

Y SWYDDFA GYMREIG
GWYDYR HOUSE
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2ER

Tel. 01-270 3000 (Switsfwrdd)
01-270 (Llinell Union)

Oddi wrth Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru



NBM

R216

14/10

WELSH OFFICE
GWYDYR HOUSE

WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2ER

Tel. 01-270 3000 (Switchboard)
01-270 (Direct Line)

From The Secretary of State for Wales

THE RT HON PETER WALKER MBE MP

CT/6147/88

13 October 1988

file with R

COMMUNITY CHARGE SPECIFIC GRANT

I have been following your correspondence with Nicholas Ridley on this subject, and I see that you have now agreed to his proposal for a specific grant.

I do not think that one is necessary for Wales. All authorities here are in receipt of grant and none is expected to suffer a drastic reduction from the 1989/90 settlement. To introduce a specific grant in Wales would be merely to add complexity for little practical result. But of course, as you say in your letter of 29 September to Cecil Parkinson, it is vital that both Nicholas and I make absolutely clear that we are simply adopting different approaches to distributing the same overall expenditure and grant which we have both already announced. On this basis, I think it would be simpler if the powers which Nicholas will have to take to pay his specific grant next year were to be exercisable only in England.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, other members of E(LF) and to Sir Robin Butler.

The Rt Hon John Major MP
Chief Secretary
HM Treasury
Parliament Street
LONDON
SW1

LOCAL GOV. RATES

Pg 11

