

# Note from the Troika

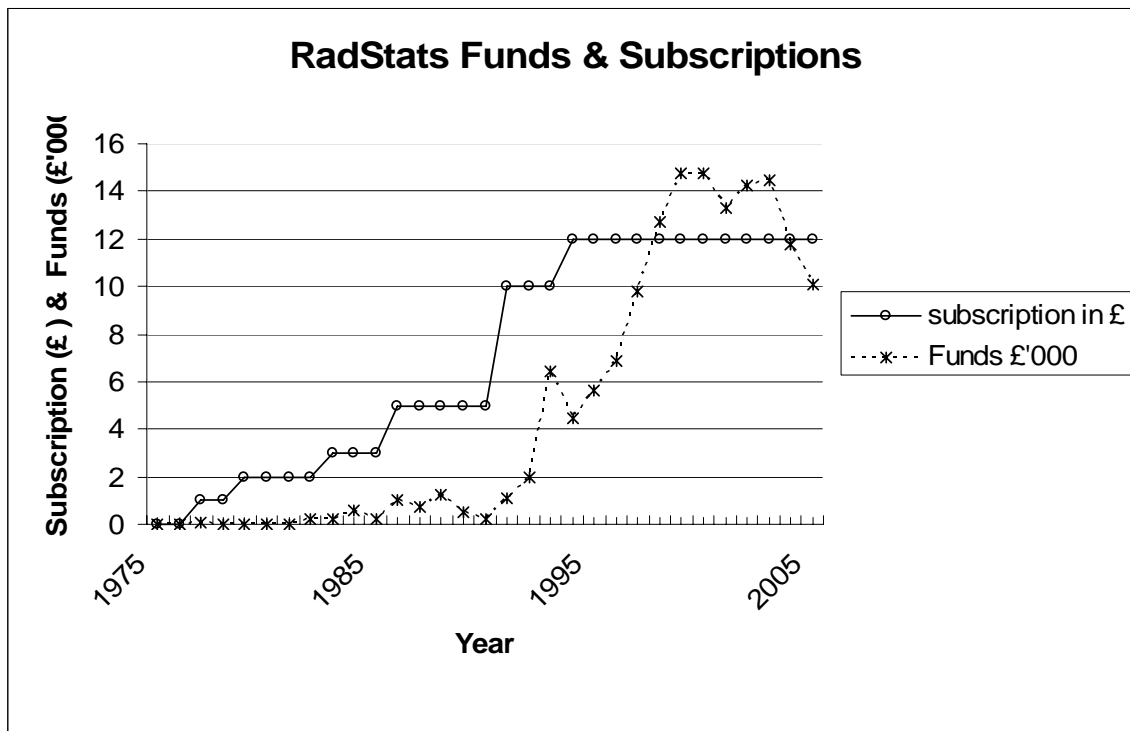
This update is to inform members that the Troika, editors and administrator met up recently to discuss some RadStats issues and to prepare for the 2007 conference & AGM. Our main concern is the newsletter, since as it stands Ivan Rappaport is standing down and the other editor Alan Marshall is leaving after issue 93 (which should be with you by late Dec/early Jan at the latest). We as the Troika are calling for your help in filling these vacant editor roles and would like to thank Ivan for all his hard work as co-editor over the past few years.

We would also like to draw your attention to our first Radical Statistics Briefing Paper which is on Pensions Policy by Jay Ginn (available from [www.radstats.org.uk/PensionsBriefingsept06.pdf](http://www.radstats.org.uk/PensionsBriefingsept06.pdf)) - we hope it will be the first of many.

As can be seen from the graph (overleaf) RadStats subscription rates have remained unchanged since 1994, whereas our funds, while healthy, are being drained by rising costs of distribution. In view of this the last AGM agreed to raise subscription/membership rates. The new annual rates will be: £4 (unwaged), £6 (low-waged), £15 (waged and overseas) and £25 (institutions).

In the next mailing you should receive a Direct Debit form. To help us make this change efficiently please fill this in and post promptly to Alistair Cairns our administrator. The new rate will apply from January 2007, but the form will allow for fractional subscriptions for the first year. We do not want to overcharge our members!

## Members Subscriptions



Members will retain the right to pay by cheque, and in any case should inform us of any changes in postal address or status. Please keep in touch.

# News

## ***'Who's in charge of public statistics?'*** **Call for contributions**

'Who's in charge of public statistics?' is the title of the Radical Statistics group's next annual conference. This is to be held in Friends House, Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ on Saturday 24 February 2007.

Proposals for presentations, or for more interactive sessions, are invited. These could cover any area of the governance of statistics, such as:

- the constitutional relationship between official statistics and government departments;
- quality assurance systems such as National Statistics; confidentiality; continuity;
- involvement of people from outside government in the development and maintenance of official statistics e.g. through user groups and consultation processes;
- arrangements governing how public bodies make use of performance indicators;
- access to statistics about public services post privatisation;
- statistics of public interest originating in local government, health services, the police, schools etc, and how these are managed and quality assured and ...
- ... the same for statistics of public interest originating in the private sector e.g. the pharmaceutical industry;
- arrangements outside the United Kingdom. (Contributors who have personal experience of non-UK arrangements are particularly welcome, but we regret we cannot normally fund travel expenses.)

The above are examples only. If you have an idea for the programme which is relevant to the governance of statistics, and has a radical statistics perspective, the RadStats organisers (the troika) want to hear from you.

If you would like to contribute to the programme, please email [troika@radstats.org.uk](mailto:troika@radstats.org.uk) outlining your proposal and how long a time-slot you would like. Time-slots of up to an hour may be available. The Troika would be happy to discuss ideas with you if you wish.

If you can send an expression of interest by Friday 3 November, that would help us to plan the event, though we welcome proposals later on.

If you are unable to use email, write to Geoffrey Rendle at 18 Victoria Road, London N22 7XB. Note. Conference contributions are published in our Radical Statistics newsletter. We ask all contributors to submit a written contribution at or shortly after the conference.