



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

25 July 1989

**NHS REVIEW AND THE GPs' CONTRACT**

The Prime Minister was most grateful for your Secretary of State's recent minute providing a progress report on "Working for Patients", and for the paper attached to your letter to me dated 20 July on the Central Management of the NHS. She has also seen your Secretary of State's letter of 19 July to the Secretary of State for Scotland attaching a draft of his press release concerning the handling of the GPs' new contracts in the light of the ballot result.

The Prime Minister would like to hold a meeting early in September to review the position set out in the "Working for Patients" progress report and the latest note on Central Management of the NHS. This office will be in touch to make arrangements. Meantime, she assumes that the Department will be pressing on urgently with the detailed preparatory work on the new doctors' contract. She has noted your Secretary of State's plan to write to all GPs in due course, explaining how changes to the contract will affect them; she thinks it is most important that, given the potential impact on the doctors' attitude to the White Paper proposals, GPs are told as soon as possible how the contract will affect them.

I am copying this letter to Jonathan Taylor (HM Treasury), Keith Davies (Welsh Office), Stephen Pope (Northern Ireland Office), Uriel Jamieson (Scottish Office), Carys Evans (Chief Secretary's Office), Alan Davey (Minister for Health's Office), Sir Roy Griffiths and to Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

(PAUL GRAY)

Andy McKeon, Esq.,  
Department of Health.