

ANDREW TURNBULL

19 June 1990

cc: Brian Griffiths  
Ian Whitehead

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cc DoH  
SPW  
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COMMUNITY CARE

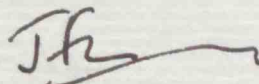
The article in today Independent is based on the attached circular letter from the LBA.

I had lunch with John Hall on 25 May. We went over all sorts of topics in a general way. Community charge and transport in London I recall as the most prominent. Hall is a useful contact as the person in day to day charge of one of the local authority associations (with a mainly Conservative membership among the outer London Boroughs) and I have met and talked with him on several occasions.

I asked him for his views on Boroughs' state of readiness for taking on community care. This was in the context of several items in the local government press casting at least some doubt on how they would all cope. Hall's letter reflects this.

I certainly did not ask for an exercise of the kind Hall then set up in order to examine the question in more detail and whether it would be wiser to put back the starting-date! I can only say that I expect Hall proceeded as he did in order to enhance his own reputation with his constituent boroughs.

I have remonstrated with him and he has apologised unreservedly for the embarrassment caused.



JOHN MILLS