a	n/a
Thames Valley	47,442	16
Warwickshire	8,599	11

part

Forces	Training days	Average number of days per PC
West Mercia	26,279	17
West Midlands	105,198	20
West Yorkshire	40,936	10
Wiltshire	19,139	22

### Campsfield House

**Mr. Rooker:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what is the average weekly cost of detaining a person at Campsfield House. [23358]

**Mr. Nicholas Baker:** The average weekly cost is currently estimated at £413, excluding immigration service and escorting costs.

### Historical Documents

**Mr. Gordon Prentice:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what special training is given to persons who have responsibility for assessing the historical significance of documents held by his Department. [23285]

**Mr. Howard:** The Staff involved receive desk training, carried out under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records, and are provided with written guidance prepared within the Department and by the Public Records Office. Staff also attend conferences and seminars arranged by the Public Records Office, and are encouraged to attend Civil Service College and Public Records Office courses.

### National Vocational Qualifications

**Mr. Barron:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many, and what proportion of, vacancies advertised by his Department, and by each of his Department's agencies in the last three years have listed the attainment of NVQ's as an acceptable entry requirement; and, of those, how many have required (i) level 1 NVQs, (ii) level 2 NVQs, (iii) level 3 NVQs and (iv) other level NVQs. [22974]

**Mr. Howard:** Information is not readily available about vacancies advertised by Prison Service establishments. In the remainder of the Home Office no vacancy advertised in the last three years has specifically listed the attainment of NVQs as an acceptable entry requirement. In both areas, however, NVQs are accepted as a recognised equivalent to the entry qualifications of certain grades.

### LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

#### Registered Medical Practitioners

**Mr. Spearing:** To ask the Lord President of the Council how many appeals from decisions of the General Medical Council (a) heard, (b) which were successful against removal from the list of registered medical practitioners consequent to proceedings in its professional conduct committee, and how many other appeals were (c) heard and (d) successful since the coming into force of the Medical Act 1983.



**GP Fundholders**

**Mr. Morgan:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland what external legal advice has been received in respect of parliamentary approval for the payment of practice management expenses by GP fundholders. [27017]

**Mr. Moss:** No external legal advice has been received. My Department's legal advisers are at present considering what, if any, action needs to be taken on this matter in Northern Ireland. I shall write to the hon. Gentleman as soon as the position has been clarified.

**Metal-framed Windows**

**Mr. John D. Taylor:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how much the Housing Executive's recent plan to replace metal window frames with wooden frames on a needs only basis has cost; how much it is anticipated the full replacement course will cost; and for what reasons the scheme was upgraded from needs only to a full replacement programme. [27359]

**Mr. Moss:** This is a matter for the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, but I have been advised by the chief executive that the executive adopted a policy to replace all metal-framed windows with wooden frames over a five-year period, in April 1994. Prior to this, metal-framed windows were replaced on a needs only basis, but information about how much the Housing Executive expended in this connection is not available. It is estimated that the full replacement course will cost £30 million over the five-year period. The reasons for the change in policy were the age and condition of the metal framed windows and the concerns expressed by tenants.

**Myalgic Encephalomyelitis**

**Mr. John D. Taylor:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how many sufferers of myalgic encephalomyelitis there are in Northern Ireland; and what proposals there are to provide a specialist clinic for ME patients. [27360]

**Mr. Moss:** The number of people in Northern Ireland currently diagnosed as having myalgic encephalomyelitis, a condition being increasingly referred to as chronic fatigue syndrome, is not known. There are no proposals at present to establish a ME clinic in Northern Ireland.

**HOUSE OF COMMONS****Translation Facilities**

**Mr. Flynn:** To ask the Chairman of the Information Committee what facilities are available for translating proceedings of the House in Committee Rooms and in the Chamber from English into other languages.

**Mr. Waller:** Equipment, including interpreter booths, which enable simultaneous translation from English into other languages, can be provided for use in committee rooms. The Chamber is equipped with a single-channel system which enables simultaneous translation from English to one other language to be provided for up to 24 visitors in the Galleries.

