CONFIDENTIAL

QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SWIH 9AT

31 October 1986

Dear Willie.

**E(LF): COMMUNITY CHARGE:
FRAMEWORK OF DUTIES AND OFFENCES**

I have now had an opportunity to consider Nicholas Ridley's letter to you of 20 October and Malcolm Rifkind's of 21 October, both of which propose an enhanced penalty of £200 for repeated non-provision of information, instead of the £400 originally put forward.

A lower enhanced penalty does not meet my reservations of principle to enhanced penalties, but a £200 non-mitigable penalty is certainly more reasonable than a £400 non-mitigable penalty and I am willing to accept Malcolm Rifkind's implied argument that the lower penalty for the first refusal to supply information is, in effect, a form of statutory mitigation. For these reasons I would not object to an enhanced penalty of £200.

Copies of this letter go to members of E)LF).

Yours,
Douglas.

The Rt Hon The Viscount Whitelaw, CH., MC.