

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Rt. Hon. Viscount Whitelaw, C.H., M.C.



HOUSE OF LORDS
LONDON SW1A 0PW

9 June 1989

Dear Margaret.

I apologise for bothering you when you have so many major problems confronting you. But I feel I would be letting you down if I did not tell you at once of my deep anxieties about future Broadcasting Policy. If the leaks about the Cabinet Committee are correct and they are certainly widespread

I must stress that I would be
horrified and deeply antagonistic
if franchises were automatically to
be at the highest bidder without clear
safeguards. I am convinced that
any such course would inevitably
lead to a major loss of quality
in TV. programmes. I cannot believe
that it would be right to sacrifice
quality in the hope of greater financial
gain. It would certainly be very
unpopular in many quarters. Sorry
to bother you. Yours ever Willie