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Minister of State

Tim Lankester Esq  
Private Secretary to the  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON SW1

3 April 1980

*Dear Tim*

Thank you for your letter of 1 April about the meeting which the Prime Minister held on 31 March on waste in Government and the efficiency of central government and lasting reforms.

You asked to have, in advance of next Wednesday's meeting, some information about departmental numbers and grade populations, particularly for the larger departments. I attach some tables which I hope will be of interest.

...

Table 1 shows Civil Service numbers from 1970-1980, broken down by departments.

Table 2 contains Administration Group grade breakdown for the largest departments in 1973, 1976 and 1979, together with aggregate figures for Science and P&T Groups, and shows the split between non-industrials and industrials.

Table 3 shows non-industrial and industrial numbers from 1970-1980, broken down by departments.

Table 4 shows the open structure breakdown for 1973, 1976, 1979 and 1980.

Naturally, if you or the Prime Minister would like to have more information, we will do our best to provide it.

I think that this is the only information you wished specifically to have in advance of the meeting. The Minister of State does, however, hope to write to the Prime Minister on Tuesday (8 April), following up the discussion about the COI and its expenditure. This is most likely to be in the form of an interim report, but he will send it in case the Prime Minister would like to include this matter in the discussion on the following day.

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Also, you may like to know that the Minister of State has written today to the Prime Minister about three specific points (arising out of the Rayner projects) which he thought the Prime Minister might like to consider before next Wednesday's meeting.

*Yours sincerely*

*Geoff Gordon*

G E T GREEN  
Private Secretary

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STAFF IN POST 1970-79 IN MAJOR DEPARTMENTS

Table 1

Departments	60	1.1.70	1.1.71	1.1.72	1.1.73	1.1.74	1.1.75	1.1.76	1.1.77	1.1.78	1.1.79	1.1.80
MOD/ROFS	261300	255700	279300	270200	267900	266500	268200	261200	253300	248500	241700	241700
DHSS	70400	71800	74500	76500	80900	86700	91600	94500	96900	97600	95400	95400
IR	68100	69600	72900	70800	69400	73500	79100	82500	85000	85000	79000	79000
DEm Group	31200	32100	33100	34400	33800	37000	45500	51900	53000	53700	51400	51400
DOE/PSA/Transport	70800	71800	70200	69900	69300	69700	73100	71400	69200	66500	62800	62800
HO	24700	25700	27300	28500	28300	30300	32500	32300	33000	33500	33700	33700
C&E	17900	17900	18300	22600	24800	27100	29300	29400	28800	28900	27400	27400
MAFF	15900	16000	15700	15400	15000	15200	15600	15300	14800	14000	13600	13600
DTI/PCP/Energy	17200	26600	26300	18800	18700	19100	19700	19300	18200	18400	17700	17700
Technology	38000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aviation Supply	-	28300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNS	15300	15300	14800	13900	13400	13600	13700	12500	11200	10800	10300	10300
Lord Chancellor	7400	7700	8900	9300	9300	9600	10000	9900	10100	10200	9900	9900
Scottish Office	9200	9500	9500	9600	9700	9900	10700	10500	10300	10900	10700	10700
Sub total	647,400	648,000	650,800	639,900	640,500	658,200	708,700	690,700	683,800	678,200	653,600	653,600
TOTAL	702,100	702,900	701,900	692,700	694,400	712,500 <sup>3</sup>	745,100	746,200	738,000	733,200	707,800	707,800

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## NOTES

1. In May 1971 the functions of the Ministry of Aviation Supply were transferred to the Ministry of Defence and the Department of Trade and Industry.
2. On 1 April 1973 responsibility for the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment (5,400 staff) was transferred from the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority to the Ministry of Defence.
3. Including the 18,600 staff of the Manpower Services Commission which, at 1 January 1975 were not classed as civil servants, and not therefore included in published civil service numbers in that year.
4. Prior to October 1970, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works and the Ministry of Transport.
5. In October 1970 the functions of the Ministry of Technology were transferred to the Ministry of Aviation Supply and the new Department of Trade and Industry (previously the Board of Trade).
6. On 1 April 1972 responsibility for civil aviation was transferred to the Civil Aviation Authority whose staff are not civil servants.
7. On 1 January 1972 the re-organised County Courts Service and the Supreme Court of Judicature became part of the Lord Chancellor's Department.

