

PRIME MINISTER

We have had another go at polishing the message for the video recording on Monday and the draft is at Annex I. We are putting it on a teleprompter.

The recording will take place immediately after the diary meeting on Monday morning. I propose you should do it in the White Room against a reasonably plain background.

The video company will be here from 10.30am along with a make-up girl. The whole recording should take no more than 30 minutes. Sarah Charman is in charge of the arrangements and Romola Christopherson is coming over from Department of Health because she is responsible for the whole of the presentation of the NHS Review.

As you know, the video recording will be used at the launch of the White Paper both in London and in the various regional centres and simultaneously in the regional centres to which the Department of Health's roadshow is to go after the launch.

BERNARD INGHAM  
January 20, 1989

ANNEX 1

At its best, Britain's National Health Service is without equal. Time and again, the nation has seen just how much we owe to those who work in it.

A skilled and dedicated staff - backed by <sup>enormously</sup> ~~massively~~ increased resources - have coped superbly with the growing demands of modern medicine. There is a great deal of which they, and we, can rightly feel proud.

The NHS will continue as now to be available to all, regardless of income, and mainly financed out of general taxation.

But a major task now confronts us. It is to bring all parts of the National Health Service up to the very high standard of the best while maintaining the principles on which it was founded:

*And to prepare for the needs of the future. We aim to widen patient choice, to delegate responsibility, to ensure that where the best services are provided and to secure the best value for money.*

All the proposals in this White Paper aim further to develop a National Health Service that puts patients first.

*Request? General proposals apply to the whole of the United Kingdom - but special chapters on Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland provide for the special needs.*

We believe that an NHS that is run better will be an NHS that can care better.

Taken together, the proposals represent the most far-reaching reform of the NHS in its forty year history.

They offer new opportunities, and pose new challenges, for everyone concerned with the running of the Service.

I am confident that those who work in it will want to ~~from~~ **seize** these opportunities to provide for the millions of people who rely on the National Health Service (even better health care as and when they need it. The patient's needs are paramount.