



cc/BG

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

The Rt Hon Michael Jopling MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2HH

2 May 1986

MGA

Dear Michael,

ALTERNATIVE LAND USES AND EMPLOYMENT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 24 April ^{at 11.00} to Kenneth Baker.

I am content for my officials to be represented on the working party you suggest to produce the report which the Prime Minister has commissioned. With regard to the possibility of public expenditure consequences which you mention, I suggest that the working party's remit should be to produce fully costed recommendations for reallocating expenditure within the existing PES provision. The question of additional provision could only be considered in the context of the Public Expenditure Survey alongside other Departmental claims and I would have to say at the outset that I see little prospect of being able to agree to any additional resources for this purpose.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Geoffrey Howe, Kenneth Baker, David Young, Malcolm Rifkind, Nicholas Edwards, Paul Channon and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours ever,
John

JOHN MacGREGOR

EURO. POL. — C.A.P. — PE 14

