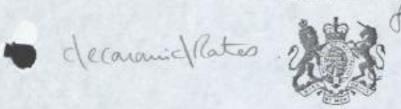
POLICY IN CONFIDENCE



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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SWIA 2AA

From the Private Secretary

19 October 1990

NON-DOMESTIC RATES

The Prime Minister was grateful for your Secretary of State's minute of 16 October about indexation of the national non-domestic rate poundage in 1991/92 and the scope for amending the transitional arrangements to ease the burden of rate increases on some small businesses. The Prime Minister has also seen the Chancellor's minute of 18 October on this subject.

The Prime Minister agrees that there should be full indexation of the NNDR poundage for 1991/92. The Prime Minister is also content that the existing transitional arrangements for gainers and losers under the revaluation and the move to a uniform poundage should not be changed.

I am copying this letter to John Gieve (H.M. Treasury), Jeremy Heywood (Chief Secretary's office) and Judith Simpson (Welsh Office) .

(BARRY H. POTTER)

Phillip Ward, Esq., Department of the Environment.