



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

cc: Mr. Ingham  
Mr. Caines,  
CPRS

Mr. J. W. Stevens

CPRS

I attach Question and Answer briefing for our Press Office on the CPRS announcement, together with a list of current CPRS staff and a list of policy units elsewhere in Government with their dates of establishment.

I have agreed this material with Mr. Caines.

If you have any comments, could your office please let me or Mr. Ingham know before 4 p.m.

LEER BUTLER

16 June, 1983

CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL 4 p.m., 16 JUNE, 1983

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CPRS: BRIEF FOR PRESS OFFICE

Has this decision been taken because of embarrassing leaks, e.g. of the public expenditure paper of last September?

No. The Prime Minister has always said that the Government would be weakened if fresh (and possibly controversial) ideas were not produced and discussed. Many ideas are produced, throughout Government and outside it, which are rejected by Ministers.

The leaks have not been confined to CPRS documents (and there is no reason to believe that they came from CPRS).

Who is going to produce new ideas?

This is indeed necessary and is best carried out under close Ministerial supervision in the Departments concerned.

Is this a weakening of Collective Government?

It does reduce the collective support for Ministers. But it is nonsense to present it as a move away from Collective Government. Ministers now receive ~~most~~ policy analysis support within their own Departments and have less need for a central policy analysis unit serving them collectively. But decisions are still made collectively. And the Cabinet Office Secretariat continues to provide collective support.

Has the decision been taken because people in the CPRS are less good than they used to be?

No. The current CPRS team is of the same high standard as its predecessors but the growth of policy analysis elsewhere in Government has inevitably meant that their special role is less necessary.

/What work

What work has the CPRS left to finish?

It has never been the practice to publish the CPRS' work programme.

What will happen to Mr. Sparrow?

He will return to Morgan Grenfell.

Was he offered a place elsewhere in Government?

He was asked what his wishes were and said that he wished to return to Morgan Grenfell.

Will there be an expansion of the No. 10 Policy Unit?

No large scale expansion is envisaged. A few extra people are likely to be added to expand the Policy Unit's coverage.

What will happen to CPRS' existing staff?

The plan is that the Civil Servants will return to their Departments. Discussions are taking place with those seconded from the private sector to see what their wishes are. Some are likely to be invited to complete their secondments in Departments or in the No. 10 Policy Unit.

Lord Hunt has talked about 'a hole at the Centre'. Won't this make it worse?

No. Policy analysis and the development can be perfectly well done away from the Centre. There needs <sup>to be</sup> both central co-ordination and support for the Prime Minister. These are provided by the Cabinet Office and the Prime Minister's Policy Unit.

/Was the

Was the decision cleared with the Cabinet?

Yes.

THE CENTRAL POLICY REVIEW STAFF

	DEPARTMENT/ORGANISATION	EXPECTED DATE OF RETURN
Mr J Sparrow	Morgan Grenfell <del>Ltd</del> <sup>plc</sup>	April 1985
Mr J Caines (Dep Sec)	Department of <sup>Trade and</sup> Industry	January 1985
Dr R B Nicholson	Inco Europe	November 1984
Mr D Green	ICI <del>Ltd</del> <sup>plc</sup>	July 1984
Mr R Young	Vickers <del>Ltd</del> <sup>plc.</sup>	April 1985
Mr G J Wasserman (U Sec)	Home Office	July 1985
Mr G Hart (U Sec)	DHSS	April 1984
Mr M J Elliott	London School of Economics	June 1984
Mr W E Martin (Econ Adviser)	Department of <sup>Trade and</sup> Industry	<del>March</del> <sup>July</sup> 1985
Mr B A Taylor (A Sec)	Ministry of Defence	January 1985
Mr J Stuttard	Coopers & Lybrand	<del>December</del> <sup>November</sup> 1985
Dr P Davies	Science & Engineering Research Council	June 1984
Mr C H Smee (Sen Econ Adviser)	DHSS	January 1985
Mr D Pascall	BP <del>International</del>	March 1984
Miss C Rycroft (A Sec)	FCO	December 1983
Mr C Williams (Econ Adviser)	HM Treasury*	June 1984



