

CHANCELLOR

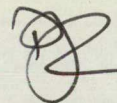
Nigel

FROM: P J CROPPER  
DATE: 4 November 1987

cc Chief Secretary  
Financial Secretary  
Paymaster General  
Economic Secretary  
Mr Tyrie  
Mr Call

COMMUNITY CHARGE

Katharine Ramsay, with Mr Ridley's approval, has sent me a copy of her note of last week's meeting of the Backbench Environment Committee.



P J CROPPER



Notes on points made by MPs on 29 October 1987 at

Meeting of Backbench Environment Committee on Community Charge

Tim Janman

Against transition: looks as if we're not convinced. Labour afraid of political effects on them of full community charge.

Michael Stern

Against transition: especially dual running. Transition would help Labour - controlled Bristol.

Anthony Nelson

Angered that the Government seemed to have taken no notice of clear conclusion at last backbench meeting that there should be no transition. Against giving local authorities discretion to opt.

Philip Goodhart

Whole thing an administrative nightmare - even worse with transition. (Only advantage is it gives us an option to go back to rates if it is a disaster!)

John Browne

Anti dual running - administrative nightmare. Go ahead as soon as possible - no discretion for local authorities.

George Gardiner

Anti transition - also anti safety net - unfair on constituents in areas which stand to gain from the Community Charge.

Bill Shelton

Pro transition for London. Political disaster: on average people in Lambeth would be paying twice their present rate bill. We'd lose 12 inner London seats.



Even with safety net it is political dynamite. So must have both elements of transition.

David Heathcoat-Amory Not keen on new system but should go ahead quickly. Transition makes for more confusion.

James Pawsey No transition - too much scope for Labour party to create mischief. No discretion to local authorities. Asked about "banded community charge"

David Madel Against dual running. Against local authority discretion - would hand a propaganda weapon to the Liberals in many areas. UBR needs more explanation.

Peter Emery Against dual running. Opposition would have a field day.

Iain Mills No transition. No local authority discretion - Conservative authorities would make a mess of it as well. Concerned about the position of occupational pensioners just above benefit levels. Asked for a transition period for UBR.

Patrick Cormack Anti transition - wants to see it work in Scotland for 2 years.

Jeremy Hayes Anti transition. No local authority discretion - concerned about unfairness of the safety net in Essex.



Nicholas Bennett	Concerned about the position of monks and nuns.
Patrick McLoughlin	Pro allowing authorities to opt out. This puts the opposition in a difficult position.
Roger Sims	Against dual running - too costly to administer.
Robert Adley	Against the whole system - asked about penalties for non payers.
Hugo Simmerson	Pro transition for Waltham Forest. Community charges unacceptably high.
Paul Marland	Anti Transition but worried about old people who have bought low rated properties <u>because</u> they are low rated - who will have to pay more.
R. Knapman	Anti transition: wanted low community charge for all pensioners.
<b>TOTAL</b>	17 against transition of which 5 were against allowing local authority discretion and one in favour of allowing opting out.  2 in favour of transition (both London MPs)





FROM: A A DIGHT  
DATE: 5 November 1987

MR P J CROPPER

**COMMUNITY CHARGE**

The Chancellor has seen and was grateful for your minute of 4 November.

*A A Dight*  
A A DIGHT