



NEW ST. ANDREW'S HOUSE
ST. JAMES CENTRE
EDINBURGH EH1 3SX

C.B.G.

CP
Can we find out if we are
regarding to pl.
MEX

M E Addison Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1A 2AA

18 April 1988

Dear Rob,

Aae

You copied to me your letter of 15 April to Flora Goldhill at DHSS about the statistics of operations carried out by the health service, highlighting the Prime Minister's wish to have figures relating to the country as a whole, or at least for Great Britain.

For our part, we note and support the Prime Minister's conclusion that routine compilation of data on operations need not be undertaken more frequently than once a year. Our collection system in Scotland is a little different and in fact enables information for individual weeks to be identified and not merely estimated as a weekly average over a quarter, as in England.

Comprehensive information by type of operation is available for Scotland for 1986; 1987 data will probably be available by the autumn of 1988 but thereafter data for any given period should be available within six months of the end of the period, for example 1988 data by June 1989.

We shall liaise with our DHSS (and Welsh) colleagues in providing what we can towards comprehensive GB figures.

I am sending copies of this letter to Flora Goldhill and Jon Shortridge.

Yours sincerely,
David Crawley
DAVID CRAWLEY
PRIVATE SECRETARY

NAT HEALTH: Expenditure

711.

