

GRO-C

1. Mr Heppell
2. Mr Laurance

CBLA CHAIRMAN

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I understand that proposals have been put to Secretary of State by Sir Kenneth Stowe.

2. I appreciate there are other pressing matters around. However I ought to point out that the Authority has been without a Chairman since 30 November. In the absence of any notification Mr Smart is continuing to conduct Authority business (eg he is dealing with the appointment of the new Chief Executive). This is not strictly proper. The Authority are due to meet again on 27 January and again strictly speaking a meeting ought not to be held without a duly appointed chairman. (The Vice Chairman was not reappointed).

3. To avoid impropriety an appointment should be made in advance of the January meeting.

4. I should perhaps add that if Mr Smart were not reappointed in these circumstances (ie between meetings) there could be a groundswell of sympathy for him from among the members and protests or worse could not be ruled out.

GRO-C

15 December 1986

M A HARRIS
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EXT

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cc
Mr Slater
Mr Podger (Mr Peach is Accounting Officer)
Ms Windsor SOL
Mr Cashman O/R
Mr James
Dr Moore

