



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

Rt Hon Leon Brittan QC MP  
 Secretary of State  
 Home Office  
 50 Queen Anne's Gate  
 London  
 SW1H 9AT

29 January 1985

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 dms  
 29/1*

*Dear Secretary of State*

**SHOP HOURS AND SUNDAY TRADING**

I have seen John Cope's letter to you of 22 January.

It is clear that some of our supporters will have reservations about the repeal of the Shops Acts. We will have to present very clearly the absurdity of the present legislation and the need to make fundamental changes.

Abolishing the restrictions on Shop Opening Hours and on Sunday Trading is one important strand in our policies for making the economy work better through promoting increased competition. While recognising the sensitivities involved, John Cope says that whipping the Bill would be to invest a considerable amount of the Government's goodwill in the issue. It would however be very damaging to the Government's general aim to promote increased competition if this Bill were lost or significantly amended.

This letter is copied to the Prime Minister and other members of the Cabinet and Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Yours sincerely*

for PETER REES

*[Approved by the Chief Secretary]*



HOME AFFAIRS; Review of restrictions on  
shopping hours: Nov 81.

29 JAN 1985

