



CC/DO

PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

30 May 1984

nbpm
DWB
1/6

Dear Keith

FINAL REPORT OF THE REVIEW GROUP ON THE YOUTH SERVICE (RGYS)

Thank you for your letter of 17 May inviting colleagues to reconsider their objections to establishment of a national advisory body on the youth service. I have also seen your Private Secretary's letter of 9 May to the Prime Minister's Private Secretary.

I understand that the Prime Minister and other colleagues who originally had misgivings about your proposals - Leon Brittan, Patrick Jenkin and Tom King - have considered your arguments in favour of appointing this body, and are prepared to withdraw their objections. In view of that you may take it that you have H Committee agreement to establish it on an experimental basis, with terms of reference and membership carefully drawn to minimise the possibility of future conflict.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, to members of H Committee, to Grey Gowrie, and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

John
Llwyd

The Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph Bt MP

MANPOWER: Special emp. means: Pt 10

STATEMENT ON THE REPORT OF THE REVIEW GROUP ON THE YOUTH SERVICE

With permission Mr Speaker, I should like to make a statement about the report of the Review Group on the Youth Service.

When this report - appropriately entitled 'Experience and Participation' - was published, I described it as a timely and far-reaching study of the ways in which the youth service was helping young people and I said that it offered some important recommendations for the development of the Service. Decisions on certain of those recommendations have already been announced to the House. I turn now to decisions on the outstanding recommendations directed to central Government, to which I have given careful consideration in the light of the many comments received during consultation.

I accept the Review Group's recommendation that it would be helpful to the field for there to be a publicly known unit in the Department dealing with youth service matters, and I propose to identify such a unit.

In line with the Review Group's recommendations, grant-aid is being made available to voluntary organisations for experimental projects in managerial innovation in the youth service and for the training of part-time and volunteer staff in particular; the National Council for Voluntary Youth Services will be consulted about the allocation of these resources. As far as the Review Group's recommendations for grant-aid for regional and county voluntary organisations is concerned, the Department already grant-aids national voluntary youth organisations and I consider that it is primarily for these national organisations to support their regional and county bodies, as a number do now. On financial grounds, it has not been possible at the present time to accept the Review Group's recommendation for mandatory grants for students on youth work courses. I shall, however, continue to keep the important area of youth work training under careful review.

The Government has considered with great care the Review Group's recommendations on legislation, but does not consider that it would be appropriate to introduce new legislation relating to

the youth service unless legislation dealing with the whole statutory framework of post-school education were being proposed. This is not the case: as I told the House on 10 April I take the view that existing legislation for post-school education remains broadly adequate for its purpose. I further consider that existing legislation provides a similarly adequate basis for youth service provision. I do, however, recognise the need for additional guidance to the youth service particularly as regards the important areas of co-operation between the voluntary and local authority sectors and the need for effective management of available resources. I am consequently issuing for consultation, today, the draft of a circular setting out the Government's views.

Finally, I have also given careful consideration to the recommendation for a national body to offer advice on questions arising in the field of youth affairs. I have noted, particularly, the considerable support expressed in the report of the review of National Youth Bureau. In view of the range of activities currently undertaken by the youth service, I am persuaded that a role exists for a small advisory body capable of offering informed advice to me, to my rt hon Friend the Secretary of State for Wales, and to others with youth service responsibilities on the appropriate scale and direction of youth service activity - having regard to the available resources.

I accordingly propose to establish such a body within the next few months for an experimental period of 3 years in the first instance, subject to review at the end of that period. I shall appoint, in conjunction with my rt hon Friend the Secretary of State for Wales, individual members to this body in a personal capacity: in making choices for membership, I shall have regard to the broad range of interests in the youth service field and to advice I may receive on membership from those active within it.

By these arrangements the Government intends to develop further the youth service partnership, both at national and local levels, for the benefit of all young people.

1) CF
2) OR



B/f
on 24/5
PK

This letter
will not now
be sent.

10 DOWNING STREET

Auxiliary letters from
Lord President.

DMB
30/5

Please b/f to me
(unsigned) on
Friday 18 May

DO NOT

DMB
16/5

FILE

NO COPIES TAKEN.

ENVS. IN GR

SH



Draft

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

14 May, 1984

Final Report of the Review Group on the Youth Service

Thank you for your letter of 9 May in reply to mine of 25 April about your Secretary of State's proposal to establish a new advisory body on the youth service.

In the light of the additional arguments set out in your letters, the Prime Minister reluctantly agrees that your Secretary of State should establish such a body, provided that this is on an explicitly experimental basis.

I am sending copies of this letter to the recipients of the earlier correspondence.

