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Prime Minister (i)

~~The date of publication is yet to be settled, there is a potential clash with Norman Tebbit's Financial Services White Paper which must be avoided.~~

~~The Treasury would appreciate your endorsement of it.~~

Agree?

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Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

Ms Janet Lewis-Jones
Private Secretary to the
Lord President of the Council
Privy Council Office
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AT

10 January 1985

Dear Janet

1985 PUBLIC EXPENDITURE WHITE PAPER

Mr. Tebbit has agreed to move his Financial Services White Paper, so bearing 22 Jan free for Treasury.

I am writing to let you, and copy recipients, know that the public expenditure White Paper will be published on 22 ~~or 23~~ January. I will let you know the exact day as soon as I can. In the meantime, the Chief Secretary thought it would be helpful to give advance warning of publication to allow departments adequate time to consider how best to present their expenditure programmes.

The Treasury will be issuing its own press release and holding a press conference on the day of publication. These will deal with overall expenditure policy. Detailed questions on individual programmes will be referred, as is usual, to the responsible department. The Chief Secretary and the Chancellor are concerned that everything possible is done to ensure that the new plans for each expenditure programme are presented actively and positively. For this reason they hope that departments will issue press releases on the day of publication explaining and commenting on their respective figures in the White Paper. The Chief Secretary would be grateful if departments would clear their press releases at official level with the Treasury.

Some departments will also be announcing specific policy changes the effects of which will be reflected in the White Paper. Here again I should be grateful if we

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could be given an opportunity to comment on the terms of statements and press releases.

I am copying this letter to Andrew Turnbull and Bernard Ingham (No.10), Private Secretaries of members of Cabinet, Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's Office) and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever

Richard Broadbent

R J BROADBENT
Private Secretary

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