

K01029

CONFIDENTIAL



PRIME MINISTER

Rate Limitation:  
Strategy and Counter-Obstruction Measures  
(MISC 109(84)1 and 2)

BACKGROUND

Annex

The Secretary of State for the Environment is announcing the 1985/86 Rate Support Grant settlement (RSG) today. His statement will cover the rate and precept limits for the 18 authorities selected in July\*. These authorities will have until 15 January to comment on the limits proposed. In the absence of agreement with the authorities, the next step is confirmation of the limits by Affirmative Order of the House of Commons. In the case of the 4 precepting authorities (Greater London Council (GLC), Inner London Education Authority (ILEA), South Yorkshire and Merseyside) the Secretary of State must set the maximum precept by 15 February (in order to give rating authorities sufficient notice). In the case of the 14 rating authorities, a maximum rate must be set by 1 March. In both cases the limits can be interim ones if negotiations with authorities are still in progress.

Proposals

FLAG A

2. MISC 109(84)1 sets out the strategy Mr Jenkin proposes for the remainder of the financial year. The main features are:

- (a) separate Affirmative Orders (and debates) for rating and precepting authorities;
- (b) a presumption against setting interim limits;
- (c) further consideration with the Attorney General of the best legal response to any failure to



set rates and precepts;

(d) suitable presentation and publicity:

- no paid publicity until Easter;
- maximum activity by Government supporters on capped authorities;
- Ministerial speeches stressing the advantages of rate limitation and the implications of illegality.

FLAG-B 3. MISC 109(84)2 describes possible obstructive measures which authorities might take, and sets out Mr Jenkin's proposals on how the Government should react. The main points are:

(a) a general strategy of letting events take their course, rather than bringing them to a head;

(b) further work:

- with the Home Secretary on potential problems involving upper and lower tier authorities in the same area, especially on police and fire;
- with the Attorney General on legal enforcement of existing powers;
- with the Treasury and Bank on the credit-worthiness of local authorities;

(c) no new contingent legislation this session to plug holes in the existing law or provide solutions short of Commissioners;

(d) reliance on existing contingent legislation for Commissioners as the last resort.



## MAIN ISSUES

4. The main issues for decision are:
  - i. What should the Government's general stance be?  
Broadly the choice lies between:
    - a. operating the prescribed procedures and
    - b. letting pressure on authorities build up through the natural course of events;
    - c. attempting to bring matters to a head more quickly (eg by legislating to set a date by which councils must fix their rate, by with-holding RSG in 1985/86 until a rate has been set);
    - d. attempting to reach an early accommodation with authorities.
  - ii. What specific steps need to be taken, consistent with the preferred general stance, eg. in Parliament; on presentation?
  - iii. What further contingency planning needs to be done?

General Stance

5. Mr Jenkin recommends letting events take their course, which was the strategy the Government followed with Liverpool last year. The main argument for this strategy is that its effectiveness can be regularly reviewed. It would be premature to risk losing public sympathy by provoking an early confrontation with authorities while their intentions remain unclear. To do so would risk uniting what is at present a fragmented group, and might push them into the sort of illegality the Government is seeking to prevent, at a time when contingency plans are still incomplete. Similarly an attempt to compromise at this stage would need to be costly to be successful; if it were unsuccessful it would weaken the Government's position and might stiffen authorities' resolve.



6. Ministers will wish to ensure that the general stance they adopt on rate limitation is consistent with their stance on Liverpool (on which a separate brief is being provided).

#### Rate and Precept Limitation Orders

7. Mr Jenkin and the business managers have agreed that there should be separate Orders for rating and precepting authorities. Although this will lead to two debates, there are practical and tactical advantages in splitting the precepting authorities off from the rating authorities. Mr Jenkin's strategy of not setting interim limits unless authorities engage in genuine negotiations, as opposed to time wasting, is consistent with the aim of not being drawn into an early compromise. Brent and Portsmouth will probably try and live with their rate limits (RLs). The 16 Labour authorities seem unlikely to wish to consult, although they may subsequently try to draw the Government into 'Liverpool-style' negotiations covering the whole range of RSG issues. Once set, RLs can be increased, but not reduced.

#### Legal Action by Government

8. Obstruction by local authorities is likely to follow one of two main courses; either

- a. failure to make a legal rate, or
- b. the making of a rate which is insufficient to cover planned expenditure.

9. The Group may wish to offer guidance to Mr Jenkin and the Attorney in their further considerations about:

- possible applications to the courts to require a rate to be made (after 10 March in the case of precepting

*Press reports indicate that councils are favouring (a)*



authorities; when a financial loss has been made in the other cases, who do not have to make a rate by a fixed date);

- a Parliamentary statement about the consequences for councillors of illegal action. This was discussed in relation to Liverpool last year. It was argued then that it was unnecessary, since councillors should be advised by their officers of the position, and that it would be seen as threatening and provocative.

#### New Contingent Legislation

10. MISC 109(84)2 concludes, in paragraphs 7 and 8, that none of the potential measures would be helpful in the short term. Any such legislation would be contentious and inconsistent with Mr Jenkin's proposed low-profile, wait-and-see strategy. Ministers will also wish to consider the presentational effect of seeking new powers so soon after the Rates Act, and, possibly, before any illegality has occurred.

#### Creditworthiness

11. So far the market has remained calm, and has adjusted to the situation by charging marginally higher rates to capped authorities.

#### Commissioners

12. This would remain a last resort. Department of the Environment officials are working on ways of making any takeover more palatable, eg. by allowing an early return of elected authorities with limited powers to work alongside Commissioners, but are not hopeful that this will prove practicable.



### Contingency Planning

13. The main task is to review and update existing plans for maintaining essential services after a financial collapse, and for interdepartmental co-ordination. An official group has already been set up for this purpose. One new aspect is the possibility of action involving upper and lower tier authorities in the same area (eg. Sheffield and S.Yorkshire), which could pose particular problems for the police and fire service. Officials will also be looking at the interaction between ILEA and the GLC.

### Timing

14. It is very difficult to predict what action individual authorities will take, and at what stage any problems will come to a head, because there are so many variables. The most likely next important date will be 10 March, by which time precepting authorities should have fixed a precept. Thereafter a crisis could be caused by court action (by ratepayers, other councils or the Attorney), by events in the financial markets, or action by the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB). The probability is that most if not all authorities have various devices open which could postpone financial collapse for a considerable period as Liverpool did last year.

### HANDLING

15. You will wish to ask the Secretary of State for the Environment to introduce his papers. All Ministers present are likely to want to contribute to the discussion on general strategy. The Lord President and Lord Privy Seal will have views on the Parliamentary position. The Chancellor of the Exchequer can comment on the effect on financial markets. The Secretaries of State for Education and Science and Social Services and the Minister of State,



Home Office can advise on the position as regards their services. The Attorney General can advise on the legal aspects.

## CONCLUSIONS

16. You will wish the Group to record conclusions on:
- i. the general stance to be adopted by the Government towards capped authorities;
  - ii. consistent with this, arrangements for presentation and publicity, either:
    - a. as proposed by Mr Jenkin, or
    - b. on some other basis;
  - iii. whether to plan for new contingent legislation short of Commissioners (ie. to fix a date for making a rate, to fix an "automatic" default rate, to suspend RSG payments, to speed up audit processes, to make debt a statutory first charge)
  - iv. whether to offer guidance on the direction of further work on possible legal action by Government;
  - v. what contingency planning to put in hand.
17. The Secretary of State for the Environment will need to keep the Group in touch with important developments. The run-up to precept-fixing day (10 March) is likely to be the next important period, as the attitude of the precepting authorities crystallizes.

