Y SWYDDFA GYMREIG GWYDYR HOUSE WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2ER

Tel. 01-270 3000 (Switsfwrdd) 01-270 0549 (Llinell Union)

> ODDI WRTH YSGRIFENNYDD PREIFAT YSGRIFENNYDD GWLADOL CYMRU

CT/4225/88



WELSH OFFICE GWYDYR HOUSE

WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2ER

Tel. 01-270 3000 (Switchboard) 01-270 0549 (Direct Line)

FROM THE PRIVATE SECRETARY
TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR WALES

21 April 1988

Dear Mark

I refer to your letter of 5 April to Flora Goldhill about the provision of statistics on operations carried out in the NHS. You sought advice on the availability of figures relating to Great Britain or the United Kingdom as a whole.

The position in Wales is as follows. Figures for the calendar years, 1985 and 1986, are available and have already been published. Figures for 1987, again analysed by type of operative procedure, should be available from existing sources of information, in the Autumn of 1988. The alternative, more rapid, data source for total numbers of operations - that based on theatre usage - is being introduced as from the financial year 1988/89, data from which should be ready by summer 1989.

The timetable for implementing the Korner recommendations on information sets in Wales has been set to reflect the abilities and progress of Welsh Districts to introduce appropriate computer systems to capture the basic data. By close collaboration and planning we have taken steps to ensure that high quality data will be provided by the Districts.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Flora Goldhill (DHSS) and David Crawley (Scottish Office).

J D SHORTRIDGE

Town minerel

Mark Addison Esq Private Secretary 10 Downing Street NATHEAUTH: Expenditure AM88 21. W.