CONFIDENTIAL

DOMINIC MORRIS

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COMMUNITY CHARGE AND INCOME SUPPORT

In case the DSS' brief does not mention the fact, I have just discovered that last year the Social Security Advisory Committee revised the problem of likely shortfall in the IS element for paying 20% of the community charge.

The Government's written response was that the amounts in the element "fully reflect the Department of the Environment's assessment of the average of local authorities' spending needs. Where an authority chooses to exceed this assessment, the Government considers it would be inappropriate to make benefit provision which would in effect condone their actions".

Louise Asnon

JOHN MILLS