

c/b/g

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1985



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

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2 December 1985

Don Dawd.

**MISUSE OF DRUGS BILL:
DISCLOSURE OF INLAND REVENUE INFORMATION**

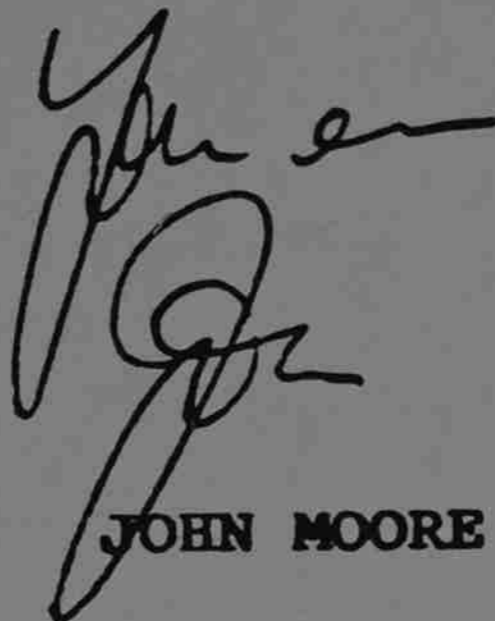
We spoke again on 28 November about the open points which still separated us following our exchange of letters of 14 and 21 November and the exchange of letters between Nigel Lawson and Douglas Hurd of 22 and 26 November.

I think we have now reached a satisfactory settlement of the issues concerning disclosure of Inland Revenue information to the DPP and the police in respect of persons suspected of drugs trafficking offences on the following lines:-

- i. access will be by means of a court order as will be the case with banks and other financial institutions, at the level of circuit judge;
- ii. information provided in response to an order by a circuit judge will be passed to the police or DPP directly,
- iii. no distinction will be drawn between serious and non-serious drugs trafficking offences, in respect of information production orders; and
- iv. The arrangements in respect of drugs trafficking offences will in no way serve as a precedent for possible extension later to other types of offence.

will request
if required

I have mentioned these points to Nigel Lawson who is content, subject to my re-emphasising the importance we attach to the undertaking for the future at (iv). As proposed in his letter of 22 November to Douglas Hurd, we think it appropriate to make it a matter of public record, perhaps when introducing the relevant clause in Committee.



JOHN MOORE

Home Affairs PT3

Drugs

