



SCOTTISH OFFICE  
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The Rt Hon Norman Fowler MP  
Secretary of State for Social Services  
Department of Health & Social Security  
Alexander Fleming House  
Elephant & Castle  
LONDON  
SE1 6BY

1. *NW* to note for presentation July 1986  
2. *NBP7*

*Dear Norman,*

*ATTACHED*

Thank you for sending me copies of your letters of 21 June to Willie Whitelaw and Nick Edwards about your consultation meetings, especially those in early July, and your proposals for publicity about them. I am grateful to you for taking into account my officials' comments on the draft press release.

You and other colleagues may wish to know that our present thoughts in Scotland are to have a fairly large consultation meeting in Edinburgh in the autumn to cover all sectors of interest in primary care, including consumer representation: this will probably be followed up by a smaller meeting in a rural area.

I was interested to see your proposed advertisement encouraging people to apply for a copy of the leaflet summarising the contents of the discussion document. We have encouraged Health Boards to make this leaflet widely available in NHS and other premises to which the public have access; we shall not be undertaking a separate advertising campaign along the lines you have in mind. Could I ask, however, that when the DHSS advertisement is placed in newspapers etc, it is not placed in newspapers which are Scottish-based - as distinct from those with a significant sized Scottish circulation - since the English address to which to apply for the leaflet could be confusing to Scottish readers. The leaflet is, of course, a UK document and does include a Scottish Home and Health Department address to which comments may be sent.

Thank you for the invitation to attend your July meetings at the Elephant and Castle about proposals for family doctors. I see from the draft press release that proposed dates are 14 and 21 July. I am afraid that neither John MacKay nor I will be able to come. I should, however, like SHHD officials to be present as observers and I am sure that this will not cause you any difficulty.

I am copying this letter to Willie Whitelaw, Nick Edwards and Tom King and also sending a copy to the Press Secretary at No. 10.

*Yours ever,  
Phil*

MALCOLM RIFKIND



CCBT

cc Mr O'Connor  
Mr Fisher  
Mr Langston  
Mr Rayner  
Mr Shaw  
Mr Garland  
Mr Morris

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SECURITY**  
Alexander Fleming House, Elephant & Castle, London SE1 6AY  
Telephone 01-407 5522

*From the Secretary of State for Social Services*

The Rt Hon Nicholas Edwards MP  
Secretary of State for Wales  
Welsh Office  
Gwydyr House  
Whitehall  
LONDON  
SW1A 2ER

mid  
2th

U June 1986

*Dear Nick.*

As you know, I intend to hold a series of public meetings as part of the consultation upon the proposals we put forward in the discussion document on primary health care services. The first of these meetings will be held in my Department's offices at Elephant and Castle in early July and will concentrate upon our proposals for family doctors.

I intend to model the meetings upon those I found helpful during the social security review and will be inviting representatives of professions, of consumer groups and other interested bodies to give evidence. In taking evidence I will be assisted by Barney Hayhoe and Ray Whitney as well as by my Chief Medical and Nursing Officers.

You will of course be making your own arrangements for consultation in Wales but you may also feel it would be helpful for there to be a Welsh representation at the first London meeting. If you or Mark do wish to take part I should be very happy to make the necessary arrangements.

A copy of this letter with a similar invitation goes to Tom King and Malcolm Rifkind.

*Yours etc*  
*Norman Fowler*

NORMAN FOWLER