

N-W ADVISORY FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

1 When the agreement was drawn up, I expressed my concern that clause 6 of the agreement opened up "a "can of worms" in administrative terms, one which cuts across the whole principle of regional funding and across the distinction between regional and national strategies".

I proposed that, if the principle embodied in clause 6 were adopted, it should consist of two clauses:

"The North-West Advisory Fundraising Committee will normally confine its fundraising activities to the North-West region."

"In cases where a personal introduction may make an approach to corporate or major company donors outside the region possible, the North-West Advisory Fundraising Committee will inform the BAIS Central Fundraising Committee to ensure that no duplication or clash of interest will occur."

In fact, the method of reporting was that set out in clause 2 of the agreement. To the best of my knowledge, there has been no reportback since June 1990 (via Niall Crowley to the penultimate meeting of the Fundraising Advisory Group).

There has been no request to BAIS, to date, under clause 4. In my opinion, this clause would oblige the Committee to keep the Association informed of the development of its fundraising strategy, including to whom and on what terms approaches were being made.

3 One of the concerns which was expressed during the discussion of the document by the Executive meeting on 8 September 1990 was that the Committee should have a regional, and not an institutional, character.

I can identify nothing in the document itself which would secure this objective. One would actually need to know something about the composition of the Committee, its strategy - including the purposes for which it proposes to raise money - to form any opinion on this issue.

4 The document was designed as a compromise to avoid an open breach with the Institute of Irish Studies and the possible loss of one of our active and very useful patrons, both of which appeared to be "on the cards" as a background to the discussions which resulted in the production of the document.

It did achieve its purpose with regard to both these possible outcomes.

Seán Hutton
13/2/91

Text of document over.

1 That a separate advisory fundraising committee be established to assist with a North-West fundraising programme, the membership of which will be identified by the Director of the Institute of Irish Studies, Liverpool University.

2 This committee will liaise with BAIS through an identified person (who, for the present, is Dr Niall Crowley).

3 Kim Maxwell will attend the central fundraising committee, when possible, to supplement that briefing.

4 The N-W advisory committee will not use BAIS's name without consultation.

5 To facilitate the use of its name, BAIS will supply one or two standard paragraphs of the sort of content that it would envisage the advisory committee might want to use in its initial fundraising approaches.

6 The N-W advisory fundraising committee will normally confine its fundraising activities to the North-West region, except in cases where a personal introduction may make an approach to corporate or major company donors outside the region possible.

7 Distribution of money raised will be subject to the recommendations of the advisory fundraising committee.