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PRIME MINISTER

E(LF)(86) 6th Meeting

The Abolition of Domestic Rates etc (Scotland) Bill is now virtually complete. A near final draft has been circulated to the Legislation Committee (L(86) 81), with a view to introduction on 27 November and a second reading in mid-December. There remain just two policy decisions to be made at the present meeting:

(i) what allowance if any should be made in the national non-domestic rate for buoyancy;

(ii) whether exemption from the Community Charge should be extended to the mentally handicapped.

I attach separate briefs on these issues. Subject to the outcome of discussion, very minor changes may need to be made to the draft Bill, but this should present no problem.

J B UNWIN

Cabinet Office
18 November 1986

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