



SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR  
NORTHERN IRELAND

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NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE  
WHITEHALL  
LONDON SW1A 2AZ

The Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke MP  
Paymaster General  
Department of Employment  
Caxton House  
Tothill Street  
LONDON  
SW1H 9NF

7 October 1986

*Dear Paymaster General*

MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE REDUNDANCIES

*at 11.00*  
I have read with interest your letter of 25 September to John MacGregor and the paper by officials which you enclosed.

The measures which you propose will undoubtedly improve our handling of the response to major redundancy announcements. Unfortunately issues of this sort are all too prevalent in Northern Ireland. We have recently faced major redundancies in the tobacco industry with the closure of the Rothman's plant in Northern Ireland and of Gallaher's major Belfast factory. Other job losses are also in prospect. However, our smaller and rather different institutional structure facilitates our response to major redundancies and I do not envisage a need to precisely replicate in Northern Ireland the arrangements you propose at national level. Nevertheless I would wish my officials to be kept in touch with the work of the Committee both in relation to individual cases and in considering whether existing measures require modification for these purposes. I would be grateful, therefore, if papers could be sent to:

/...



Mr J C Stutt  
Policy Division  
Department of Economic Development  
Netherleigh  
Massey Avenue  
BELFAST  
BT14 2JP

who will act as the general point of contact at official level in Northern Ireland.

I am copying this letter to other members of E(A) and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours Sincerely  
N. Howard  
(Private Secretary)

for<sup>TK</sup>  
(Approved by the Secretary of  
State and signed in his absence  
in Northern Ireland)



MANPOWER: SEMS PTIU.