DAVID BARCLAY

Miss C. E. Hodkinson,
Department of Education and Science

CND



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Oddi wrth Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru

The Rt. Hon Nicholas Edwards MP

From The Secretary of State for Wales

13 June 1984

Den Keith

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Tues
13/6*

FINAL REPORT OF THE REVIEW GROUP ON THE YOUTH SERVICE (RGYS)

Thank you for your copy letter of 17 May to Willie Whitelaw.

You will know that the HMI Survey on "Youth Service Provision in Wales" was published in February and my Department will be carrying out consultations with local education authorities and all major voluntary organisations in Wales during the next few months. Nevertheless, and without prejudice to their findings, the proposal for the setting up of a small advisory body capable of offering informed advice on the appropriate scale and direction of youth service activity is one which I feel I must consider sooner rather than later. I concede that the Youth Service world is one with which conflict should be avoided if at all possible particularly in the light of the decision not to introduce new legislation. I am also mindful that the Prime Minister has questioned the need of such a body and feels that it is likely to become a pressure group. However, in the absence of legislation and a response that there is to be no Youth Advisory Body we are likely to be faced with further pressure for private legislation.

I would therefore go along with the idea of a small advisory body acting as a forum on youth matters on an experimental basis with its remit in clearly defined and tightly drawn lines. The body could also report to and advise me until such time as the outcome of the consultations on the Welsh Survey is known.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, the members of H Committee and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

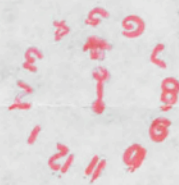
John

The Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph BT MP
Secretary of State
Department of Education and Science
Elizabeth House
York Road
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SE1

See

Manpower: Special Employment Measures A10

12/8
12/8



13 JUN 1984



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

21 May 1984

Dear Elizabeth

FINAL REPORT OF THE REVIEW GROUP ON THE YOUTH SERVICE

Thank you for sending us a copy of your letter of 9 May to David Barclay. *with cc*

My Secretary of State remains concerned that the establishment of such an advisory body could lead to pressure for additional spending by local authorities unless the group's terms of reference are tightly drawn. He is also sceptical about the scope for abolishing it, once established, even if only experimentally.

However he would not wish to stand in the way of your proposals, subject to other colleagues' agreement, provided that officials can agree a suitably worded remit which is explicit about the needs for the advisory body's advice to be constrained by the availability of existing resources.

I am sending copies of this letter to those who received yours.

Yours,

Andrew

A C ALLBERRY
Private Secretary

Miss C E Hodgkinson

MANPOWER : Special Employment Measures

Pt 10





DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

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FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

17 May 1984

Jim Willis .

FINAL REPORT OF THE REVIEW GROUP OF THE YOUTH SERVICE (RGYS)

Thank you for your letter of 4 May concerning my proposed response to the remaining issues covered by the RGYS report.

You will have seen my Private Secretary's letter of 9 May setting out my response to the Prime Minister's concerns expressed in David Barclay's letter of 25 April. These have also been underlined by Patrick Jenkin and Tom King who has reminded us, in particular, of a possible analogy with the Careers Service Advisory Council.

As my original proposals indicated, I do of course fully recognise the potential dangers implicit in the creation of a body on the lines proposed - particularly should it come to be regarded as an active lobby group. However the Youth Service world is already largely composed of rival lobby groups whose objectives frequently conflict. Responding to the continuing representations of such bodies is time consuming and relatively fruitless both for Ministers and officials. As the proposed draft circular indicates, our view is that the time is now ripe for voluntary and statutory provision to be focused more coherently and hence to enable more effective use of available resources to be secured. For this to be possible, there should be some forum for determining youth service priorities - and it is this forum role that the proposed advisory body would fill. In its absence, continuing efforts to provide leadership to the youth service field will be made by less suitable agencies such as the National Youth Bureau for which a more appropriate role, predominantly as an information base, has been recently recommended in a separate review.

/As my Private

The Lord President of the Council
Privy Council Office
Whitehall
London SW1

As my Private Secretary's letter also indicated, there remain sound strategic reasons why the Government's response to the RGYS report should announce the creation of this body. If we do not, the result is likely to be the early presentation of a further Private Member's Bill on the lines of that originally tabled by Trevor Skeet (which caused us great difficulty and necessitated the establishment of the Review Group itself). This prospect is re-inforced by Early Day motion (No 731) recently tabled by Geoff Lawler.

I hope that colleagues will also bear these factors in mind in considering this issue further.

Copies of this letter go, as before, to the Prime Minister, members of H Committee and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours
over.

Keir

Manpower Pt 10

Special Emp. Measures

11/11/1984