DEPARTMENTAL POLICY UNITS

- DHSS      Policy Strategy Unit ( AS - D.Brereton) Est. 1981  
Secretariat to main policy committees. Ad hoc policy studies/analyses.
- DEn      Central Policy Unit ( AS J.R.Wakely, J.Whaley) Est. post 1974
- DES      Planning and International Relations Branch (AS- R.Ritzema) Est.1971  
Secretariat for main policy committees. Ad hoc policy studies.
- DOE      Central Policy Planning Unit (AS - Mrs M.MacDonald) Est.early 1970s.  
Ad hoc policy studies. Runs MINIS
- DTI      Policy Planning Unit ( AS - A. Duguid) Est.1982  
Secretariat and policy analysis functions. To be expanded to cover policy formerly within Department of Trade.
- DTp      Transport Policy Review Unit ( AS - D.Moss) Est.1976  
Secretariat for main policy committees plus policy studies.
- FCO      Planning Staff ( G.G.H.Walden) Est.mid 1960s  
Policy coordination and analysis.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

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PRESS NOTICE

The Prime Minister has reviewed the arrangements for support to Ministers on policy analysis and advice, and in particular the role of the Central Policy Review Staff (CPRS).

2. The CPRS has been a valuable source of policy analysis and collective advice to Ministers in successive Governments since it was established in 1971. In the meantime, however, Departments have established or expanded their own policy units for long-term planning, and the Cabinet Office Secretariat's role in preparing issues for collective Ministerial discussion has grown considerably. A policy unit has also been established in the Prime Minister's office.

3. In the light of these developments, and of the development of the role of special advisers as a source of general advice to Ministers, the Prime Minister has decided, after consultation with her Cabinet colleagues, that the purposes for which the CPRS was set up are now being met satisfactorily in other ways and it should therefore be disbanded at the end of July.

4. Dr. R.B. Nicholson, who has been Chief Scientist, CPRS, will continue as Chief Scientific Adviser, Cabinet Office, with the rank of Deputy Secretary, and will continue to provide advice to the Prime Minister and to the Secretary of the Cabinet on scientific and technological matters or scientific and technological aspects of other issues which come to the Prime Minister or to the Cabinet Office. He will also continue his present role in respect of the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development (ACARD).

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. Mr. John Sparrow, the present Head of the CPRS, came into Government on secondment from Morgan Grenfell and Co plc in April 1982, and will return to that company when the CPRS is wound up. The Prime Minister said this afternoon:

"I am extremely grateful, as is the Government as a whole, to Mr. Sparrow for interrupting his career to come and help us in Government as Head of the CPRS. I had learnt to value his wise advice before either of us was in Government, and I have valued it even more highly in these last fifteen months. He returns to the City with my warmest gratitude and good wishes."

2. A number of other people from outside the Civil Service have been seconded to the CPRS. Their work has been invaluable. The Prime Minister is grateful to all who have worked for the CPRS, and in particular to those who have directed its work.

3. The Prime Minister is anxious that everything possible be done to see that the interests of all the staff of the CPRS, whether they are civil servants or on secondment from outside, are not adversely affected by the decision to bring the CPRS to an end, and she has given instructions accordingly.

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Wants to see what  
what.

A number of <sup>other</sup> people from outside

the Unit since have been seconded to  
the ZPRS. Their work has been invaluable.  
~~Some work has been undertaken~~  
Some work attached to the <sup>Prime Minister's</sup> Policy Unit, others

Turn into  
para. 2  
overleaf.

~~to the specific departmental responsibilities]~~  
The <sup>Prime Minister</sup> P.M. is grateful to all who have  
worked for the ZPRS <sup>and</sup> <sup>to show</sup> <sup>contribution</sup>  
who have <sup>been</sup> <sup>involved</sup> in work. ~~with the Unit~~  
~~last year.~~

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