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FOR SCOTLAND

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The Rt Hon Geoffrey Howe QC MP Lord President of the Council Privy Council Office Whitehall

23 August 1989

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MPs AND THE COMMUNITY CHARGE

I should record that I was broadly content with the proposal in John Wakeham's letter of 5 July to Nick Ridley about the Additional Costs Allowance and the Standard Community Charge. I agree entirely with the reservations in David Hunt's letter of 18 August in reply that this is likely to cause us some presentational difficulty but, equally, I have to agree that the House of Commons would not accept a change to the ACA resolution in order to block the reimbursement of the Standard Community Charge.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Chris Patten, Peter Walker, other members of the Cabinet and to David Hunt.

MALCOLM RIFKIND

LOCAL GOVT: Rating PTI4.

