



2 MARSHAM STREET  
LONDON SW1P 3EB  
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

The Rt Hon Malcolm Rifkind MP  
Scottish Office  
Dover House  
Whitehall  
LONDON  
SW1

6 November 1986

*Dear Malcolm*

*N BPN*

ABOLITION OF DOMESTIC RATES ETC (SCOTLAND) BILL

Thank you for copying to me your letter of 29 October to Willie Whitelaw.

I see no difficulty over your proposals for water and sewerage charges in Scotland. You will however recognise, I am sure, that a different response to the abolition of the domestic rate may well prove appropriate in the very different circumstances of the water industry in England and Wales. A system based in some way on the community charge is of course one option, but I am anxious to explore others such as universal domestic metering.

I should be grateful therefore if, when you come to announce your proposals for Scotland, you would make it clear that your decision does not imply that similar arrangements will necessarily be adopted south of the border.

I am copying this letter to the other members of E(LF) and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Nicholas Ridley*

NICHOLAS RIDLEY



LOCAL GOVT Rating PTS