**PRIME MINISTER****VJ Day**

**Dr. Godman:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will re-define VJ day as VP day, victory in the Pacific; and if he will make a statement. [26157]

**The Prime Minister:** No.

**Churchill Papers**

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister on which occasions the Churchill papers were offered for sale to the Government. [26843]

**The Prime Minister:** I cannot answer for previous Administrations. A formal offer of sale was made by the current trustees in 1991.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will instruct the national heritage fund to put the Churchill papers up for public tender without reservation. [26846]

**The Prime Minister:** No. The papers which constitute the Churchill archive are now the property of the Sir Winston Churchill archive trust, a charitable trust set up for the purpose of preserving the archive intact for the nation.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister what consideration he gave when deciding whether the Official Secrets Acts covered the Churchill papers in the case of Peter Wright; and if he will make a statement. [26862]

**The Prime Minister:** The case to which the hon. Member refers has little or no relevance to the question of the applicability of the Official Secrets Acts to the Churchill papers.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if the national heritage fund is free to sell private papers acquired from the Churchill family; and what evidence he has as to their current market value, taking into account the copyright provisions. [26861]

**The Prime Minister:** The private papers sold by the Churchill family were bought on behalf of the specially constituted Sir Winston Churchill archive trust through the money allocated from the heritage lottery fund by the national heritage memorial fund. The only way the trust could dispose of the papers would be with the consent of the trustees of the national heritage memorial fund. As trustees of a charitable trust, they may not, in any case, dispose of the permanent endowment of the trust without the consent of the Charity Commissioners or of the courts. The independent advice on the value of the papers which the national heritage memorial fund received took into account the intended arrangements as to copyright ownership.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister (1) if he will take impartial professional advice as to the open market value, subject to the existing restrictions on copyright, of the private papers purchased by the national heritage fund from the Churchill family; [26867]

(2) what account was taken of the value of the copyright when estimating the amount which might have been paid by purchasers of the Churchill memoirs. [27340]

**The Prime Minister:** The independent advice on the value of the papers which the national heritage memorial fund received took into account the intended arrangements as to copyright ownership.



OPSS/1994/95-1-0718

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON  
ANSWERED ON

Lab - Great Grimsby

142 Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister what consideration he gave when deciding whether the Official Secrets Acts covered the Churchill papers to the case of Peter Wright, and if he will make a statement.

DRAFT REPLY

The case to which the Hon Member refers has little or no relevance to the question of the applicability of the Official Secrets Acts to the Churchill papers.

pq0718



## BACKGROUND NOTE

The case brought by the Crown seeking to prevent publication of "Spycatcher" was not a criminal prosecution, but a civil action to restrain a breach of confidence. Mr Peter Wright was in Australia and could not have been prosecuted in that country under the Official Secrets Acts.

The various "Spycatcher" judgments are concerned only with civil proceedings and do not give any useful guidance on the quite separate question whether the information contained in the Churchill papers was of such a kind whose unauthorised disclosure would constitute an offence under the official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989.

The transfer of the State papers to Churchill College does not involve any such unauthorised disclosure. Those papers which are of continuing sensitivity remain subject to the restriction on access which applied before the transfer as a condition of the deed of gift.



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**The Prime Minister:** No. The papers which constitute the Churchill archive are now the property of the Sir Winston Churchill archive trust, a charitable trust set up for the purpose of preserving the archive intact for the nation.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister what consideration he gave when deciding whether the Official Secrets Acts covered the Churchill papers in the case of Peter Wright; and if he will make a statement. [26862]

**The Prime Minister:** The case to which the hon. Member refers has little or no relevance to the question of the applicability of the Official Secrets Acts to the Churchill papers.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if the national heritage fund is free to sell private papers acquired from the Churchill family; and what evidence he has as to their current market value, taking into account the copyright provisions. [26861]

**The Prime Minister:** The private papers sold by the Churchill family were bought on behalf of the specially constituted Sir Winston Churchill archive trust through the money allocated from the heritage lottery fund by the national heritage memorial fund. The only way the trust could dispose of the papers would be with the consent of the trustees of the national heritage memorial fund. As trustees of a charitable trust, they may not, in any case, dispose of the permanent endowment of the trust without the consent of the Charity Commissioners or of the courts. The independent advice on the value of the papers which the national heritage memorial fund received took into account the intended arrangements as to copyright ownership.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister (1) if he will take impartial professional advice as to the open market value, subject to the existing restrictions on copyright, of the private papers purchased by the national heritage fund from the Churchill family; [26867]

(2) what account was taken of the value of the copyright when estimating the amount which might have been paid by purchasers of the Churchill memoirs. [27340]

**The Prime Minister:** The independent advice on the value of the papers which the national heritage memorial fund received took into account the intended arrangements as to copyright ownership.



