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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

file

*(C2) (Economic)
Revaluation. des)*

bc = BS

From the Private Secretary

3 April 1990

Dear Stephen,

GENERAL REVALUATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's letter to the Secretary of State for the Environment proposing that he should announce a general rating revaluation in Northern Ireland. The Prime Minister is not attracted to such an announcement in present circumstances, when local government finance is already the focus of much attention. Indeed, she is not persuaded that a general rating revaluation of both domestic and non-domestic properties in Northern Ireland is urgently required.

The Prime Minister appreciates there could be a case for a revaluation confined to the non-domestic sector, perhaps presented as bringing non-domestic rates broadly into line with those in other parts of the United Kingdom. The timing of such an approach could be examined further.

I am copying this letter to Carys Evans (Chief Secretary's Office), Stephen Williams (Welsh Office), Jim Gallagher (Scottish Office), Roger Bright (Department of the Environment) and to Sir Robin Butler.

Yours

Barry

BARRY H POTTER

Stephen Leach, Esq.
Northern Ireland Office

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