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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY  
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*From the Secretary of State for Social Services*

The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP  
 Secretary of State for the Home Department  
 Home Office  
 50 Queen Anne's Gate  
 LONDON  
 SW1H 9AT

} October 1985

*Dear Douglas*

*W  
4/10*

DRUG MISUSE: CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE DEBATE

I was on the point of writing to you when I received your letter of 2 October.

I agree that we must announce our package of proposals next week. The Government needs to be seen to be committing new resources to tackling this problem.

I enclose a suggested contribution to David Mellor's speech which sets out the positive steps we are taking. It includes reference to an extra £6 million we shall be finding out of central funds to finance local projects started this year for a full three years. It also includes a commitment to our providing additional resources, unquantified, for local treatment and rehabilitation - the sum here is unquantified as I accept that it is not practical to try to reach agreement outside the Survey on the related PES bids. I would, however, prefer not to commit ourselves to a future publicity campaign until we have had a chance to evaluate this year's.

Barney Hayhoe and David Mellor are in touch about the details of the statement.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Willie Whitelaw, Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, Keith Joseph, George Younger, Nicholas Edwards, Norman Tebbit, Tom King, David Mellor and Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Norman Fowler*  
 NORMAN FOWLER

Last year Kenneth Clarke announced that we were making an additional £5 million available to support new local projects for services for drug misusers. We have decided that a further £6 million should be provided to guarantee full three year funding of all these projects. This will bring to nearly £20 million the resources we have provided centrally since 1983/84 to help develop local services for drug misusers and fund publicity campaigns.

In addition to this, Barney Hayhoe will shortly be announcing proposals for funding further development of local treatment and rehabilitation services.

[This year's publicity campaign is being carefully evaluated and we shall be taking decisions about further campaigns in the light of that evaluation.]

We are working closely with the World Health Organisation to try to improve international health collaboration - and I can tell you that the UK will be hosting a Conference of Ministers of Health in London next March to draw up a plan of international action against drug misuse.

HOME AFFAIRS

DRUGS PT 3