



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

The Rt Hon John MacGregor OBE MP
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2HH

For Information

in Spivey

- c* PS1505
- PS12A
- PS153H
- in* Inighton
- in* Cooke
- in* Stewart
- in* Dietz LAC
- in* Jones CSM
- in* Massey CSM
- in* Davies CSM
- in* Robins CSM
- in* Gilbertson ZE
- in* Waller ESM

10th July 1989

*Mr Nielsen
over!*

14.00

Dear John,

FOOD SAFETY: PROTECTING THE CONSUMER

Thank you for your letter of 3 July.

I am content with the line you propose to take on food safety enforcement resources when the White Paper is launched. It would be helpful, however, if this section of the briefing could be cleared in advance with my officials.

I note what you say about meeting the costs arising from the Food Bill proposals. In this context, I see that the second draft of the White Paper now excludes the reference to allowing enforcement authorities to charge for registration of food premises. And I am of course well aware of the current high level of concern about food safety issues. Nevertheless when you have completed your consultation with the local authorities, I should like you to look at the priorities within your programme with a view to identifying how you might meet the costs of this work. My agreement to the publication of the White Paper is of course without prejudice to our public expenditure discussions in this and future years.

I am copying this letter to members of MISC 138, Douglas Hurd, George Younger and Sir Robin Butler.

*Yours Ever,
John*

JOHN MAJOR