



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

1 August 2003

IN CONFIDENCE

Dear Bob,

I know you have had a recent meeting with Douglas Alexander and that your Review team is making progress on your remit of looking at the future of the GICS and government communications in general.

I also recognise, however, that recent events will no doubt have an impact on your eventual thinking, and I would like to invite you to consider whether that will affect your work. It is, of course, entirely a matter for you and the Review team whether you take the opportunity, but I thought it would be wrong not to give it to you.

On the one hand, the Hutton inquiry may well reach conclusions which you will want to consider whether those be about government communications, or the media, or both. And I think it only right that you should take the extra time to take account of the report when it comes. Please feel free to do so.

Against that, however, it will hardly come as a surprise to you that I am taking the holiday period to reflect on the future of government communications particularly at the centre, and before I reach any conclusions thought it only right

to ask whether there are any interim conclusions you could share with me at this stage to shape my thinking.

I am fully aware that, given it is the holiday period, this may not be possible, but sometimes events don't always fit holiday plans.

Thank you again for the time, and effort, you and your team are putting in to what is a very important task, and one which I believe could have a lasting impact on government in this country.

Yours ever,  
Tony

Mr Bob Phillis