

cc 89



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My ref:

Your ref:

The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd CBE MP
Home Office
50 Queen Anne's Gate
LONDON
SW1H 9AT

NBHM

Pres

27/6

24 June 1988

Dear Home Secretary

RATE AND PRECEPT LIMITATION IN 1989/90: ARRANGEMENTS FOR JOINT AUTHORITIES

Thank you for your letter of 21 June about rate and precept limitation for 1989/90 and in particular your proposals for the Joint Police and Joint Fire and Civil Defence Authorities. *will request if required*

I suggest we discuss your proposals, along with my own proposals for general purpose authorities, and colleagues' proposals for ILEA and the Passenger Transport Authorities at our next meeting of the current E(LA) round on 29 June. We shall need to look carefully at the precise implications of the legal advice the Department of Transport and your Department obtained. As I have said to Kenneth Baker and Paul Channon, we shall need to ensure that the decisions we take in relation to these different classes of authorities are legally and presentationally reconcilable and do not present inconsistencies which could be exploited in a legal challenge. And, as you say, we shall want to include in our discussion how we handle the announcement of our decisions.

I am copying this letter to the other members of E(LF), to the Attorney General who is attending to advise on the legal aspects of these issues, and to Sir Robin Butler.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Ridley

PP NICHOLAS RIDLEY

(approved by the Secretary of State and signed in his absence)

27.VI
1988