



BF via RTAs  
response -

CCW

BT 22/3

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

Sir Robert Armstrong GCB CVO  
Secretary of the Cabinet  
Cabinet Office  
70 Whitehall  
LONDON SW1A 2AS

21 March 1984

Dear Sir Robert,

TSRB PENSIONS

You circulated with your letter of 9 March a suggested draft PQ and Answer intended, subject to Cabinet clearance, to announce the decisions of the Ministerial meeting on 7 March.

The Minister of State has seen the Prime Minister's, the Lord Chancellor's and the Secretary of State for Social Services' comments and, after consulting the Chancellor of the Exchequer, would like to suggest that a rather briefer answer be given, which might avoid unnecessary discussion about the nature of the original announcement and also avoid mentioning doctors and dentists at all. In addition, the Minister feels that the form of the Question itself needs to be made more neutral. A possible revised draft is enclosed.

...

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Prime Minister, the Lord Chancellor, the Secretary of State for Defence, the Lord Privy Seal, the Secretary of State for Social Services, the Minister of State, Privy Council Office and the Chief Whip.

Yours sincerely,

Debbie McCambridge

P.P.

M E CORCORAN  
Private Secretary

To ask the Prime Minister what measures the Government proposes to take in respect of pensions of certain former public servants as a result of the Government's decisions following the Top Salary Review Body recommendations for 1983-84.

DRAFT ANSWER

In 1983 the Top Salary Review Body (TSRB) recommended new rates of salary for the judiciary, senior officers of the Armed Forces, and members of the higher Civil Service, to come into effect on 1 April 1983. On 21 July 1983 I announced that the Government had decided to increase the pay of those concerned in two stages from 1 August 1983 and from 1 January 1984. The pensions of those concerned are based on salary on or in the period immediately before the date of retirement, and therefore those who retired between 1 April and 31 July receive no benefit to their pensions. It has been represented to the Government that having regard to past experience and the date on which decisions on pay were announced those concerned might reasonably have expected their pensions to reflect an increase from 1 April 1983.

After careful consideration the Government has decided that in view of the uncertainty and expectations that may have been created it would be fair for the pensions of those in question to be calculated as if the increases which came into effect on 1 August 1983 had been implemented from 1 April 1983. It should be clear, however, that in future the pensions of retiring public servants will be calculated on the basis of actual salaries received at or in the period preceding retirement, and not on any notional or deemed rate of salary.

*Too rigid*

Comm PA 876

TSRB



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FROM THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

NDPM

26/3

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HOUSE OF LORDS,  
SW1A 0PW

26th March, 1984

Sir Robert Armstrong, GCB CVO  
Secretary of the Cabinet,  
Cabinet Office,  
70 Whitehall,  
London,  
SW1A 2AS.

26 FEB 1984

Dear Sir Robert,

TSRB Pensions

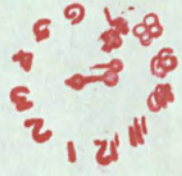
The Lord Chancellor has seen the revised draft PQ and Answer circulated by the Minister of State at the Treasury with his letter of 21st March. He has asked me to say that he thinks this is a great improvement on the first draft and should be adopted.

Copies of this letter go to the Private Secretaries to the Prime Minister, the Minister of State, Treasury, the Secretary of State for Defence, the Lord Privy Seal, the Secretary of State for Social Services, the Minister of State, Privy Council Office and the Chief Whip.

Yours sincerely,  
Richard Stoute

Richard Stoute

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RC



27 FEB 1984