



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG
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15 January 1987

S Wood Esq
PS/Lord Privy Seal
Privy Council Office
Whitehall
LONDON SW1A 2AT

Prime Minister²
JRW
15/1

Dear Steven,

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1987 BUDGET DAY

Thank you for your letter of 13 January. As you know, it is now planned that the Chancellor should instead announce the date of the Budget in his speech in the Debate next Tuesday.

If the Lord Privy Seal is asked about it at Business Questions tomorrow, I suggest that the line to take is simply to say that the date of the Budget will be announced shortly. (For background, it has been the normal course since 1980 to announce the date of the Budget in the first business statement after the Christmas recess, but there is no commitment to do this. The 1985 Budget day was announced early in order to fit in with the timetable for the sale of British Aerospace shares.)

I am copying this letter to David Norgrove and Murdo Maclean.

Yours sincerely,
Cathy Rypling

PP

A C S ALLAN

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BUDGET

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