

PRIME MINISTER



MAD 23/7/80

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CIVIL SERVICE NUMBERS

Departmental returns of staff in post at 1 July 1980 have just been received. The total of 700,200 is a reduction of 4,900 from the 1 April number and 32,000 since we took office.

We are, so far, on course with our plans to reduce Civil Service manpower. Many Departments are continuing to restrict recruitment. The trend will continue downwards throughout this year.

Gross reductions are 7,200. The largest are in Defence (3,400); Inland Revenue (1,350); Environment (800); and the Manpower Services Commission (500). These are offset by increases of 2,300, mainly to cope with increased benefit payments, to improve anti-fraud work, and to staff the prisons. Largest increases accordingly come in DHSS (1,100); Home Office (500); and the Department of Employment (400).

The Minister of State will announce the 1 July staff in post figure in the House during Question Time today.

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23 July 1980

23 JUL 1980

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