

**SUMMARY**  
**THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES'**  
**RECORDS DECISION PANEL, 25 FEBRUARY 2014**

**FCO Special Collection: Colonial Reports CO 1071**  
**Bound volumes dating from 1845 – 2000**

The Records Decision Panel confirmed selection of all the volumes in the Colonial Report collection at its meeting on 24 August 2010. The Panel were asked to revisit this decision in light of The National Archives' revised Records Collection Policy and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) Special Collection Project. FCO have agreed that all series within the Special Collection will come to the Records Decision Panel for discussion.

The 441 Colonial reports set out the past and present state of each Colony and its prospects. The National Archives already holds the Blue Books (annual returns) for each Colony along with government gazettes, locally enacted statutes and the proceedings of local legislatures. The Panel agreed that all the Colonial Reports should be selected so that The National Archives will hold the the most comprehensive collection relating to the Colonies allowing researchers to access all this information in one place.

**BT 95 – classified index of dissolved company records in CSV format – from 1986 onwards**

The National Archives already holds a paper index of dissolved companies which Companies House has selected and transferred into series BT 95, as agreed in Operational Selection Policy 25. From 1986 Companies House has held the dissolved companies' data in a digital system. The Records Decision Panel's approval was, therefore, sought to select these records in digital CSV format.

The Panel noted that it was not possible to use webcrawler to harvest this information as it forms part of Companies House's pay on demand service. This dissolved company data is also not directly captured onto data.gov.uk.

The Panel agreed that The National Archives should take the dissolved company records in digital CSV format. This was because these records constituted a continuation of the existing series BT 95. Companies House will transfer these files annually, 20 years from the date of company dissolution.

**Confirmation of selection recommendation for HO 481 - Operation 'Post Report' files**

The issue of selection of the Operation Post Reports was referred to the National Archives' Executive Team who took the decision on 5 February 2014 to uphold the previous selection recommendation. All previously selected files will transfer to HO 481 in due course.

**Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is to be held on **27 March 2014 at 12.30pm**