



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

6TH APRIL, 1978

FROM MRS. SALLY OPPENHEIM, M.P.

R. J. TUCKER, Esq  
18, SPRINGFIELD GROVE  
WESTBURY PARK  
BRISTOL 6

DEAR MR. TUCKER,

SIR GEOFFREY HOWE HAS PASSED YOUR LETTER ON TO ME AS METRICATION COMES WITHIN MY SHADOW CABINET RESPONSIBILITY.

FORTUNATELY YOU HAVE BEEN MISINFORMED, AND THE FIRST OF THE IMPERIAL WEIGHTS TO BE PHASED OUT WOULD BE AFTER FEBRUARY OF NEXT YEAR IN RELATION TO HARDWARE AND TEXTILES, WHICH THE CONSERVATIVE OPPOSITION ARE VOTING AGAINST. WE ARE ALSO VOTING AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT'S ORDER ON WEIGHED OUT FOODS WHICH WOULD BE METRIC IF THE ORDER WERE PASSED BY 1981. THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY IS OPPOSED TO STATUTORY METRICATION ACROSS THE BOARD, AND I ENTIRELY AGREE WITH YOUR REMARKS.

I WOULD ALSO POINT OUT THIS IS NOT A COMMON MARKET COMMITMENT SO MUCH AS A COMMITMENT MR. BENN MADE SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE WE JOINED THE E.E.C. THE RELEVANT COMMON MARKET DIRECTIVE ON METRICATION INDEED GIVES US DISCRETION TO EXEMPT A WHOLE RANGE OF GOODS AND ONLY TO REVIEW THE MATTER IN 1979.

I HOPE THIS HAS BEEN HELPFUL. ONCE AGAIN THANK YOU FOR YOUR REMARKS.

YOURS VERY SINCERELY,