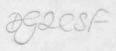
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10 DOWNING STREET LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

19 May 1988

COMMUNITY CHARGE: EXEMPTION FOR SEVERELY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PEOPLE

The Prime Minister was grateful for your Secretary of State's minute of 17 May. Subject to the views of colleagues, she is content with the proposed extension to the existing exemption in England and Wales, and for this also to be extended to Scotland. She is also content for officials to consider further the possibility of allowing doctors to charge for certificates, but has serious doubts about any such charges falling on the individuals exempted.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of E(LF) and to Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

Paul Gray

Roger Bright, Esq., Department of the Environment. for