

Mr Hindley

You mentioned the other day that there might be grounds for some kind of review of WRVS activities and funding.

2. My instincts are to leave well alone and to reserve our energies for other things that have to be done.

3. I appreciate that there is an anomaly in that the WRVS had its origin in the context of Civil Defence; but that its modern activities are in much wider and different fields. We have for years resisted the Treasury's wish to re-legislate for the WRVS; and any previous suggestions for a review of arrangements - e.g. that the WRVS should be linked with the DHSS rather than the Home Office - caused great anxiety and consternation to them.

4. The short point is that the thing works. There is a good deal of public and political approval for the WRVS as an organisation and for the things they do. And despite occasional minor potholes about financial arrangements their financial system works, they are very economically minded and the only criticism I am aware of is that I was once told by the Select Committee on Estimates that we ought to give them more money!

5. I should therefore let things lie. (If I have taken your passing reference too seriously please forgive this jejeune note but I am anxious to save you ^{the} trouble of working up papers on the subject).

DPA

(D A PEACH)

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CP&EO Department