OPSS/1994/95-1-0717

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON  
ANSWERED ON

Lab - Great Grimsby

141 Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, if he will instruct the National Heritage Fund to put the Churchill papers up for public tender without reservation.

DRAFT REPLY

No. The papers which constitute the Churchill Archive are now the property of the Sir Winston Churchill Archive Trust~~s~~<sub>1</sub>, a charitable Trust set up for the purpose of preserving the Archive intact for the nation.

BBB



BACKGROUND NOTE

This is one of six Questions to the Prime Minister tabled by Mr Austin Mitchell MP on various aspects of the sale of the Churchill papers.

As the draft reply makes clear the Churchill papers now belong to the newly created Sir Winston Churchill Archive Trust. They do not belong to the National Heritage Memorial Fund. An instruction from the Prime Minister to the National Heritage Memorial Fund to put the papers up for public tender, as requested by Mr Austin Mitchell MP, even if the Prime Minister wished to do so, would be pointless.



**GP Fundholders**

**Mr. Morgan:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland what external legal advice has been received in respect of parliamentary approval for the payment of practice management expenses by GP fundholders. [27017]

**Mr. Moss:** No external legal advice has been received. My Department's legal advisers are at present considering what, if any, action needs to be taken on this matter in Northern Ireland. I shall write to the hon. Gentleman as soon as the position has been clarified.

**Metal-framed Windows**

**Mr. John D. Taylor:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how much the Housing Executive's recent plan to replace metal window frames with wooden frames on a needs only basis has cost; how much it is anticipated the full replacement course will cost; and for what reasons the scheme was upgraded from needs only to a full replacement programme. [27359]

**Mr. Moss:** This is a matter for the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, but I have been advised by the chief executive that the executive adopted a policy to replace all metal-framed windows with wooden frames over a five-year period, in April 1994. Prior to this, metal-framed windows were replaced on a needs only basis, but information about how much the Housing Executive expended in this connection is not available. It is estimated that the full replacement course will cost £30 million over the five-year period. The reasons for the change in policy were the age and condition of the metal framed windows and the concerns expressed by tenants.

**Myalgic Encephalomyelitis**

**Mr. John D. Taylor:** To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how many sufferers of myalgic encephalomyelitis there are in Northern Ireland; and what proposals there are to provide a specialist clinic for ME patients. [27360]

**Mr. Moss:** The number of people in Northern Ireland currently diagnosed as having myalgic encephalomyelitis, a condition being increasingly referred to as chronic fatigue syndrome, is not known. There are no proposals at present to establish a ME clinic in Northern Ireland.

**HOUSE OF COMMONS****Translation Facilities**

**Mr. Flynn:** To ask the Chairman of the Information Committee what facilities are available for translating proceedings of the House in Committee Rooms and in the Chamber from English into other languages.

**Mr. Waller:** Equipment, including interpreter booths, which enable simultaneous translation from English into other languages, can be provided for use in committee rooms. The Chamber is equipped with a single-channel system which enables simultaneous translation from English to one other language to be provided for up to 24 visitors in the Galleries.

**PRIME MINISTER****VJ Day**

**Dr. Godman:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will re-define VJ day as VP day, victory in the Pacific; and if he will make a statement. [26157]

**The Prime Minister:** No.

**Churchill Papers**

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister on which occasions the Churchill papers were offered for sale to the Government. [26843]

**The Prime Minister:** I cannot answer for previous Administrations. A formal offer of sale was made by the current trustees in 1991.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister if he will instruct the national heritage fund to put the Churchill papers up for public tender without reservation. [26846]

**The Prime Minister:** No. The papers which constitute the Churchill archive are now the property of the Sir Winston Churchill archive trust, a charitable trust set up for the purpose of preserving the archive intact for the nation.