C J S BREARLEY

11 December 1984



Authorities subject to Rate Limitation

Basildon  
Brent  
Camden  
GLC  
Greenwich  
Hackney  
Haringey  
ILEA  
Islington  
Lambeth  
Leicester  
Lewisham  
Merseyside  
Portsmouth  
Sheffield  
Southwark  
South Yorkshire  
Thamesdown



12/2

TF  
— Deputy Clerk  
Press Office  
Policy Unit

## RATE SUPPORT GRANT SETTLEMENT 1985/6

WITH PERMISSION, MR SPEAKER, I WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE RATE SUPPORT GRANT SETTLEMENT IN ENGLAND FOR 1985/6.

IN MY STATEMENT TO THE HOUSE ON 24 JULY I SET OUT MY PROPOSALS FOR THE MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE RATE SUPPORT GRANT SETTLEMENT FOR NEXT YEAR AND LISTED THE 18 AUTHORITIES WHICH I WAS DESIGNATING FOR RATE LIMITATION. I HAVE TODAY LAID BEFORE THE HOUSE THE MAIN RSG REPORT FOR 1985/6 AND I AM SENDING RATE-CAPPED AUTHORITIES NOTICES ADVISING THEM OF THE RATE OR PRECEPT LIMIT PROPOSED FOR THEM. COPIES OF ALL THE MATERIAL BEING SENT TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES TODAY ARE AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY AND THE VOTE OFFICE.

I HAVE ALSO LAID TODAY TWO RSG SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS. THE THIRD SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT FOR 1983/4 ADJUSTS AUTHORITIES' GRANT ENTITLEMENTS IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATEST INFORMATION ON OUTTURN EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR. THE SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT FOR 1984/5 IMPLEMENTS GRANT ABATEMENT FOR LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL, WHOSE BUDGET WAS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN I IMPLEMENTED GRANT ABATEMENT FOR ALL OTHER AUTHORITIES IN JULY. BOTH REPORTS ALSO CONTAIN OTHER TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS TO GRANT.

I NOW TURN TO THE MAIN REPORT FOR NEXT YEAR. FOR 1985/6 FOR THE FIRST TIME THE RATES ACT ENABLES ME TO INFLUENCE DIRECTLY THE SPENDING LEVELS OF THE WORST OVERSPENDERS BY IMPOSING LIMITS ON THEIR RATES. AS WE PROMISED THROUGHOUT THE PASSAGE OF THE RATES BILL IN PARLIAMENT, THIS MEANS THAT RATE LIMITATION WILL NOT ONLY BENEFIT THE RATEPAYERS OF THE SELECTED AUTHORITIES. IT WILL ALSO BENEFIT LOW-SPENDING AUTHORITIES, SINCE I AM NO LONGER OBLIGED TO ASK THEM TO MAKE CUTS BECAUSE OF THE EXCESSES OF THE HIGH-SPENDING MINORITY.

I HAVE DECIDED TO CONFIRM THE TARGETS I PROPOSED IN JULY WITH TWO IMPORTANT CHANGES. THE FIRST ALLOWS MOST LOW SPENDING AUTHORITIES AN INCREASE OVER THIS YEAR'S BUDGETS OF 4½% INSTEAD OF THE 4¼% I PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED. THIS REFLECTS THE SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE FORECAST INFLATION RATE OVER THE PERIOD. FOR THE FIRST TIME TARGETS FOR THE LOWEST SPENDERS IMPLY SPENDING INCREASES IN LINE WITH INFLATION, OR IN OTHER WORDS, NO FURTHER REAL TERMS CUTS. THE SECOND CHANGE RELATES TO A PARTICULAR GROUP AMONGST THOSE LOW SPENDERS—NAMELY AUTHORITIES SUCH AS BERKSHIRE BUDGETING THIS YEAR TO SPEND NOT ONLY BELOW GRE, BUT ALSO AT OR VERY CLOSE TO TARGET. THEY WILL BE ALLOWED A FURTHER RELAXATION OF TARGETS SO THAT THEY MAY INCREASE SPENDING BY UP TO 4.625% - A LITTLE MORE THAN INFLATION—WITHOUT INCURRING PENALTIES. WITH THESE CHANGES, THE TARGETS FOR LOW SPENDING AUTHORITIES FULFIL TO THE LETTER THE UNDERTAKINGS WHICH I GAVE TO THE HOUSE LAST JANUARY.

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I HAVE DECIDED TO CONFIRM THE STRINGENT HOLDBACK TARIFF WHICH I ANNOUNCED IN JULY AT THE RATE OF 7 PENCE IN THE POUND FOR THE FIRST PERCENTAGE POINT OF OVERSPEND, 8 PENCE FOR THE SECOND, AND 9 PENCE FOR EACH POINT THEREAFTER. I BELIEVE THAT IT IS ONLY FAIR TO MATCH REALISTIC TARGETS WITH A STRONG INCENTIVE THAT THEY SHOULD BE MET. I PROPOSE HOWEVER TO CONTINUE TO EXEMPT FROM PENALTY INCREASES IN CERTAIN URBAN PROGRAMME AND CIVIL DEFENCE EXPENDITURE, AND INCREASES IN EXPENDITURE ON SCHEMES JOINTLY FINANCED WITH HEALTH AUTHORITIES.

AGGREGATE EXCHEQUER GRANT WILL BE £11,764BN. THAT IS SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN THE FIGURE WHICH I PROPOSED IN JULY. THE GRANT PERCENTAGE IS 48.7%.

I TURN NOW TO GRANT DISTRIBUTION. FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT I HAVE DECIDED ON SOME LIMITED BUT IMPORTANT CHANGES TO GRE ASSESSMENTS, AFFECTING PRIMARILY THE GRES FOR PASSENGER TRANSPORT SUPPORT, HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE, RATE FUND CONTRIBUTIONS TO COUNCIL HOUSING, AND RECREATION. I HAVE ALSO INCREASED THE SLOPE OF THE BLOCK GRANT POUNDAGE SCHEDULE. THIS INCREASES THE IMPORTANCE OF SPENDING IN RELATION TO GRE AS A FACTOR IN GRANT ENTITLEMENTS, AND INCREASES THE MARGINAL COST OF SPENDING ABOVE GRE FOR ALL AUTHORITIES. AGAIN, THIS HELPS LOW-SPENDING AUTHORITIES, SINCE IT GIVES MORE OF THE AVAILABLE GRANT TO AUTHORITIES SPENDING AT OR BELOW GRE.

IN THE LIGHT OF THIS RSG SETTLEMENT, I AM ISSUING MAXIMUM RATE OR PRECEPT LIMITS FOR THE 18 SELECTED AUTHORITIES. SINCE JULY, WHEN I ANNOUNCED EXPENDITURE LEVELS FOR THESE AUTHORITIES, IT HAS BEEN OPEN TO EACH OF THESE AUTHORITIES TO APPLY FOR A REDETERMINATION OF THEIR EXPENDITURE LEVEL AT A HIGHER LEVEL, BUT NONE HAS DONE SO.

RATE OR PRECEPT LIMITS FOR 1985/6 ARE THEREFORE BASED ON THE JULY EXPENDITURE LEVELS. I AM TODAY SENDING OUT STATUTORY NOTICES INFORMING EACH AUTHORITY OF THE LIMIT THAT IS PROPOSED FOR THEM. A LIST OF THESE LIMITS HAS BEEN PLACED IN THE LIBRARY AND IS AVAILABLE IN THE VOTE OFFICE. IN CALCULATING THE RATE OR PRECEPT LIMITS I HAVE TAKEN ACCOUNT OF THE EXPENDITURE LEVELS SET AND THE AUTHORITIES' BLOCK GRANT ENTITLEMENTS NEXT YEAR. I HAVE ALSO HAD REGARD TO THE LEVEL OF FINANCIAL RESERVES AVAILABLE TO EACH AUTHORITY, MAKING ASSUMPTIONS AS NECESSARY.

