

PRIME MINISTER

For your meeting at 12 o'clock on Monday, you might like to be reminded of the furthest extent to which the Government is committed on recovery of the 5 per cent abatement.

Mr. Rossi said on 18 March:

"My right hon. Friends on the Front Bench have promised to keep this matter under review. We have said that the abatement will not be a permanent reduction.

It is equally clear that the abatement cannot be made good now, but it will be made good. My right hon. Friends have the matter under review. At the right time it will be made good."

And Mr. Hayhoe on 13 May:

"As my hon. Friend knows, we debated the matter at some length on 26 April. I have nothing to add to what I said then, which made it clear that the abatement will not be a permanent reduction. It will be made good at the right time."

/You will

You will also remember that the Government won the crucial amendment to the Finance Bill on 13 July by only 8 votes: 291 to 283. The following Conservatives voted with the Opposition:

Thomas Benyon
Patrick Cormack
Julian Critchley
David Crouch
Stephen Dorrell
Alan Haselhurst
Robert Hicks
Denis Howell
David Knox
Jim Lester
David Madel
Charles Morrison
Richard Needham
Sir Brandon Rhys Williams
Robin Squire
Peter Tapsell
Cyril Townsend
Sir William van Straubenzee
Dennis Walters

The following signed the amendment, but abstained:

Hugh Dykes
Sir Ian Gilmour
John Hunt

Kenneth Lewis and Anthony Meyer

29 October 1982

MS

Econ Pol.



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

Dear Michael

You asked for a piece of paper you
took to the PM before her meeting
on 'clawback' on Monday. I hope this
will do. The W.L. office may have
more up to date information on the Parliamentary
position. My impression is that it has
got more difficult since the summer.

Yours sincerely
J.S. Gieve

Ministerial Promises

The two recent Ministerial promises on recovery of overshoot are Mr Rossi on 18 March:

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"As my hon. Friend knows, we debated the matter at some length on 26 April. I have nothing to add to what I said then, which made it clear that the abatement will not be a permanent reduction. It will be made good at the right time."

Voting

The Government won the crucial amendment to the Finance Bill on 13 July by only 8 votes: 291 to 283. The following Conservatives voted with the Opposition:

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Patrick Cormack	David Madel
Julian Critchley	Hon C Morrison
David Crouch	Richard Needham
Stephen Dorrell	Sir Brandon Rhys Williams
Alan Haselhurst	Robin Squire
Robert Hicks	Peter Tapsell
Rt Hon D Howell	Cyril D Townsend
David Knox	Sir W Van Straubenzee
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The following ~~Conservatives~~ signed the amendment, but abstained:

Hugh Dykes
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Kenneth Lewis
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