



MR GRAY

P 03557

COMMUNITY CARE WHITE PAPER

1. Please see Mr Monger's minute attached, commenting on the Secretary of State for Health's minute and draft White Paper of 20 October.

2. The discussion about people already in residential homes on 1 April 1991 is confusing. There are three quite different propositions about preserved rights in the attachments to the letter. The annex immediately below the letter envisages a five-year limit on preserved rights; paragraphs 9.5 and 9.6 envisage a two-year limit; and paragraphs 9.2 and 9.3 envisage no time-limit.

3. Our understanding is that the last of these is what Mr Clarke is proposing, in line with Ministerial decisions in E(A): the Government should safeguard the position of residents supporting themselves on 1 April 1991 by preserving their right subsequently to claim Income Support under the special scheme. There would however be an added commitment that the Government will keep the operation of these arrangements under review but that in any event they will continue for a minimum of five years.

R T J WILSON

24 October 1989