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DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB

01-212 3434

PSO/45982

My ref: PSO/46026

Your ref: PSO/46146

Prime Minister

Agree highlighted proposals  
in the attached paper, subject  
to colleagues.

13 December 1983

Yes mb

Dear

Prime Minister  
The Queen was consulted in 1977, but we would need  
to ask again.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE, BROAD SANCTUARY: NAMING

DMB  
15/12

The International Conference Centre is due for completion in 1986 and it is expected that the first major conferences to be housed there will be in the first half of 1987.

We need shortly to make a decision about a name for the Centre. I am advised that it would be advantageous in attracting private sector business to the Centre if it had a Royal name and if the main individual rooms were similarly identifiable. I believe there would be merit in this. Decisions are required well before completion of construction because the names will need to be reflected in the interior design for the building.

I have recently consulted Janet Young (FCO), Peter Rees (Treasury), Grey Gowrie (MPO), Douglas Hurd (Home Office) and David Trefgarne (MOD) about this and I attach a paper which sets out our consensus views, with which Patrick Jenkin agrees.

I should be glad to know whether you are content with our proposals. I am copying this letter to those I have consulted and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours sincerely  
George Young

SIR GEORGE YOUNG

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE: NAMING

## NAMING THE CENTRE

1. It would probably not be appropriate for the building simply to be called "International Conference Centre": a similar building in Berlin already uses the title ICC and it might imply that UK conferences are not welcome. The name given to the Centre needs to be one that does justice to the significance of the building and ensures that there is no ambiguity about its use or confusion with other organisations. The Queen indicated in 1977 that she would be willing to be associated with the Conference Centre. It is suggested that the Centre might appropriately be called the "Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre". The "Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre" is shorter, but runs the risk of confusion with the Queen Mother.

## NAMING INDIVIDUAL ROOMS

2. The naming of individual rooms within the Centre should follow in general a particular theme. The names given to rooms would need to be recognised nationally and internationally, not be capable of misinterpretation and clearly should not be controversial. The FCO have suggested using the names of contemporary British figures who have made a significant contribution to modern society. This seems in general a sound suggestion. The Press Lounge might however be named after Caxton, whose press was in Broad Sanctuary; the VIP Dining Room after the Abbey which it overlooks and the Restaurant called the Refectory.

3. The full list of proposals for the rooms is:

Auditorium (for up to 700)	Churchill Auditorium (Sir Winston Churchill)
Conference Room 1 (for up to 480)	Fleming Room (Sir Alexander Fleming - Medicine)
Conference Room 2 (for up to 260)	Whittle Room (Sir Frank Whittle - Engineering)
Conference Room 3 (for up to 80)	Rutherford Room (Lord Rutherford of Nelson - Science)
Conference Room 4 (for up to 80)	/Henry/ Moore Room Henry Moore - the Arts)
Security Conference Suite (for up to 200)	Mountbatten Suite (Earl Mountbatten of Burma)

Delegates Lounge

/Benjamin/ Britten Lounge  
(Benjamin Britten - Music)  
/Lord Britten of Aldeburgh/

Delegates Restaurant

Refectory

VIP Dining Room

Abbey Room

Press Lounge

Caxton Room

4. Lord Trefgarne has pointed out that the use of the names Moore and Britten might lead to confusion with contemporary politicians, but this could be overcome by including forenames. He has also suggested that as a composer perhaps Elgar would rate higher with the general public than Britten - although it might be thought perhaps that Britten had a more international reputation and that Baird would be a further possibility from the scientific side.

5. Sir Philip Powell, the architect for the ICC, has suggested that the raised grassed triangle which will form the main feature of the landscaping in front of the Centre be named. It is unlikely that there will be any sign boards there but the area will need to be referred to in announcements. Sir Philip has proposed that it be called "Sanctuary Green". This seems a sound suggestion; the term "Green" is applied to a number of similar open spaces in the Westminster area.

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Gov Buildings

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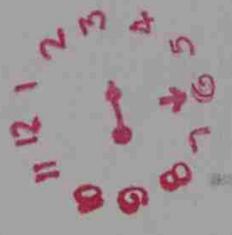
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cc.  
FCO (Baroness Young)  
HMT (Chief Sec)  
Lord Gowrie  
HO (Mr. Hurd)  
MOD (Lord Trefgarne)  
CO



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

16 December, 1983.

Broad Sanctuary Conference Centre: Naming

The Prime Minister was grateful for your letter of 13 December with which you enclosed proposals for naming the Broad Sanctuary Conference Centre and the main rooms within it.

Bo. The Prime Minister is content with the recommendations in the paper, subject to the views of colleagues. In view of the lapse of time, however, the Prime Minister considers that it would be essential to consult Her Majesty The Queen again before the proposed title can be confirmed. If you could kindly let me know when you have received comments from all those involved, we will arrange for this to be done.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the recipients of yours.

David Barclay

Trevor Beattie, Esq.,  
Department of the Environment.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB  
01-212 3434

My ref: Y/PSO/46765/83

Your ref:

30 DEC 1983

*Dear Mr Barclay,*

BROAD SANCTUARY CONFERENCE CENTRE - NAMING

Thank you for your letter of 16 December informing me that the Prime Minister is content with the proposals for the naming of the Conference Centre and its main rooms.

The paper enclosed with Sir George Young's letter of 13 December represented the concensus views of the Ministers consulted. We do not, therefore, see a need to consult more widely.

We understand that the Home Secretary would approach the Palace about the use of the Royal Name. I attach a copy of Mr Hurd's letter of 11 November which explains this. If the Prime Minister is content with this arrangement we will get in touch with the Home Office.

Copies of this letter go to Private Secretaries to Lady Young (FCO), Peter Rees (Treasury), Lord Gowrie (MPO), Douglas Hurd (HO), Lord Trefgarne (MOD); and to R P Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

*Yours sincerely*  
*Janet Eustace*

MISS JANET EUSTACE  
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq