



DESIGN AND EQUIPMENT DEPARTMENT

FUNDING THE FUTURE

The proposals for D. & E.D. brought about by "Funding the Future" have been accepted by the Board of Management and the Board of Governors. Reorganisation of the Department will ensure that the level of service offered to all customers meets their expressed requirements.

The new organisation will consist of three groups, Design Group, Engineering Resources Group and Corporate Purchasing Group as shown on the attached chart. It will be some time before the changes can be implemented and meanwhile existing contacts and procedures should continue to be used. We will advise you of changes as they take place.

Design Group will retain four sections and will continue to provide full support for projects from Radio, Transmission, World Service and News and Current Affairs and, at a somewhat reduced level, for Television who are unlikely to require further baseband analogue video equipment. Video Section will continue to undertake this type of work for other customers but, reflecting a change of emphasis in its other work, will be re-named Systems Section; the work and title of Audio, Control and RF Sections remain unchanged. The Drawing Office will become part of the Group, bringing together the electrical and mechanical CAD activities, and the computer system management.

Engineering Resources Group will consist of a Business Section and a Production Resource Section. The Business Section will be responsible for presenting a unified and improved interface to customers. The liaison and management functions associated with equipment supply, licensing and stores will be combined. The Group assumes responsibility for engineering purchasing activities directly associated with D. & E.D. and the running of the Corporate Store. Consistent with the need to concentrate resources on the key services required by customers, it has been decided to reduce considerably the range of components held in stock, whilst improving the availability of essential items for which the BBC is effectively single-sourced. For instance, standard types of resistor and capacitors will no longer be held but the supply of cables, connectors, chassis, bay parts and other special items will be improved.

Technical Information Section will be available to offer advice on active and passive components, guidance on safety or sourcing issues and PROM registration and programming.

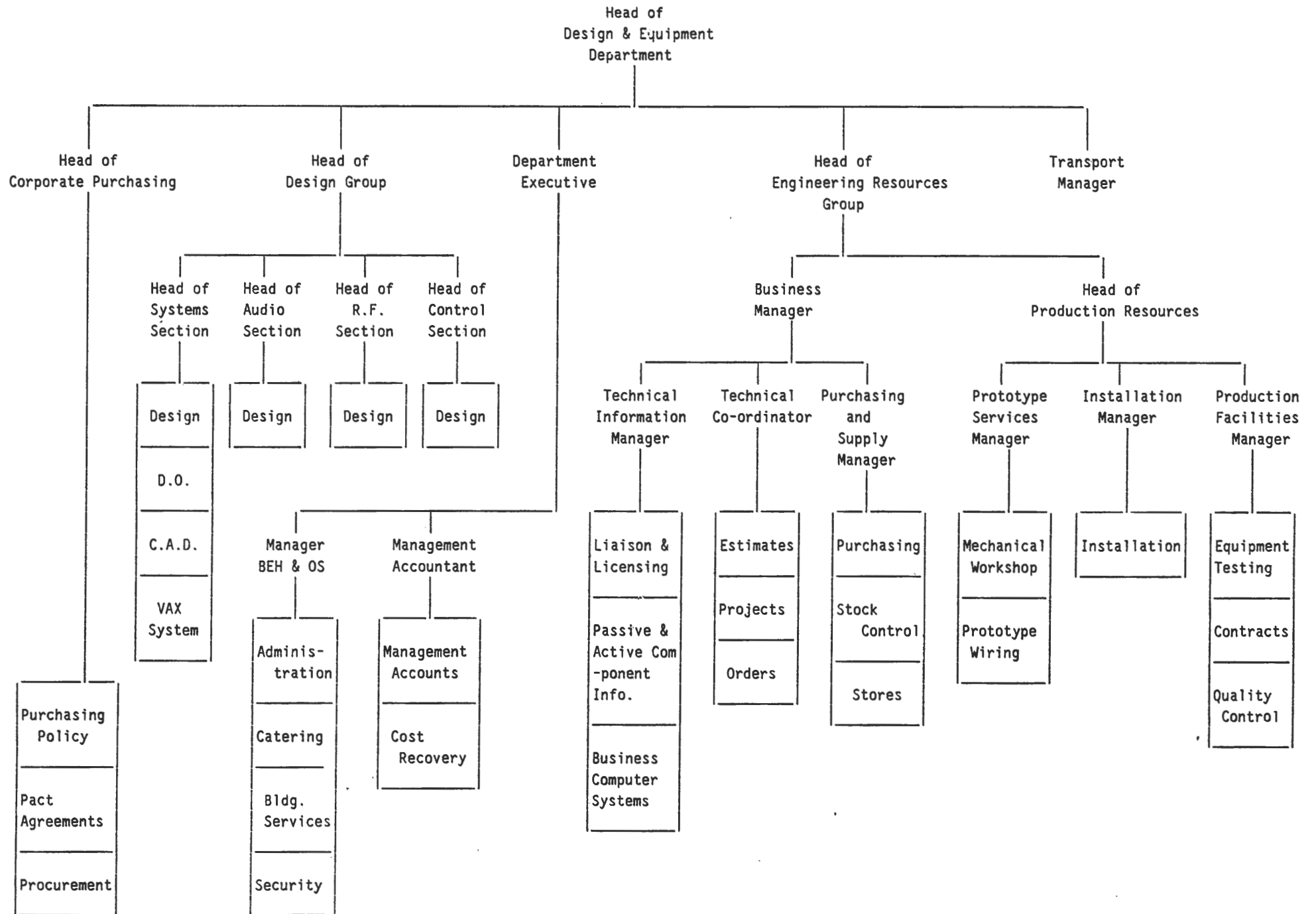
Production Resources Section will pull together in-house and contract production resources to ensure that equipment is obtained in the most advantageous way. It will continue to provide essential services for customers, including pre-production and small-batch orders of BBC coded equipment; repairs to coded equipment and microphones; loudspeaker quality control etc; mechanical fabrication; and the installation wiring service.

Corporate Purchasing Group will be responsible for the co-ordination of purchasing activities throughout the BBC and for purchasing policy and procedures. It will continue to provide a purchasing service through "Purchase against Contract Terms" (PACT) and direct purchases, and to offer a sourcing/purchasing service for equipment, goods, commodities and services across the range of the Corporation's activities. It will also continue to provide professional advice concerning the negotiation of large contracts and produce model conditions for the provision of goods and services.

These measures are intended to ensure that D. & E.D. will provide its customers with a level of service which fully meets their requirements

If you require any further information please contact me or one of my Group Heads - John Astle 036.200, David Walker 036.221, or Alan Brownless 036.217.

A.R. Neale
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036.214
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FUTURE D&ED ORGANISATION