AUTHORITIES NOW HAVE UNTIL 15 JANUARY TO COMMENT ON THE RATE OR PRECEPT LIMITS PROPOSED, AND TO DRAW MY ATTENTION TO ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION OF WHICH I MAY NOT BE CURRENTLY AWARE. UNLESS I HAVE COMMENTS BY 15 JANUARY, IT WILL IN THE ABSENCE OF AGREEMENT BE NECESSARY TO MOVE ON TO THE NEXT STAGE OF ASKING THE HOUSE TO CONFIRM THE RATE LIMITS BY AFFIRMATIVE ORDER.

THE PROPOSED RATE AND PRECEPT LIMITS I AM ANNOUNCING TODAY WILL BE WARMLY WELCOMED BY RATEPAYERS IN THE AREAS CONCERNED. FOR 13 OF THE 18 AUTHORITIES I HAVE SET RATE OR PRECEPT LIMITS WHICH ARE LOWER THAN THE RATES OR PRECEPTS BEING CHARGED THIS YEAR. IN THE 5 REMAINING CASES HOWEVER, THE RATE OR PRECEPT WILL BE LOWER THAN IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WITHOUT RATE-CAPPING.

MR SPEAKER, THIS YEAR'S AVERAGE RATE INCREASE WAS THE LOWEST FOR 10 YEARS. IF AUTHORITIES BUDGET TO MEET THEIR TARGETS NEXT YEAR, THE AVERAGE RATE INCREASE NEXT YEAR SHOULD BE EVEN LOWER. THE FIRST STAGE OF RATE LIMITATION WILL AT LONG LAST BRING RELIEF TO RATEPAYERS IN THE RATE CAPPED AREAS. MOREOVER, RATE CAPPING HAS ALLOWED ME TO SET MUCH FAIRER TARGETS FOR LOW SPENDING AUTHORITIES. THIS SETTLEMENT HAS MEANT INCREASING THE PROVISION FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY CURRENT SPENDING NEXT YEAR BY £820M ABOVE THE PROVISION IN THE PUBLIC EXPENDITURE WHITE PAPER. IN PRESENT ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS IS A REASONABLE AND FAIR SETTLEMENT, AND I COMMEND IT TO THE HOUSE.



R/R

Reates Lee

2 MARSHAM STREET  
LONDON SW1P 3EB  
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

// December 1984

Dear Colleague,

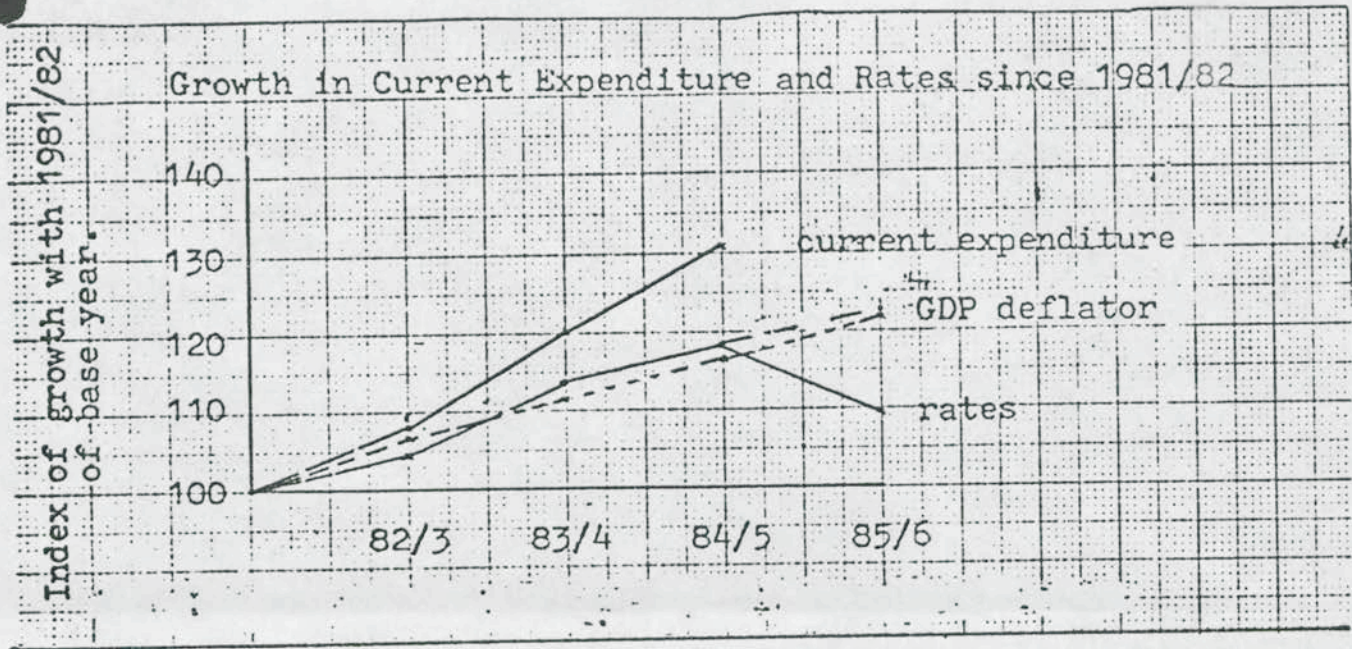
I have announced this afternoon the proposed rate or precept limits for the 18 authorities selected for rate limitation in 1985/6. As you will be aware your constituency is within an area covered by one or more of these authorities.

A list of the proposed limits for each authority is attached below together with a background note giving further details of how the proposed limit has been calculated. This includes details of the procedure by which authorities can comment on the proposed limits. I also attach a profile for the authority or authorities which concern your own constituency.

In 13 of the 18 authorities, the rate or precept limit proposed is lower than the rate being charged by the authority this year. In the other 5 cases the limit proposed is undoubtedly lower than it would have been without rate limitation. This can only be good news for ratepayers in these areas.

Your cwe  
Patrick

PATRICK JENKIN



RATES

Rates in ILEA have risen overall by 18.2% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 3.9% from 77p to 80p.

