

CONFIDENTIAL



C.H. Booth

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

Rt Hon Leon Brittan QC MP
 Secretary of State
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h.
 18 April 1985

Leon Brittan

PUBLIC ORDER WHITE PAPER

Thank you for your letter of 3 April enclosing a draft copy of the text of this White Paper. Your officials, in dealing with the remit from H on 27 February, put to mine at the same time their view that the net overall implications in terms of resources could be treated as nil. Unfortunately this conclusion does not appear to have been arrived at by quantified appraisal of the probable use of the proposed powers, and my officials have accordingly suggested to yours a number of questions that might be considered. I hope that together they can report to us quickly enough not to prevent the White Paper from being published next month. But I should like to be reassured that the proposals would not lead to extra net demands on resources which would affect both local authorities and, through specific grant, the Exchequer.

I am copying this letter to members of H Committee, the Prime Minister, Geoffrey Howe, Grey Gowrie, David Young, Michael Havers, Kenneth Cameron, John Gummer, and Sir Robert Armstrong.

John Gummer

Peter Rees

PETER REES

18 APR 1985

