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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

27 June 1988

Dear Roger,

DUAL RUNNING OF DOMESTIC RATES AND
THE COMMUNITY CHARGE IN LONDON

The Prime Minister was grateful for your Secretary of State's minute of 24 June.

The Prime Minister recognises the force of the arguments for deciding now to drop dual running altogether, and she agrees with that conclusion. She recognises that, if community charges in the areas affected were likely to be set at unreasonably high levels, the charge capping powers are available, and she thinks it important that your Secretary of State should stand ready to use those powers if necessary. But the Prime Minister also thinks that a further look should be taken at the detailed safety net and grant distribution arrangements with a view to seeking to limit the first year community charge in all areas to a maximum of, say, £350. She would be grateful if your Secretary of State could consider this possibility.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of E(LF), the Lord Privy Seal, the Chief Whips in the Commons and Lords and Sir Robin Butler.

Yours,
Paul

(PAUL GRAY)

Roger Bright, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

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