

CUTS IN GOVERNMENT STATISTICS

The white paper 'Government Statistical Services' was published at easter. This 18 page (£2.10) document summarises the reports made on each department (total cost £100) . In total a 25% cut is proposed by 1984. The stated basis for the proposals is to cut anything which is not thought to be absolutely necessary for (this) government. In particular, that anyone outside government may be using government statistics is not taken as a reason for their continued collection (para. 43.1 of 'Review of Government Statistical Services' report to the PM by Sir Derek Rayner) The details of what surveys etc are proposed to be cut are given in the departmental reports (or in the report to the PM in the case of OPCS).

The RSS has a subcommittee of council working on producing a response to the proposals . This subcommittee hopes to present a document for discussion at the June RSS council meeting. Contact Henry Wynn at Imperial College for further details.

Proposed Cuts By Department

Department	%	Department	%
CSO	32	Home Office	10
Lord Chancellor's	14	ODA	31
Inland Rev.	40	Customs & Excise	23
Defence	12	Civil Service Dep.	36
D of E	35	HSE	18
MAFF	19	Environment	21
Scottish Office	13	General Register Off(Scot)	15
Welsh Office	21	DHSS	38
OPCS	26	Education & Science	12
Industry and Trade	22	Energy	16