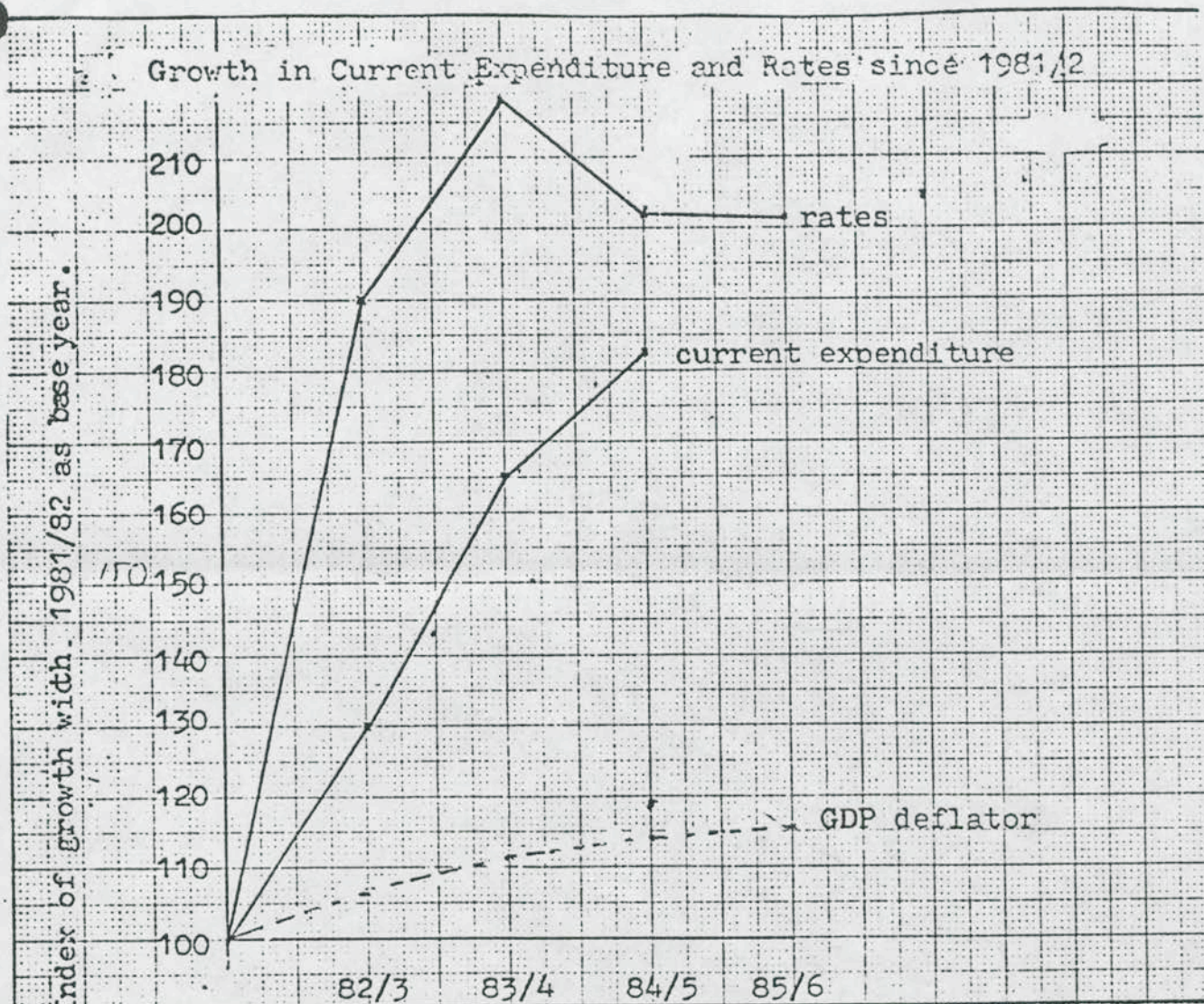
The rate limit proposed for ILEA is 74.19p a decrease of 7.26% on their 1984/85 figure.

SPENDING

ILEA's current spending has risen by 30.8% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a 1 1/2% cash terms decrease on their 1984/85 budget.

GRANT

Among government grants received are £0.8m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).



### RATES

Rates in GLC have risen overall by 101.9% since 1981/82 - from 18.1p to 36.55p

The rate limit proposed for GLC is 36.52p - decrease of 0.8% on their 1984/85 figure.

### SPENDING

GLC's current spending has risen by 82.7% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a 1.1% cash terms decrease on their 1984/85 budget.

### GRANT

GLC have received 255m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received no in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £28.57m in housing subsidy and £1.31m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).



Rate Limits 1985/86

	Expenditure Level	Local rate 1984/85	Rate Limit 1985/86	rate increase implied by Rate Limit
	Col 1	Col 2	Col 3	Col 4
Basildon	£ 13.662m	42.80p	50.33p	17.59%
Brent	£ 140.021m	193.42p	196.42p	1.55%
Camden	£ 117.429m	91.94p	92.02p	.09%
GLC	£ 785.233m	36.55p	36.52p	-.08%
Greenwich	£ 66.584m	118.91p	96.42p	-18.91%
Hackney	£ 82.315m	119.30p	114.09p	-4.37%
Haringey	£ 128.658m	229.16p	222.17p	-3.05%
ILEA	£ 900.366m	80.00p	74.19p	-7.26%
Islington	£ 85.564m	122.74p	111.21p	-9.39%
Lambeth	£ 113.559m	122.34p	107.57p	-12.07%
Leicester	£ 24.392m	37.50p	16.27p	-56.61%
Lewisham	£ 79.301m	115.74p	87.49p	-24.41%
Merseyside	£ 205.180m	65.00p	92.86p	27.48%
Portsmouth	£ 16.751m	27.20p	26.98p	-1.18%
Sheffield	£ 216.573m	208.24p	207.07p	-.56%
Southwark	£ 108.437m	149.74p	112.68p	-24.74%
South Yorkshire	£ 178.291m	83.30p	81.32p	-2.38%
Thamesdown	£ 14.199m	54.19p	57.22p	5.59%

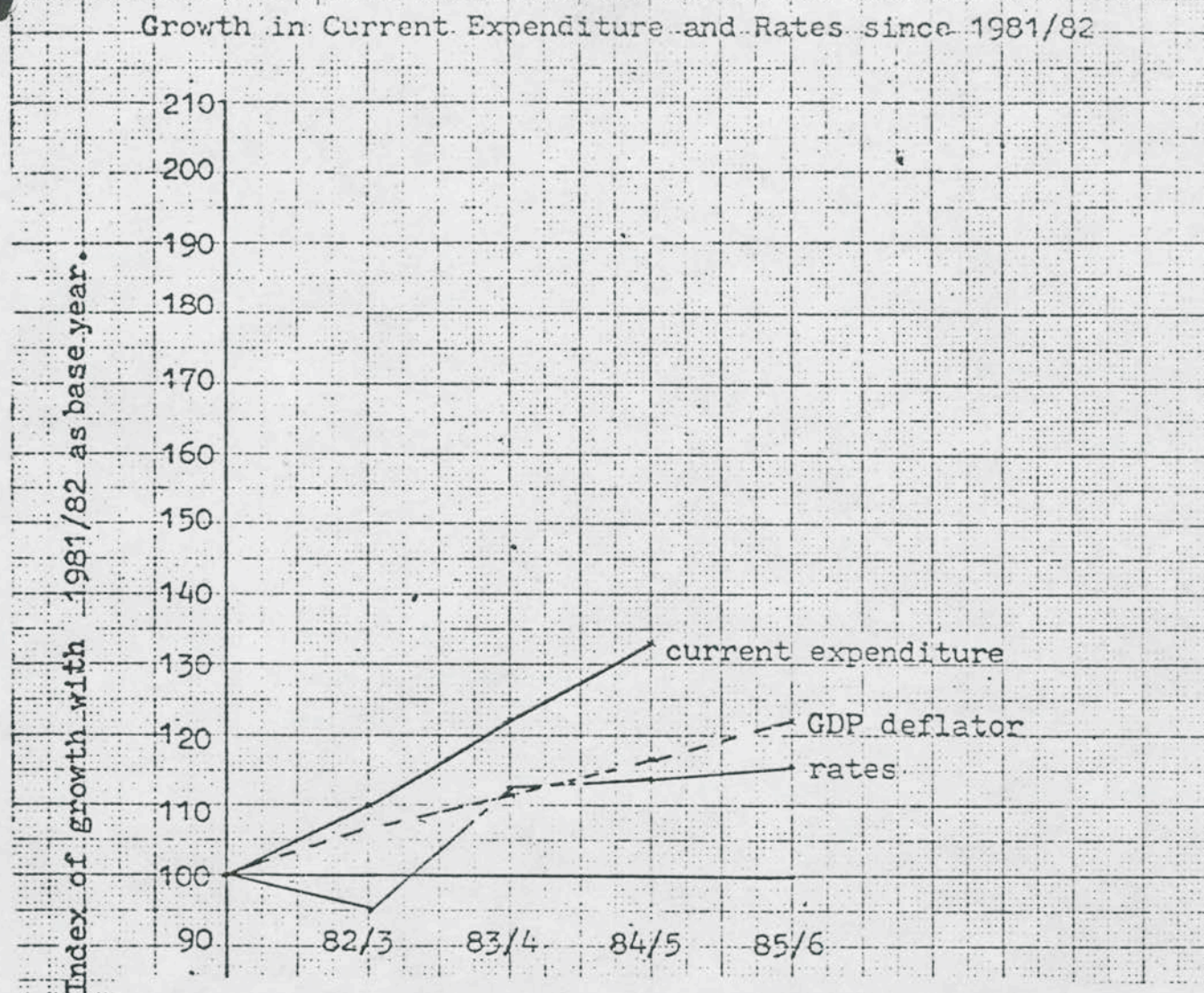
SELECTIVE RATE LIMITATION IN 1985/86: ANNOUNCEMENT OF  
PROPOSED RATE AND PRECEPT LIMITS ON 11 DECEMBER 1984

1. The Secretary of State for the Environment has today announced the rate or precept limits he is proposing for authorities selected for rate limitation in 1985/86. A list of the proposed limits is attached below.

