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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

13 November 1981

RF 16.11.81 bc : Mr. Duguid

Dear Kate,

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE

As you know, the Prime Minister has decided to hold a series of meetings with Ministers to discuss the public expenditure items which remain disagreed following the conclusion of the work of MISC 62.

In the light of your Minister's letter to the Chief Secretary of 13 November we may not need to hold a meeting on MAFF/IBAP expenditure, but as a contingency measure we are keeping the meeting pencilled into all our diaries for 0815 hours on Tuesday 17 November. Apart from the Prime Minister and the Agriculture Minister, the Chief Secretary, the Home Secretary, the Welsh and Scottish Secretaries would also be present at the meeting if it takes place. The Prime Minister thinks it would be helpful for the meeting to have before it, as a basis for discussion, the attached note on MAFF/IBAP expenditure, which is extracted from the Annex to the draft paper which the Home Secretary is preparing for circulation to Cabinet on the work of MISC 62.

I am sending copies of this letter to John Halliday (Home Office), Terry Mathews (Chief Secretary's Office, HM Treasury), Muir Russell (Scottish Office), John Craig (Welsh Office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,

Michael Scholar

Miss Kate Timms,  
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

SECRET

DSG