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the department for Enterprise

CONFIDENTIAL

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Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and
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Date 16 December 1988

Dear Nick,

UNIFORM BUSINESS RATE AND REVALUATION: TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 29 November to the Prime Minister.

There will no doubt be complaints both from gainers and losers about any self-financing transitional arrangements. But given the results of the Inland Revenue survey, I think your modified proposals are a fair compromise between divergent business interests. Your proposal to allow small gainers the full benefit of their gains immediately goes beyond the assurances given in Parliament; but I can see the administrative advantage, and it may well on balance be attractive politically.

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

*aw.
Tony*

TONY NEWTON

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