



*ccp*

PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE  
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

*NBM*

7 September 1989

*RCC  
8/9*

*Dear Chris,*

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING BILL:  
EXEMPTIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY CHARGE

I have seen a copy of your letter of 5 September to Malcolm Rifkind about the proposal to extend the present exemption from the community charge for those on whose behalf child benefit is payable.

I accept that in the circumstances we should correct any faults there may be in an existing exemption and I agree therefore that we should proceed as proposed. However, I feel I must reiterate that in doing so we could be opening the door for more discussion on other community charge matters, although so far as this proposed amendment is concerned, I agree it is a risk we need to take.

Copies of this letter go to members of E(LF) and L Committees and to Sir Robin Butler.

*Yours sincerely,*

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BELSTEAD

The Rt Hon Christopher Patten, MP

LOCAL GOVT: Rates RT14