2. In calculating the proposed rate or precept limits the Secretary of State has, in the absence of any applications for redetermination of any expenditure level, taken account of the expenditure level determined by him for each authority in July 1984. He has also referred to the block grant entitlements for 1985/86 as determined in the Rate Support Grant Main Report 1985/86 (including receipts from the London Rate Equalisation Scheme where appropriate). This estimated entitlement takes account of the likely level of grant penalty for each authority, including an estimate of expenditure likely to be disregarded for penalty purposes, but does not make allowance for "close-ending".

3. The Secretary of State has also had regard to the level of financial reserves available to each authority, making assumptions as necessary. In four cases (Leicester, Portsmouth, GLC and ILEA) where levels of reserves appear to him to be higher than necessary, he has proposed limits which assume the reduction of those reserves to a lower level. In six cases (Brent, Hackney, Haringey, Merseyside, Sheffield and South Yorkshire) where authorities have budgetted in 1984/85 to use special funds substantially to reduce their budgetted total expenditure, he has made some allowance for the possibility that they may have inadequate reserves in 1985/86. In the case of Haringey, he has disregarded the existence of substantial reserves which he understands from independent sources to be held in trust for the rebuilding of Alexandra Palace.

4. Authorities have been asked to indicate to the Secretary of State by 15 January whether they agree to the rate or precept limit proposed, or wish to propose a different maximum. They may wish to draw to the Secretary of State's attention any further information which they consider relevant. In cases where the authority agrees to the maximum proposed, or where it agrees with the Secretary of State on a different maximum, he will confirm the figure in a statutory notice to the authority. In all other cases, it will be necessary for the Secretary of State to seek Parliamentary confirmation of the proposed limit through an Order subject to the Affirmative Resolution procedure in the House of Commons.



### RATES

Rates in Brent have risen overall by 23.2% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 33.56% from 91.60p to 122.34p

The rate limit proposed for Brent is 196.42p an increase of 1.55% on their 1984/85 figure. Brent have stated that they will budget to spend within their expenditure limit for 1985/85.

### SPENDING

Brent's current spending has risen by 32.8% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

### GRANT

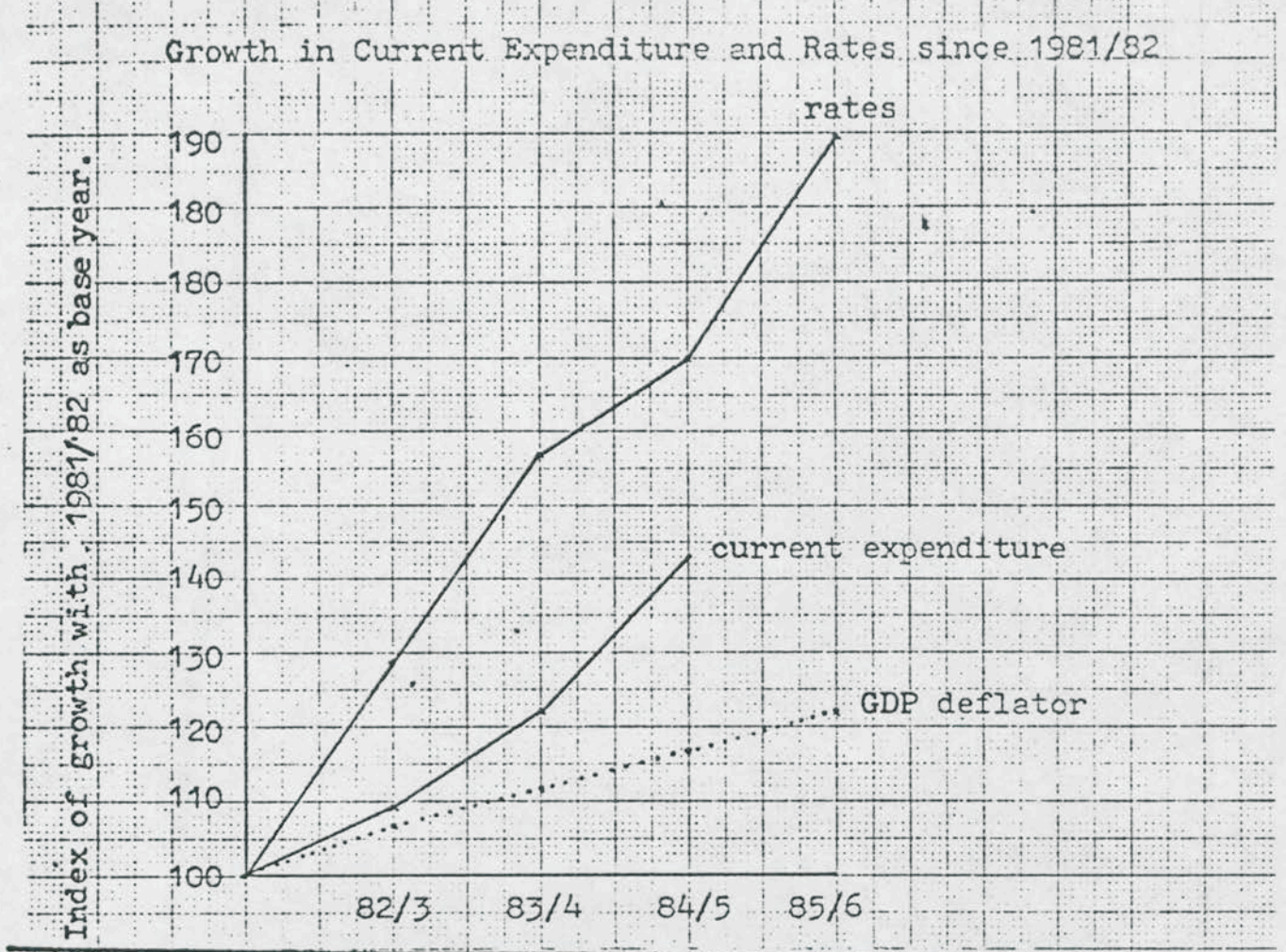
Brent have received £200m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £50m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £20.76m in housing subsidy and £5.55m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).

12 DEC 1984

11 12 1 2 3 4 5  
6 7 8 9 10

CONTROL

# Basildon



## RATES

Rates in Basildon have risen overall by 41.12% since 1981/82 - from 25.2p to 42.8p.

The rate limit proposed for Basildon is 50.33p an increase of 17.59% on their 1984/85 figure.

