



EU PL

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

01-233 3000

28 October 1980

Richard Prescott Esq
Paymaster General's Office
Russell Way
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R. M.

Dear Richard,

GREEN PAPER ON THE TAXATION OF HUSBAND AND WIFE

The Chancellor was grateful for Mr Maude's comments on the draft of the Green Paper, which you passed on to me in your 17 October letter.

Although "disaggregation" is not a new word (its use, in fact, goes back to 1828) the Chancellor agrees with Mr Maude that it is not exactly musical for the general reader. He would rather not use the word "segregation", but - except for a couple of places where it fits well in opposition to "aggregation" - the draft will use other words instead of "disaggregation".

The Chancellor has considered Mr Maude's point about tax relief for the cost of domestic help for working married women, but would prefer not to mention it in the Green Paper. There has been no particular pressure for a relief in this particular form, but there could be more widespread support for a tax relief for child care expenses where the mother is working. The Chancellor does not wish to encourage expectations that a relief of this sort might materialise, by mentioning it in the Green Paper, because it will be expensive, complicated and involve a large number of civil servants. It is for this reason that the draft relegates this particular proposition to a passing (and fairly dismissive) mention in Chapter 9 of the Green Paper (9.4.1. and 9.4.2.), where the argument is focused on the child care expenses for single parents.

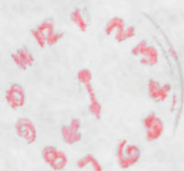
I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries of E Committee, Don Brereton (DHSS), David Wright (Cabinet Office) and Gerry Spence (CPRS).

Yours ever,

Richard Tolkien

R I TOLKIEN
Private Secretary

28 OCT 1980





PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

17 October 1980

R I Tolkien Esq
Private Secretary to the
Chancellor of the Exchequer
H M Treasury
Treasury Chambers
Parliament Street
LONDON SW1P 3AG

Dear Richard,

GREEN PAPER ON THE TAXATION OF HUSBAND AND WIFE

The Paymaster General has seen the draft of the Green Paper on Taxation of Husband and Wife. He has only two comments.

The first is a simple drafting point. He is very much against the official creation of new and unnecessary jargon words, and he reacted strongly against the word 'disaggregation' in paragraph 1.3.b. In his opinion, the opposite of 'aggregation' is 'segregation', and he sees no reason not to use it.

On content, he feels that there will certainly be adverse comment, especially from married women with high professional qualifications, if there is no discussion at all of the question of admissibility for tax relief of the cost of domestic help needed to enable a married woman to pursue even a part-time career. This is a widely felt grievance; and while the Paymaster General recognises the difficulties and does not wish to propose remedies, he feels the subject ought at least to be mentioned if we are to forestall criticism.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries of E Committee, Don Brereton (DHSS), David Wright (Cabinet Office), and Gerry Spence (CPRS).

*Yours ever
Richard Prescott*

R E S PRESCOTT
PRIVATE SECRETARY

18 OCT 1980



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Incare/Case



with compliments

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