

**Foreign and Commonwealth Office**

London SW1A 2AH

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P Joce Esq  
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Your reference

Our reference

Date 21 January 1986

*Dear Sir,*

PROPERTY SERVICES AGENCY

1. You are the only other person I know who is involved in authorising payment to the PSA for works carried out at official residences.
2. My concern is with Chevening and we are of the opinion that we might not necessarily be getting value for money. Our experience has been that their final bills are very considerably higher than the initial estimates and it is difficult for them to produce an account that will withstand close scrutiny.
3. We are not helped by the wording of the initial undertaking that we are obliged to sign before work will commence. It is much too open-ended, to the detriment of ourselves, as the client, and to the advantage of PSA.
4. We have no option but to employ PSA when it comes to the installation of electronic protective measures, but feel that we might, with advantage, seek some alternative when it comes to building works.
5. Have you any experience that you can share with us? I have tried Security Department but they very rarely commission work to be done at their expense in the UK.

*Yours ever*  
*Seven*

Col P A W G Durrant  
Protocol Department