

Professor D. R. Westbury, OBE, MA, BSc, BM, BCh, DM, FRSA

Date of Birth: 24 June 1942

Professor David Westbury became an independent consultant in October 2002. Before that, he was Vice-Principal of the University of Birmingham, a post that he held from 1992 to 2002. In this role he acted as deputy to the Vice-Chancellor and had particular responsibility for strategy, planning and resource management. He has also taken a particular interest in the development and management of information systems and services, and in the interface between higher education and the Health Service.

He was chair of the Joint Costing and Pricing Steering Group until 2005, a task that he took on in 1997. JCPSG was a UK wide expert group working on behalf of the Funding Councils and the representative bodies of the Higher Education sector to encourage the adoption of formal costing and pricing methods and the integration of financial and academic management.

He was invited to lead the Transparency Review of Higher Education funding between 1998 and 2002 by the Funding Councils and the Office of Science and Technology on behalf of Government. Working with consultants, appropriate methods of costing were designed, and were implemented across all universities and colleges in the UK by 2002.

In his previous appointment as Executive Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry in Birmingham, from 1984-1992, Professor Westbury was responsible for academic and resource planning for the Medical and Dental Schools, and for relationships with the National Health Service.

Professor Westbury was educated at Bromsgrove County High School, Worcestershire (1953 - 1960), and then at Christ Church, Oxford (1960 - 1967) where he read Medicine, but his first degree was in science: Physiology. At Oxford he became involved in research into the nervous system, and in particular into systems concerned with movement control. The first part of his career was in teaching and research in medical science.

Professor Westbury is a Non-Executive Director of the University Hospital Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust where he takes a particular interest in strategic management, and Chairman of U. M. Association Ltd., which provides mutual services for higher education institutions.

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