

SECTION 5

THE SCOTTISH OFFICE —

SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES IN 1979

Central Services

Private office of Secretary of State and Ministers; office of Permanent Under-Secretary of State; management group support staff; amalgamated Scottish Office liaison units in Dover House, London; co-ordinating groups (urban policy, statutory planning).

Personnel management and services; training unit; welfare unit; manpower and organisation; office services. Library. Computer services.

Finance: public expenditure programmes; departmental votes; local government finance; payments, audit, accountancy services.

Solicitor's office.

Scottish Information Office. Statistics unit. Inquiry reporters.

Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland

Capital assistance to agriculture and horticulture including crofting development (with Crofters Commission), arterial drainage, agricultural land tenure. Policy on use of agricultural land. Liaison with Forestry Commission. Management of state-owned agricultural property (599,983 acres in 1975).

Crop improvement and marketing, plant health, pest control: policy and regulations.

Livestock products. Beef, sheep meat, pig meat, poultry and eggs: policy and regulations. Meat hygiene. Milk: policy, marketing and hygiene. Wool marketing.

Agricultural price support, hill farming and other subsidies: taking part in formulation of agricultural policy in UK and EEC contexts, operating the schemes, development of co-operation.

Animal health: policy and administration of control measures. Administration of livestock improvement schemes; enforcement of minimum wages for agricultural workers.

Conservation of fish stocks: taking part in international negotiations; protection of Scottish waters by fleet of cruisers (in co-operation with Royal Navy); management of white fish quota. Assistance to fishing and processing industries and fishery harbours.

Provision of agricultural education, research and development through three agricultural colleges and eight agricultural research institutes and an agricultural research station; provision of fisheries research services; assistance to the agricultural and fishing industries through local officers.

Administration of Royal Botanic Garden.

Scottish Development Department

Housing: policy; grants to local authorities and approval of housing plans; relations with Scottish Special Housing Association; research and development; improvement grants to private sector and modernisation subsidy to local authorities; rent registration services; servicing of rent assessment panel and rent tribunals.

Local government structure and areas: policy.

Land-use planning: approval of local authority structure plans; issue of guidelines; policy on community land scheme and compensation; land acquisition use and disposal for offshore petroleum development; countryside and conservancy policy; marine advice; graphic and photographic services.

Roads and transport: approval of local authorities' transport policies and programmes; specific grants; support for local authority bus services; assistance for Highlands and Islands shipping and transport piers; liaison with other forms of transport (airports, rail, etc.); road traffic regulations; road safety advisory unit; trunk road works.

Urban renewal: policy, aid programme and liaison.

Water supply, sewerage and pollution, etc.: policy; management of the water supply, sewerage, coast protection and flood prevention programmes; specific grants under the Regional Water and Sewerage and Local Employment Acts; research and development; refuse disposal; HM Industrial Pollution Inspectorate.

Historic buildings: policy, grants and casework; administration of ancient monuments and royal parks; rescue archaeology.

Building control: policy, review of regulations and some casework.

The SDD central research unit, building directorate and engineering division also provide services for other departments.

Scottish Economic Planning Department

Co-ordination of North Sea oil policy; oil research and intelligence; applications to European regional development fund; liaison with ports, aircraft, steel and shipbuilding industries; relations with Scottish Development Agency. Liaison with Manpower Services Commission; careers service,

policy and administration. Economic and statistical advice. Selective financial assistance to industry — policy and casework; promotion of industrial expansion and inward investment; export promotion; information to small firms.

Electricity: relations with the two Scottish electricity boards. Energy policy.

New Towns: relations with the Development Corporations.

Highland development and tourism: policy; relations with Highlands and Islands Development Board and Scottish Tourist Board.

Co-ordination of Scottish Office interests in the Scottish construction industry.

Scottish Education Department

Primary and secondary education: policy and regulations; approval of local authority schemes of provision; issue of guidance; taking part in curriculum development; inspection of schools; grant aid to some secondary and residential special schools and promotion of special education; policy on school meals and milk.

Formal further education: approval of advanced courses provided at colleges maintained by education authorities; policy development; oversight and financing of central institutions (other than the three agricultural colleges — see DAFS).

Some Universities functions (but most are administered for Great Britain by the Department of Education and Science); awards to students.

Informal further education, sport, recreation and cultural activities: policy and grant aid.

Registration of educational endowments.

Oversight and financing of national museums and galleries.

Teacher demand and supply; pre-service and in-service training of teachers; teacher exchange; school staffing; teachers salaries and conditions of service; administration of colleges of education.

Educational building: capital expenditure allocations, project control and design guidance.

Social Work Services Group: formal and informal guidance to local authorities, voluntary organisations and others; review and evaluation of services provided by local authorities and voluntary organisations; central oversight of the Children's Panels system; central control of the List D

schools system; making of regulations under the 1968 Act and associated legislation; central oversight of the local authority social work building programme; the making and control of grants under sections 8 and 10 of the 1968 Act (grants for research and to voluntary organisations for services provided).

Scottish Home and Health Department

Health services: guidance to, and collaboration with, health boards and the Common Services Agency in the planning and administration of services provided by the boards and the Agency, and development of health service planning; policy on major building programme, project control of major schemes and issue of building guidance; land transactions; procurement policy; participation in negotiations on pay and conditions of service for health service staff; manpower planning; commissioning of research; servicing health service consultative machinery; hospital advisory service; regional medical service; liaison with other bodies (e.g. international, university) concerned with health care.

Advice on telecommunications (health, police and fire).

Police: inspection; approval of establishments and capital expenditure; participation in negotiations on pay and conditions of service; servicing Police Advisory Board for Scotland and other bodies; administration of Scottish Police College and Police (Scotland) Examinations Board; complaints against the police and discipline appeals; common police services and other policy matters.

Fire Service: inspection; policy on pay and conditions of service; monitoring of capital expenditure; other policy questions, including fire prevention.

Home defence planning: co-ordination on major civil emergencies; warning and monitoring organisation.

Civil law and law reform; electoral arrangements; ceremonial.

Penal establishments: administration; capital building programme; personnel; industries and supplies; inmate casework; parole scheme.

Criminal justice (policy questions); Royal Prerogative of Mercy; licensing law; research in criminology.

Superannuation: local government fire and policy schemes (policy); teachers health service and legal aid schemes (policy and administration).