**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister what consideration he gave when deciding whether the Official Secrets Acts covered the Churchill papers in the case of Peter Wright; and if he will make a statement. [26862]

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**Mr. Austin Mitchell:** To ask the Prime Minister (1) if he will take impartial professional advice as to the open market value, subject to the existing restrictions on copyright, of the private papers purchased by the national heritage fund from the Churchill family; [26867]

(2) what account was taken of the value of the copyright when estimating the amount which might have been paid by purchasers of the Churchill memoirs. [27340]

**The Prime Minister:** The independent advice on the value of the papers which the national heritage memorial fund received took into account the intended arrangements as to copyright ownership.



OPSS REF:/1994/95/1-0715

ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER ON 6 JUNE 1995  
ANSWERED ON

Lab - Great Grimsby

139            Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, on which occasions the Churchill  
papers were offered for sale to the government.            (26843)

PRIME MINISTER

I cannot answer for previous Administrations. A formal offer of  
sale was made by the current Trustees in 1991.



HO95/378

MISS LEECH

**PM ADVISE PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS**

I attach suggested draft replies and background notes to Questions Numbers 139-142 to the Prime Minister from Mr Austin Mitchell MP.

The reply to Question No 142 and the background note have been supplied by Mr Michael Carpenter; the replies to the other three Questions have been cleared with him.

*P M Andrews*

MISS P M ANDREWS

Historical and Records Section  
26 May 1995

*P. I. see amendment below. I do not think the PM should answer for an informal approach to a previous Administration, particularly since Lord Tebbit's letter does not actually refer to an approach to the Government, only to an effort to raise funds.*

*PERB*

*5.6.*



ORDINARY WRITTEN QUESTION

FOR ANSWER ON

ANSWERED ON

Lab - Great Grimsby

139 Mr Austin Mitchell

To ask the Prime Minister, on which occasions the Churchill papers were offered for sale to the government.

DRAFT REPLY

*Under End*  
~~An informal approach was made by the then Trustees of the Churchill Archive Settlement in 1971. A formal offer of sale was made by the current Trustees in 1991.~~  
*but I cannot answer for previous Administrations.*

*I cannot answer for previous Administrations. A formal offer of sale was made by the current Trustees in 1991.*



## BACKGROUND NOTE

In 1971 Sir John (Jock) Colville, then a Trustee of the Churchill Archive Settlement Trust, wrote to the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Burke Trend, asking whether Her Majesty's Government would make an offer of £100,000 to £120,000 to acquire the pre-1945 papers and deposit them in Churchill College.

This was, as he made clear in his letter, not an official approach; he had not, at the time of writing, consulted his fellow Trustee, but he asked the Cabinet Secretary to think the matter over.

The Cabinet Secretary replied, following consultation with the Lord Chancellor's Department, Treasury Solicitor and the Public Record Office, saying that there were no public funds which would permit the Government to contemplate such an offer and pointing out that this was aside from any question of who actually owns the papers. The matter does not appear to have been put to Ministers and it was not pursued further.

A formal approach suggesting the acquisition of the papers by the State, through a negotiated private treaty, was set out in a Memorandum prepared by the current Trustees of the Archive Settlement and put forward to the Prime Minister by Lord Tebbit under cover of a letter dated 27 March 1991. In his letter Lord Tebbit refers to the 1971 approach.





HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

27 March 1991

Rt Hon John Major MP  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON SW1

*D John,*

It was good of you to allow me to tell you of the problem facing the Trustees of the Archive Settlement.

The enclosed memorandum describes how Churchill's papers came to be divided. In essence his pre-1945 personal papers have been since 1963 in the ownership of The Archive Settlement. The trustees are required to manage the trust to the benefit of the lineal descendants of Sir Winston and the principal beneficiary is now Winston Churchill.

The post-1945 papers are now in the possession of Churchill College. In 1971 an attempt was made to raise funds to enable the purchase of the pre-1945 papers in order that they could be donated to Churchill College. This failed.

So we now have the Archive Centre at Churchill College, built to house his papers but the major part of those papers are there only on loan and subject to a trust which must now move to sell them in the interest of the beneficiary.

Page 5 of the memorandum puts forward proposals to avoid the break-up and dispersion (probably abroad) of the archive. That would require a negotiated private sale with the State. I am told the sum would not be huge.

The trustees wanted you to be aware of this proposal before it is taken forward in order that deadlocked positions are not reached with all the unhappy publicity that might arise before the issue had come to your notice.

If I can help as an intermediary in any way I would be happy to do so.

*J Norman*