## SPENDING

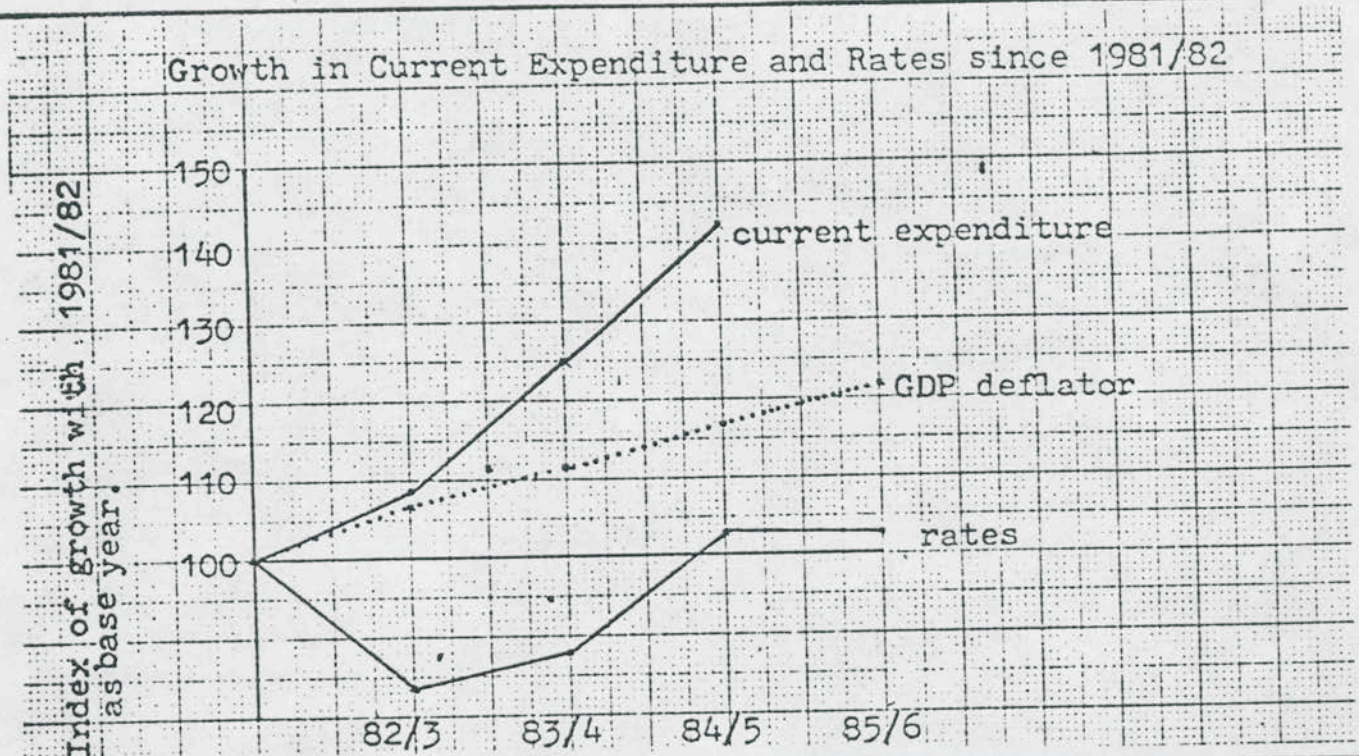
Basildon current spending has risen by 42.33% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Basildon have received £8.5m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received no RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £2.82m in housing subsidy

# Camden

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## RATES

Rates in Camden have risen overall by 27.6% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 17.1% from 78.5p to 91.9p.

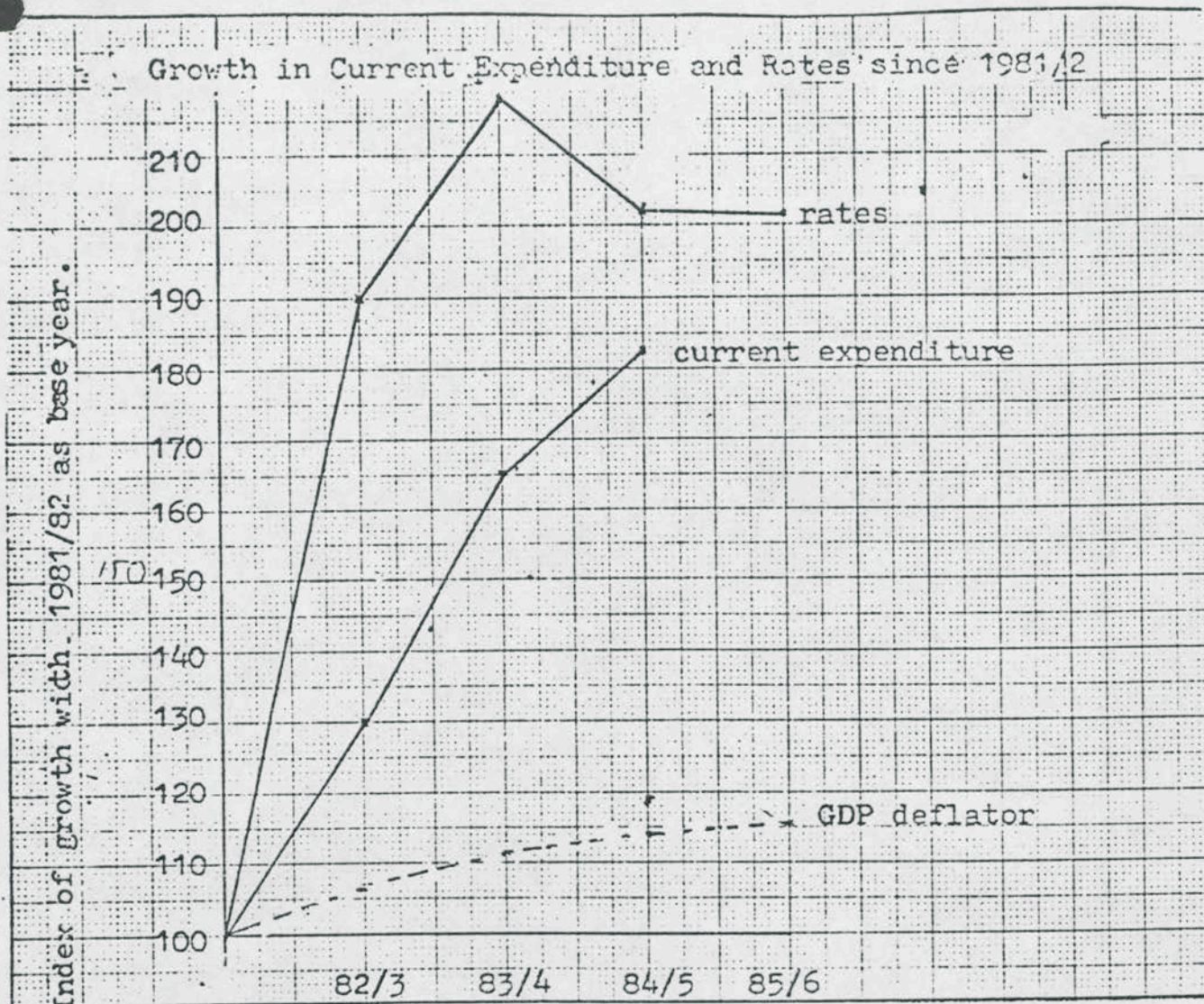
The rate limit proposed for Camden is 92.02p an increase of 0.9% on their 1984/85 figure.

## SPENDING

Camden's current spending has risen by 41.9% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Camden have received £49m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £13m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £33.17m in housing subsidy and £1.07m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).



### RATES

Rates in GLC have risen overall by 101.9% since 1981/82 - from 18.1p to 36.55p

The rate limit proposed for GLC is 36.52p - decrease of 0.8% on their 1984/85 figure.

