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Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG  
01-233 3000

5 November 1985

The Rt. Hon. Viscount Whitelaw PC CH MC  
Lord President of the Council

*John Walker*

**LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME 1986-87**

Thank you for your letter of 9 October, giving notice of the forthcoming Cabinet Office exercise to identify Bills for the 1986-87 legislative programme.

A firm place for 1986-87 was allocated by QL to the Banking Bill. Political developments in the wake of the Johnson Matthey Bankers debacle have confirmed the need for urgent legislation, and you will be glad to hear that work is well in hand on preparing the Bill. The Prime Minister has now agreed much of the policy content, and said that drafting must proceed with all speed. The Treasury Solicitor is in touch with First Parliamentary Counsel about the timetable. The Bank of England have conducted consultations on the basis of the recommendations of the Review of Banking Supervision (Cmd 9550) which I presented to the House on 17 June. The Government's legislative proposals will be set out in a White Paper, to be published in December. This will of course be cleared with interested colleagues in the usual way.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, members of QL, all Ministers in charge of departments, First Parliamentary Counsel and Sir Robert Armstrong.

NIGEL LAWSON

*John Walker*  
*Nigel Lawson*

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