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FRIDAY, 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 1976

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## State Intelligence

### ROYAL COMMISSION

Home Office,  
Whitehall, London S.W.1.  
26th July 1976.

A Royal Commission has been issued in form following:

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, To Our Trusty and Well-beloved:

Sir Henry Alexander Benson, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Excellent Order of the British Empire;

Sir Sydney William Templeman, Knight, Member of Our Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, One of the Justices of Our High Court of Justice;

Peter Goldman, Esquire, Commander of Our Most Excellent Order of the British Empire;

Ralf Dahrendorf, Esquire;

Leonard Firby Edmondson, Esquire;

Joseph Thomas William Haines, Esquire;

Thomas Patrick Shirley Harper, Esquire;

Mark Littman, Esquire, One of Our Counsel learned in the Law;

Agatha Susan Marsden-Smedley;

William Marshall, Esquire;

Peter Morris Oppenheimer, Esquire;

Sally Ramsden;

Alwyn Roberts, Esquire;

David Joseph Seligman, Esquire;

William Maxwell Harries Williams, Esquire,  
Greeting!

Whereas We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to inquire into the law and practice relating to the provision of legal services in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and to consider whether any, and if so what, changes are desirable in the public interest in the structure, organisation, training, regulation of and entry to the legal profession, including the arrangements for determining its remuneration, whether from private sources or public funds, and in the rules which prevent persons who are neither barristers nor solicitors from undertaking conveyancing and other legal business on behalf of other persons:

Now know ye that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, have authorised and appointed, and do by these Presents authorise and appoint you the said Sir Henry Alexander Benson (Chairman); Sir Sydney William Templeman; Peter Goldman; Ralf Dahrendorf; Leonard Firby Edmondson; Joseph Thomas William Haines; Thomas Patrick Shirley Harper; Mark Littman; Agatha Susan Marsden-Smedley; William Marshall; Peter Morris Oppenheimer; Sally Ramsden; Alwyn Roberts; David Joseph Seligman and William Maxwell Harries Williams, to be Our Commissioners for the purposes of the said inquiry:

And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission We do by these Presents give and grant unto you, or any eight or more of you, full power to call before you such persons as you shall judge likely to afford you any information upon the subject of this Our Commission; to call for information in writing; and also to call for, have access to and examine all such books, documents, registers and records as may afford you the fullest information on the subject and to inquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever:

And We do by these Presents authorise and empower you, or any of you, to visit and personally inspect such places as you may deem it expedient so to inspect for the more effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid:

And We do by these Presents will and ordain that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you, Our said Commissioners, or any eight or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof, and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment:

And We do further ordain that you, or any eight or more of you, have liberty to report your proceedings under this Our Commission from time to time if you shall judge it expedient so to do:

And Our further will and pleasure is that you do, with as little delay as possible, report to Us your opinion upon the matters herein submitted for your consideration.

Given at Our Court at Saint James's the Twentieth day of July 1976; In the Twenty-fifth Year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command.

*Roy Jenkins.*