



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

13th February 1981

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
Westminster, SW1

Dear Prime Minister,

You will be aware of the document I sent you entitled 'Ingot Mould Foundry Rationalisation', and I wish to thank you for your reply, notifying me of your decision to refer my comments to Sir Keith Joseph, and asking him to reply directly on your behalf.

In the light of your statement yesterday, however, that you are willing to meet any Members who suffer major factory closures in their constituencies, I would be very grateful if I could arrange a meeting with you to discuss the closure of Distington Foundry.

Needless to say, I would not abuse the very kind gesture you have made to the House by seeking meetings on every closure that takes place in my constituency. However, I firmly believe that the Distington Foundry closure cannot be sustained on any sound commercial basis, especially in the light of the British Steel Corporation's decision to maintain other plants producing the same product, despite their lack of advanced technological status. I feel I would be failing my constituents and those involved in the Steel Industry in West Cumbria if I were to fail to accept the offer you have made to the House.

I would be grateful for the earliest possible meeting, as this matter is of desperate importance to West Cumbria.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dale Campbell Savours', written in a cursive style.