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PRIME MINISTER

*An interim report from Mr Whitelaw on the Health Service compensation discussion - you have already seen the minutes.*

PRIME MINISTER

*MS*

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE RE-ORGANISATION: COMPENSATION AND PROTECTION TERMS FOR STAFF

*MAF 24/1*

You asked me to report on the outcome of the discussion at Home and Social Affairs Committee of the proposal of the Secretaries of State for Social Services and for Wales, for a package of compensation and protection terms for staff affected by the forthcoming reorganisation of the National Health Service.

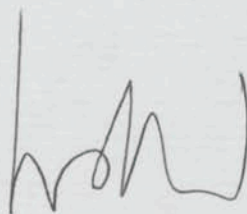
The Committee postponed taking decisions on the three elements of the package for two weeks, to enable the Minister of State, Civil Service Department, to circulate a memorandum about the future of the Crombie code. It was first introduced in the 1940s and has recently been under examination by an interdepartmental group of officials to see whether the time has come to change or abolish it. We need to reach a general view in the light of their study before deciding whether the code should be reactivated for use in the N.H.S. reorganisation and elsewhere in the public sector.

The Committee also decided that officials of the Departments concerned should be asked to examine in greater detail the other two elements in the package, (a) provision for voluntary early retirement, and (b) the protection of terms and conditions of service for those adversely affected on transfer to a new job; and that they should report to Ministers before our next discussion in Home and Social Affairs Committee.

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I am copying this minute to the Secretary of State for Social Services, the Secretary of State for Wales, the Minister of State, Civil Service Department, and Sir Robert Armstrong.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H. W.' or similar, written in a cursive style.

24 January 1980

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24 JAN 1960

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Not Health

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25 January 1980

The Prime Minister was grateful for the Home Secretary's report of 24 January about H Committee's discussion of compensation and protection terms for staff affected by NHS reorganisation. She looks forward to hearing the outcome of the resumed discussion in due course.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Martin Vile (Cabinet Office),

M. A. PATTISON

John Chilcot, Esq.,  
Home Office.

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