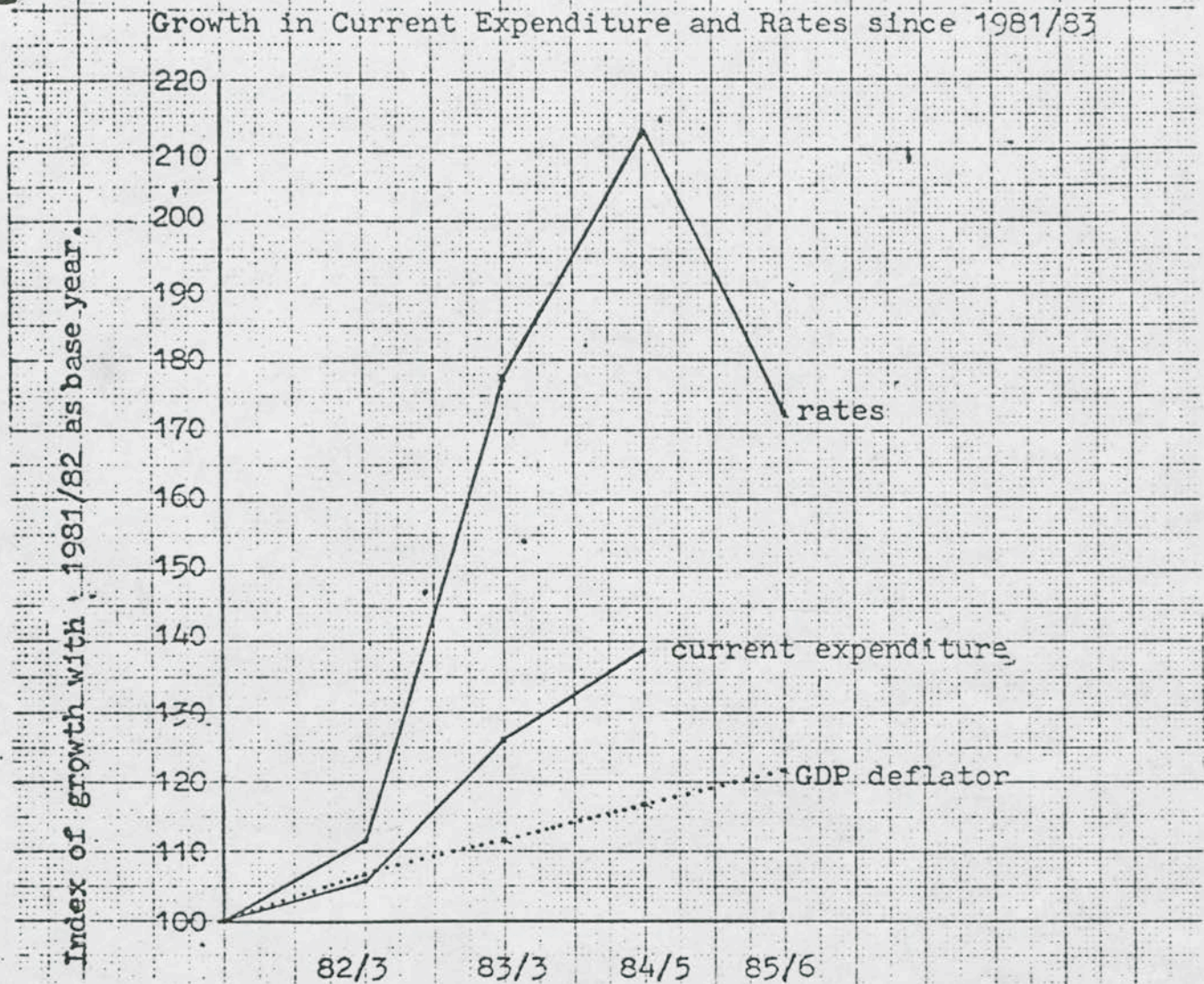
### SPENDING

GLC's current spending has risen by 82.7% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a 1.5% cash terms decrease on their 1984/85 budget.

### GRANT

GLC have received 255m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received no in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £28.57m in housing subsidy and £1.31m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).

# Greenwich



## RATES

Rates in Greenwich have risen overall by 112.6% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 20% from 99.1p to 11891p

The rate limit proposed for Greenwich is 96.42p a decrease of 18.91% on their 1984/85 figure.

## SPENDING

Greenwich's current spending has risen by 38.6% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a 1 1/2 % cash terms decrease on their 1984/85 budget.

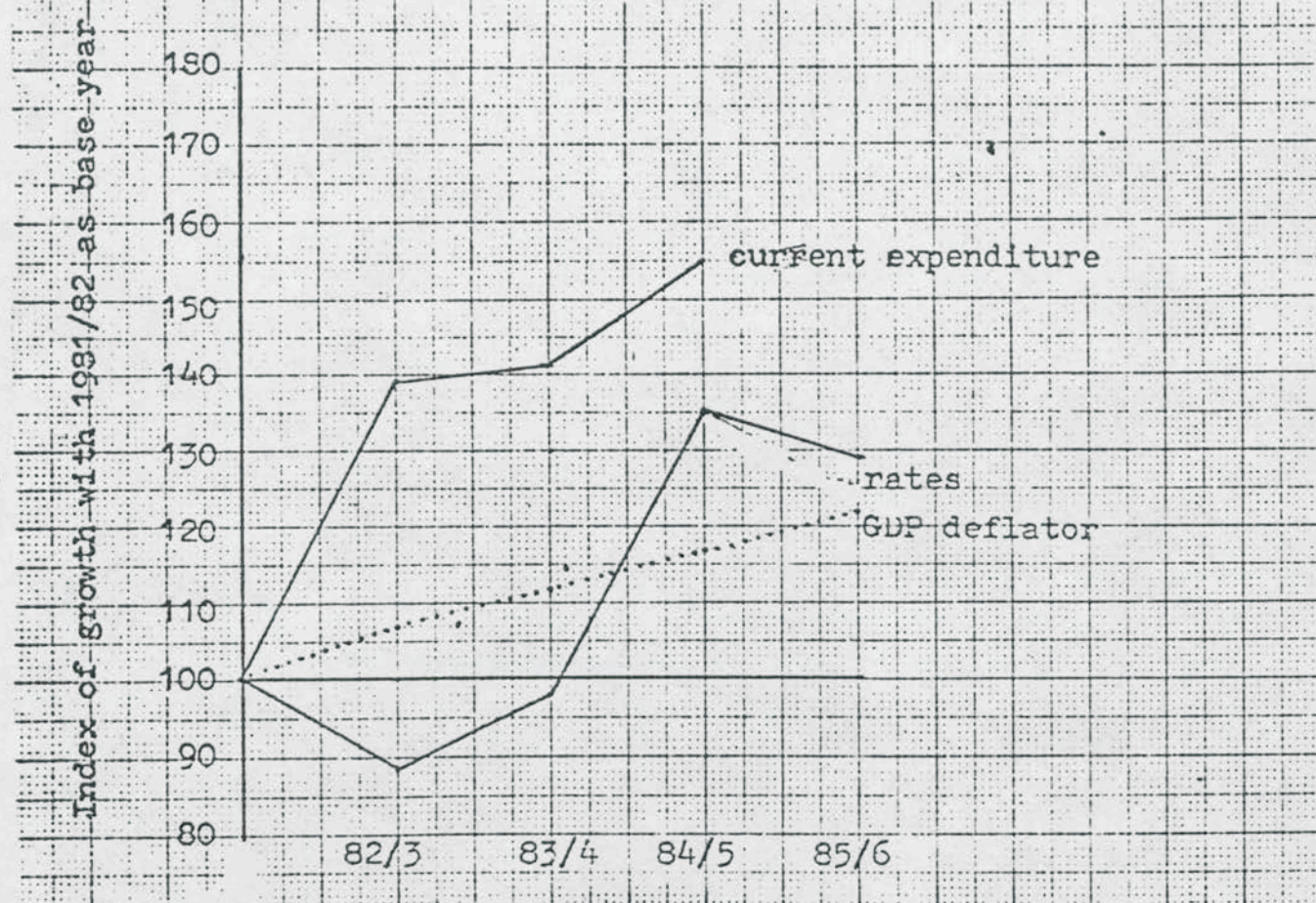
## GRANT

Greenwich have received £109m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £25m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £15.53m in housing subsidy and £1.07m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).



