

*ce Bly***PRIME MINISTER***NRM***STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY CHARGE**

I am content with the line proposed by Malcolm Rifkind in his minute of 24 September. I recognise that there would be considerable difficulties for registration and collection if 20% liability were conceded to students on very short courses. The concession should therefore be limited to students on courses of full-time study lasting for significant periods. I strongly agree with Malcolm that the essential corollary is that students on shorter courses should be eligible for community charge rebates.

My officials will be discussing further with their Scottish colleagues the precise terms in which the definition should be drawn.

I am copying this minute to the Lord President, other members of E(LF), and Sir Robert Armstrong.

KB

KB
Department of Education and Science

2 October 1987

LOCAL GOV: Raley

P18



PRIME MINISTER

STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY CHARGE

I am pleased to announce that the Government has decided to introduce a new charge for students and the community. This charge will be levied on all students who are enrolled in higher education institutions. The charge will be used to fund a range of services and facilities for students, including student accommodation, student transport, and student support services. The charge will be introduced from the start of the next academic year. I am sure that you will understand the need for this charge and the benefits it will bring to students and the community.

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