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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

29 May 1986

Dear Sir Tom.

I do want to thank you for this year's reports by the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and the Professions Allied to Medicine. Once more I am most grateful to you and your colleagues for the careful consideration which clearly went into their preparation.

The Government decided that all the Review Bodies, other than the TSRB, were to be treated in exactly the same way and that the awards recommended by these bodies should be implemented in full, without abatement, at the earliest possible date. However, we also concluded that implementation should not be made at the expense of services.

We therefore agreed that the best solution would be to implement the awards from 1 July. Even so, this still left the health service short of the necessary resources to meet the full cost of the award from that date. Some of the cost could be recovered from the benefit of reduced inflation; the rest is being met, exceptionally, by providing an extra £60 million for health authority cash limits from the Reserve.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Sir John Greenborough, K.B.E.

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