

D24/5



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CP  
No action on this stage.  
Await DHSS comments -  
Hony. MSA  
24 May 1988

Dew Nask,  
Flap PM

You wrote on 21 April to Flora Goldhill at DHSS about figures for health service operations.

The position in Scotland is that the number of operations carried out is obtained as a by-product from an already existing statistical collection scheme (SMR1) which gives details of type and date of operation. Summarised information from this source will match the more basic information which is to be collected as a special annual exercise to give financial-year data from operating theatre records in England. As I said in my earlier letter, our information will be available six months after the end of any specified period (for example 1988-89 data will be ready by the end of September 1989).

We would not expect that this timetable will in practice differ markedly from that for England set out in the second paragraph of your letter of 21 April, and we do not envisage problems for Departments in jointly presenting aggregated data as the Prime Minister wishes.

I am copying this letter to Flora Goldhill and Jon Shortridge.

Yours sincerely,  
David Crawley  
DAVID CRAWLEY  
PRIVATE SECRETARY

NATHAN: Expenditure PT12