Table 2(i)

## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (including ROFs)

	<u>1 4 73</u>	<u>1 4 76</u>	<u>1 4 79</u>
<u>Administration Group</u>			
Assistant Secretary	161	173	159
Senior Principal	157	168	163
Principal	454	502	504
SEO	954	1102	1047
HEO	2832	3154	2986
EO	6284	6907	6361
CO	19386	21322	19255
CA	14629	13403	12126
Total	<u>44926</u>	<u>46853</u>	<u>42715</u>
<u>Science Group etc</u>	10161	11448	10565
<u>Professional &amp; Technology Group etc</u>	23491	26252	25683
Total non-industrial	129,467	130,063	120,643
Total industrial	143,266	136,166	127,017
GRAND TOTAL	272,733	266,229	247,660

Table 2(ii)

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY

	<u>1 4 73</u>	<u>1 4 76</u>	<u>1 4 79</u>
<u>Administration Group</u>			
Assistant Secretary	121	118	110
Senior Principal	82	99	104
Principal	656	733	736
SEO	1256	1460	1475
HEO	3550	4657	4968
EO (+L01)	15863	18919	19686
CO (+L02)	35197	41961	43904
CA	12461	13628	14725
Total	<u>69243</u>	<u>81654</u>	<u>85800</u>
<u>Science Group etc</u>	52	97	95
<u>Professional &amp; Technology Group etc</u>	420	472	446
Total non-industrial	78,490	92,846	98,073
Total industrial	197	255	296
GRAND TOTAL	78,687	93,101	98,369

Table 2(iii)

INLAND REVENUE

	<u>1 4 73</u>	<u>1 4 76</u>	<u>1 4 79</u>
<u>Administration Group</u>			
Assistant Secretary	27	37	34
Senior Principal	18	23	24
Principal	95	115	143
SEO	173	234	269
HEO	756	807	661
EO	1090	928	1114
CO	1293	1112	1223
CA	14696	17913	19968
Total	18160	21253	23449
<u>Science Group etc</u>	-	-	-
<u>Professional &amp; Technology Group etc</u>	-	-	-
<u>Tax Inspectorate</u>	31738	36220	37163
Total non-industrial	70679	80250	84615
Total industrial	34	29	30
GRAND TOTAL	70713	80279	84645

Table 2(iv)

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

	<u>1 4 73</u>	<u>1 4 76</u>	<u>1 4 79</u>
<u>Administration Group</u>			
Assistant Secretary	78	79	74
Senior Principal	11	11	36
Principal	388	421	408
SEO	1300	1590	1554
HEO	5240	5312	5460
EO	6753	10357	9406
CO	4478	5716	5824
CA	1682	1912	2246
Total	19952	25443	25038
<u>Science Group etc</u>	-	-	-
<u>Professional &amp; Technology Group etc</u>	-	-	-
Total non-industrial	23,464	29,390	28,771
Total industrial	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	23,464	29,390	28,771

Table 2(v)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT (including PSA)  
AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

	<u>1 4 73</u>	<u>1 4 76</u>	<u>1 4 79</u>
<u>Administration Group</u>			
Assistant Secretary	131	134	123
Senior Principal	50	66	63
Principal	417	467	447
SEO	515	612	535
HEO	1578	1724	1656
EO	3308	3818	3463
CO	7000	8257	7442
CA	3518	5059	5262
Total	<u>16594</u>	<u>20298</u>	<u>19077</u>
<u>Science Group etc</u>	1609	1517	1273
<u>Professional &amp; Technology Group etc</u>	12499	13073	12604
Total non-industrial	40791	46187	42898
Total industrial	29234	26809	23463
GRAND TOTAL	70025	72996	66361

Table 2(vi)

## DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT GROUP

	<u>1 4 73</u>	<u>1 4 76</u>	<u>1 4 79</u>
<u>Administration Group*</u>			
Assistant Secretary	41	60	70
Senior Principal	26	60	86
Principal	178	266	305
SEO	560	864	1082
HEO	1571	2443	2954
EO	5570	6946	9271
CO	13557	19633	21763
CA	5519	6232	5588
Total	<u>27196</u>	<u>37440</u>	<u>41173</u>
<u>Science Group etc</u>	-	305	356
<u>Professional &amp; Technology Group etc</u>	-	-	135
Total non-industrial	33,453	45,835	51,473
Total industrial	1,970	1,872	2,132
GRAND TOTAL	34,932	47,707	53,605

\* Including departmental administrative grades at 1 4 73  
(subsequently amalgamated with Administration Group)

Total Numbers of Industrials and Non-Industrials

	<u>Non-Industrials</u>	<u>Industrials</u>	<u>Total (All Departments)</u>
1 1 70	491,341	210,715	702,056
1 1 71	499,690	203,163	702,853
1 1 72	504,445	197,451	701,896 <sup>(1)</sup>
1 1 73	504,141	188,515	692,656 <sup>(2)</sup>
1 1 74	511,326	183,058	694,384 <sup>(3)</sup>
1 1 75	534,116	178,405	712,521
1 1 76	564,836	180,284	745,120
1 1 77	569,852	176,309	746,161
1 1 78	567,015	170,969	737,984
1 1 79	566,059	167,117	733,176
1 1 80	548,553	159,199	707,752

1. Trustee Museums etc taken out (-5000); certain court staff, formerly local authority staff, brought in (+2000)
2. Civil Aviation Authority taken out (-7,300)
3. Addition of Atomic Weapons Research Establishment (+5,400).



OPEN STRUCTURE: HOME CIVIL SERVICE

	<u>at 1 April</u>			
	<u>1973</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
Permanent Secretary	40	44	41	41
Deputy Secretary	154	165	162	161
Under Secretary	595	663½	635	632
TOTAL	789	872½	838	834