



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY  
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From the Secretary of State for Social Services

David Norgrove Esq  
Private Secretary  
10 Downing Street

27 November 1985

Prime Minister

You might read out the  
passage marked, at the end of the  
discussion.

JLN

27/11

Dear David,

SOCIAL SECURITY REVIEW

My Secretary of State has discussed with Bernard Ingham the handling of any press enquiries about discussion of the Social Security Review at Cabinet tomorrow. They agreed that information should not be volunteered about the review being on the agenda, nor about what conclusion was reached. However, in the event that the press got wind of the item and asked direct questions, a line would be needed, which could be provided to all Cabinet members.

My Secretary of State proposes the following line for this purpose:

- Ministers have completed their consideration of proposals for reforming social security.
- Ministers have agreed on a package, which meets the objectives set out in the Green Paper.
- A White Paper setting out the proposals will be published before Christmas followed shortly by the Bill.

Summary

- The reform is - agreed;
- on course;
- on time.

I should be grateful if you could ensure that Cabinet Members are advised that they should use this line, if pressed, and no more.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Bernard Ingham.

Yours ever,

A Laurance  
Private Secretary