



Mr Gray
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File Ref: ST/16/1

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Mr P Smith
Principal Private Secretary to
the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster
DTI
1-19 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

24 February 1988

Dear Peter

STATUS OF BRITISH NATIONAL SPACE CENTRE

Mr Fairclough is in Japan at present, but we had had some advance notice of the proposals set out in your letter of 22 February through our normal working contacts, and hence were able to discuss them with him before he left. I can therefore confirm that Mr Fairclough is content with those proposals.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

Yours sincerely
Peter Casey

PETER CASEY

Recd with PG.



the department for Enterprise

cc BL

The Rt. Hon. Kenneth Clarke QC MP
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and
Minister of Trade and Industry

Tom Jeffery Esq
Private Secretary to the
Secretary of State
Department of Education and
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Our ref

Your ref

Date 22 February 1988

ANBA at his dept.

Rs 16

rr/r

Dear Tom,

STATUS OF BRITISH NATIONAL SPACE CENTRE

In his minute of 3 February^{Har} the Chief Scientific Adviser suggested that Ministers make decisions about the status of the British National Space Centre later this year in the light of a further consideration of space policy, especially of earth observation opportunities. The Chancellor of the Duchy is content to leave substantive issues until then but wishes to make some interim changes in view of the imminent retirement of the acting Director-General of the BNSC and the need to clarify the incoming Director-General's reporting arrangements.

The Chancellor of the Duchy has concluded that, in view of recent Ministerial decisions on UK participation in European Space Agency projects, a Director-General at Grade 2 level for the BNSC (as was Mr Roy Gibson) can no longer be justified. He considers that the post should be filled at Grade 3 level and that the Management Board should be chaired at Grade 2 level and not, as at present, by the Director-General himself. These arrangements would, of course, be reviewed after the further policy consideration later this year. The Chancellor hopes colleagues will be content to proceed on this basis.

FE6AAU



the department for Enterprise

I am copying this letter to Paul Gray, Alex Allan,
Tony Galsworthy, Brian Hawtin, Trevor Woolley and John
Fairclough.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Smith

PETER SMITH
PRINCIPAL PRIVATE SECRETARY

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AGROSPACE : Space PT3

