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## 10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

26 April 1989

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## BUSINESS RATES IN SCOTLAND

The Prime Minister was grateful for the Chief Secretary's minute of 25 April. She is pleased to note the terms of the agreement reached between the Chief Secretary and the Secretary of State for Scotland, and she welcomes the proposal to stress in presenting the decisions the presumption that the Scottish local authorities will make their contribution by reducing spending rather than raising the community charge.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the members of E(LF) and to Sir Robin Butler.

Pel

PAUL GRAY

Miss Carys Evans Chief Secretary's Office HM Treasury

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