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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SWIA 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

18 November 1986

Dea Robert,

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Following our conversation yesterday, I reported to the Prime Minister that the present timetable for the Scottish Rates Reform Bill is for the Bill to go to Legislation Committee on Tuesday 25 November and then for it to be published a day or so later and certainly by the end of the month. It would then proceed as soon as possible to Second Reading and the aim will be to have two Committee sittings on the Bill before Christmas.

The Prime Minister attaches the greatest importance to the achievement of this timetable. I should therefore be grateful if you could keep her in close touch with the progress of the Bill.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Lord President, the Lord Privy Seal, the Secretary of State for Wales, the Secretary of State for the Environment, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, the Chief Whip and Sir Robert Armstrong.

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N. L. WICKS

Robert Gordon, Esq., Scottish Office

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