



ST. ANDREW'S HOUSE  
EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

CCFV

CONFIDENTIAL

The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley AMICE MP  
Secretary of State for the Environment  
2 Marsham Street  
LONDON  
SW1 P3EB

NBRM

REC 6

7/2

7 February 1989

Dear Nicholas,

RATING OF STUD FARMS

WILL REQUEST IF REQUIRED

Thank you for your letter of 17 January about the rating of buildings used for the breeding and rearing of horses and ponies.

I appreciate the reasons why you feel obliged to pursue the exemption for horse breeding establishments. In view of the fact we offered a similar concession to that offered for England and Wales during the passage of Local Government Finance Bill, and both amendments were withdrawn on the undertaking we would look again at the matter, I consider I am obliged to follow suit on this new proposal.

In my letter to you of 10 January I argued that the proposals contained in my letter of 2 December to John McGregor offered a more logical approach but, in the light of arguments advanced by colleagues, I have decided not to pursue the possibility of derating diversification projects.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, John McGregor, John Major, Peter Walker and Tom King.

Yours ever,  
MRF

MALCOLM RIFKIND

FAB031L8

Filed on The future of the Rating System Local Govt. Pt 12.

