

CCP



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street SW1P 3AG

Mrs Virginia Bottomley MP
Minister of State
Department of Health
Richmond House
79 Whitehall
London
SW1

NSM

PAC 6

10/1

30 October 1989

at Ret Here!

Dear Minister,

COMMUNITY CARE: LEGISLATION

David Mellor copied to me his letter of 19 October to Geoffrey Howe.

2. I have two comments on David's proposals. First, as I have indicated in my letter to Nick Scott, I agree with him that local authorities should have the power to top-up payments in respect of any genuine hard cases among people enjoying preserved entitlements to income support under the social security system.

3. Secondly, I fear I am unable to agree that there should be a general power to make specific grants. My predecessor reluctantly agreed that there should be one new specific grant, in respect of the mentally ill; I cannot agree that the legislation to bring into effect the community care decisions should go further than that.

4. Copies of this letter go to members of H and E(A) committees, Sir Robin Butler and First Parliamentary Counsel.

Yours sincerely,

P. Warless

PP NORMAN LAMONT

*[Approved by the Chief Secretary
and signed in his absence.]*

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EIT 172

