

CONFIDENTIAL

D

PRIME MINISTER

13 May 1988

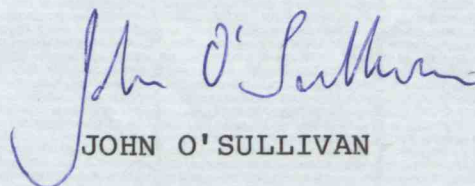
RAWP REVIEW

Mr Moore's is proposing to publish the RAWP review in a low-key way. This is reasonable. The review proposes modest changes (reflecting the fact that regional RAWP differentials have already been whittled down), and the Secretary of State's willingness to phase them in gradually will probably soothe away objections.

Failing to publish the report or delaying it inordinately would be likely to arouse far more public controversy than anything in the report. I would suggest that you consent.

Two points, however:

1. We must be sure that publication will indeed be low key.
2. Following this decision, and the earlier decision to negotiate over primary care with the profession, we should take care in future lest the DHSS pre-empt too many decisions that the NHS Review might wish to consider.


JOHN O'SULLIVAN

CONFIDENTIAL