

PRIME MINISTER  

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## COMMUNITY CHARGE

Mr. Ridley has not been party to the discussions thus far on possible further relief for community charge payers.

Given the background, and in particular the difficult time Mr. Ridley had in July, you will want to consider whether to alert him before E(LG) on Wednesday of what is afoot. At present there are no other meetings on either Monday or Tuesday that Mr. Ridley will be attending. So if you wanted to have a word with him we need to fix something up.

The possibilities would be:

(i) not to mention it to him until the issue comes to E(LG)

(ii) for us to arrange for him to come in for ten minutes sometime on Tuesday for you to tell him what is happening

*Tuesday 2.15.* ✓ (iii) for me to see him on your behalf and brief him

(iv) for you to speak to him on the telephone over the weekend (though you would want to bear security in mind).

Which would you prefer?

*flc.*  
PAUL GRAY

29 September 1989

SL3BND