



Govt Mail

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From the Secretary of State

The Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin MP
Secretary of State for Industry
Ashdown House
123 Victoria Street
London SW1

21 October 1982

Dear Patrick,

STANDARDS

Thank you for your letter of 13 September about funding the costs of the White Paper proposals.

I recently agreed with Leon Brittan my Department's PES allocation for the survey years and within these totals I am able to fund the initiative referred to in my minute of 22 April to the Prime Minister. My Department will, therefore, now be taking these forward as a matter of priority. I do however very much appreciate your offer of help.

One particular area in which the White Paper commits us to do more is helping small firms to introduce quality assurance systems. It was agreed that the Department of Industry would encourage firms to submit suitable projects. I am sure we agree that it is important to act on this commitment quickly. On the activities indicated in the second and third paragraphs of your letter, our officials are already in touch on how best to take these forward.

I am sure you will agree that the most important thing is that initiatives from whatever source should be properly coordinated. As you and other colleagues may recall, we recently set up interdepartmental machinery for this purpose.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, other members of the Cabinet and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours,
Arthur

LORD COCKFIELD

Govt Mach, Nov '81, Standards

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