

CONFIDENTIAL

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Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin MP  
Secretary of State for Social Services  
Department of Health and Social Security  
Alexander Fleming House  
London SE1

10 November 1980

*Dear Patrick*

DE/DHSS JOINT RAYNER SCRUTINY

Thank you for your letter of 29 October. I do not object to the modifications you propose to what we should say in the event of premature publicity.

While the scrutiny was primarily directed at the effectiveness with which benefits for the unemployed are delivered, the team were asked to consider whether administrative constraints were imposed by policies, and in this context to examine various points relating to the distinction between, and inter-action of, contributory and means tested benefits. I should not therefore wish to feel that in placing emphasis on the simplification of administration we were precluding consideration by Ministers of questions of policy which arise from the team's scrutiny.

I am sending copies of this letter to the recipients of yours.

*Yours  
Patrick Jenkin*

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