



DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-276 3000

ce pl

My ref
Your ref

26 JAN 1990

Dear David,

NB the 26th stage

*Rec 6.
26/1*

HOP

MAJOR LOTTERIES

Thank you for sending Chris Patten a copy of your letter of 21 December to Geoffrey Howe about the current position on major lotteries and in particular the proposed new "Skill-Ball" Competition. I am replying on the Secretary of State's behalf in view of his absence overseas.

I agree that there are insufficient reasons at present to ban "Skill-Ball" and that we should keep a close eye on its progress. I have an interest in the financial implications of "Skill-Ball" on the "Spot-the-Ball" competition since, as annex B to your letter acknowledges, it provides invaluable assistance to soccer. It is from this competition that the Pools Promoters Association funds the Football Trust and the Football Grounds Improvement Trust which have contributed substantially to improvement at football grounds.

I also agree that we should defer a conclusion on the question of a major lottery until we know the outcome of the "Skill-Ball" competition. I should add that I believe that there could be valuable long term benefits for sport and recreation from a major national lottery.

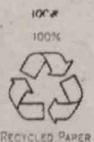
I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, the Lord President, the other members of H Committee, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Minister for Arts and Libraries, the Chief Whip in both Houses and to Sir Robin Butler.

Yours ever,

Colin

COLIN MOYNIHAN

Rt Hon David Waddington MP



Econ Pol
Domestic Monetary Policy
Pt 21.