From The Private Secretary

House of Lords,

15 May 1989

J E J Donovan Esq Inspector of Rates Rating of Government Property Department Jameson House 69 Notting Hill Gate LONDON W11 3JU

Your Ref: 2-M 863

Den From,

THE COMMUNITY CHARGE

Thank you for your letter of 11 May.

Westminster City Council has sent a canvass form to the Lord Chancellor, and I am holding this for the moment. Canvass forms have also been sent to the other residents of accommodation in the Palace of Westminster and PSA are seeking advice.

I appreciate the points you make about consistency of approach, and the need to defend decisions publicly, as between Ministers. The complicating factor is that the Lord Chancellor ought also to achieve consistency of approach with the other residents of the Palace of Westminster, none of whom are Ministers. When PSA have advised us I shall let you know the Lord Chancellor's decision. I am grateful for your offer of help.

I am copying this letter to Andrew Turnbull (Prime Minister's Office), Roger Bright (Department of the Environment), Trevor Woolley (Sir Robin Butler's Office) and Simon Sergent (Sir Peter Middleton's Office).

Paul Stockton

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