

CONFIDENTIAL

*Econ Pol. for*



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT  
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*Prime Minister* (4)

*Ms 23/11*

The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP  
Chancellor of the Exchequer  
HM Treasury  
Treasury Chambers  
Parliament Street  
SW1P 3AG

*23* November 1982

*Dee Sutton*

PUBLICITY FOR MONOPOLIES AND MERGERS COMMISSION REPORTS

Thank you for copying to me your letter of 1 October to Arthur Cockfield on this subject.

I firmly believe that we must gain as much favourable publicity for the action we are taking to implement MMC reports on nationalised industries. Like Arthur, I am therefore attracted to your idea of publishing progress reports, and would be happy for my officials to take in an exercise to work up the proposition. I would suggest however that we ask officials, in doing so, to consider carefully how best to tie in these arrangements with the existing procedures for reporting progress on individual MMC reports to Parliament.

I am copying this letter to members of E(NI) and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Yours*  
*David*

DAVID HOWELL

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23 NOV 1982