# Hackney

Growth in Current Expenditure and Rates since 1981/82



## RATES

Rates in Hackney have risen overall by 34.83% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 37.9% from 86.5p to 119.3p.

The rate limit proposed for Hackney is 114.09p a decrease of 4.37% on their 1984/85 figure.

## SPENDING

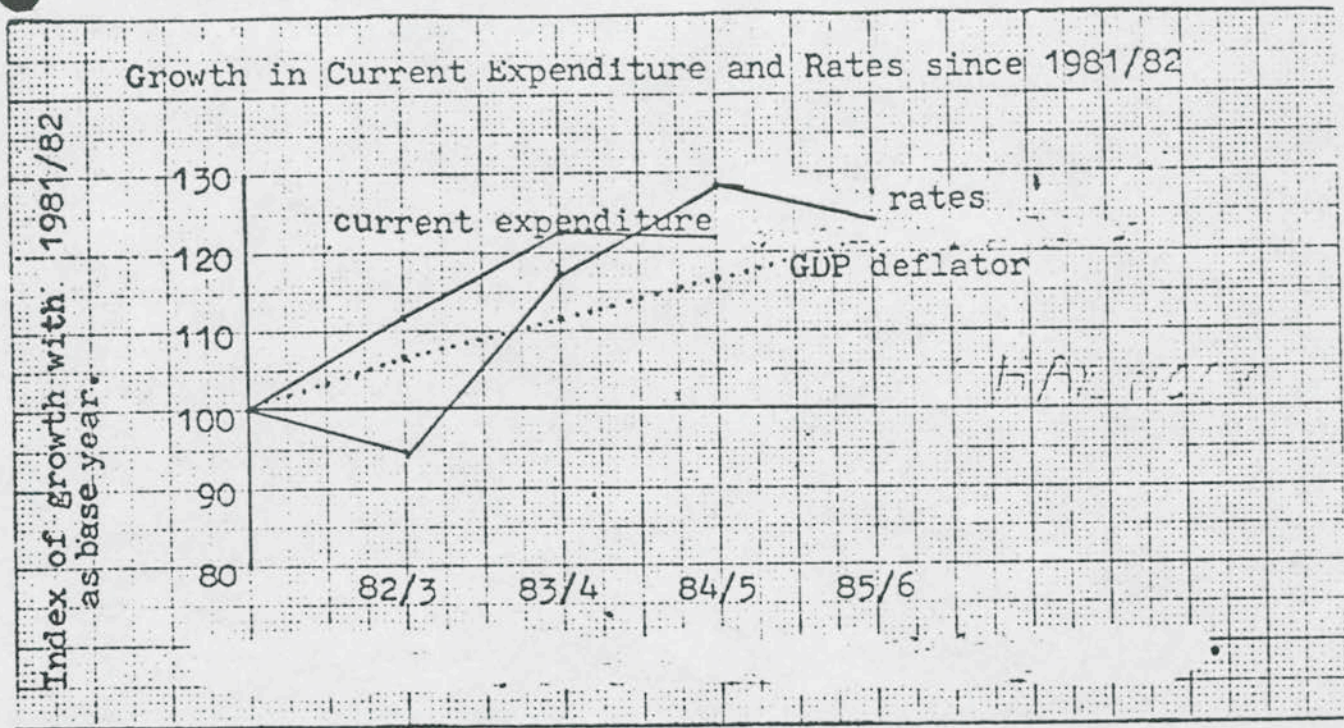
Hackney current spending has risen by 54.7% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Hackney have received £176m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £4.6m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £20.86m in housing subsidy and £12.29m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).

# Haringey

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## RATES

Rates in Haringey have risen overall by 27.87% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 8.97% from 210.3p to 229.2p.

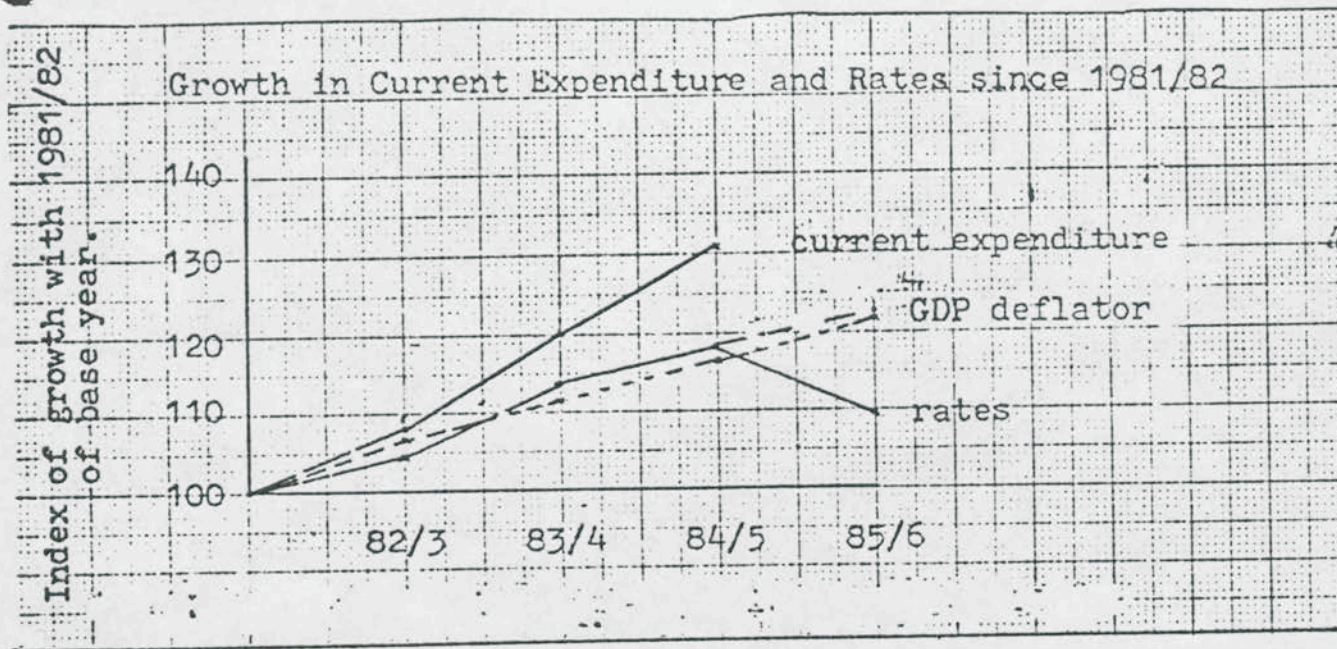
The rate limit proposed for Haringey is 222.17p a decrease of 3.05% on their 1984/85 figure.

## SPENDING

Haringey's current spending has risen by 21.8% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Haringey have received £211m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £50m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £16.71m in housing subsidy and £1.95m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant)



### RATES

Rates in ILEA have risen overall by 18.2% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 3.9% from 77p to 80p.

The rate limit proposed for ILEA is 74.19p a decrease of 7.26% on their 1984/85 figure.

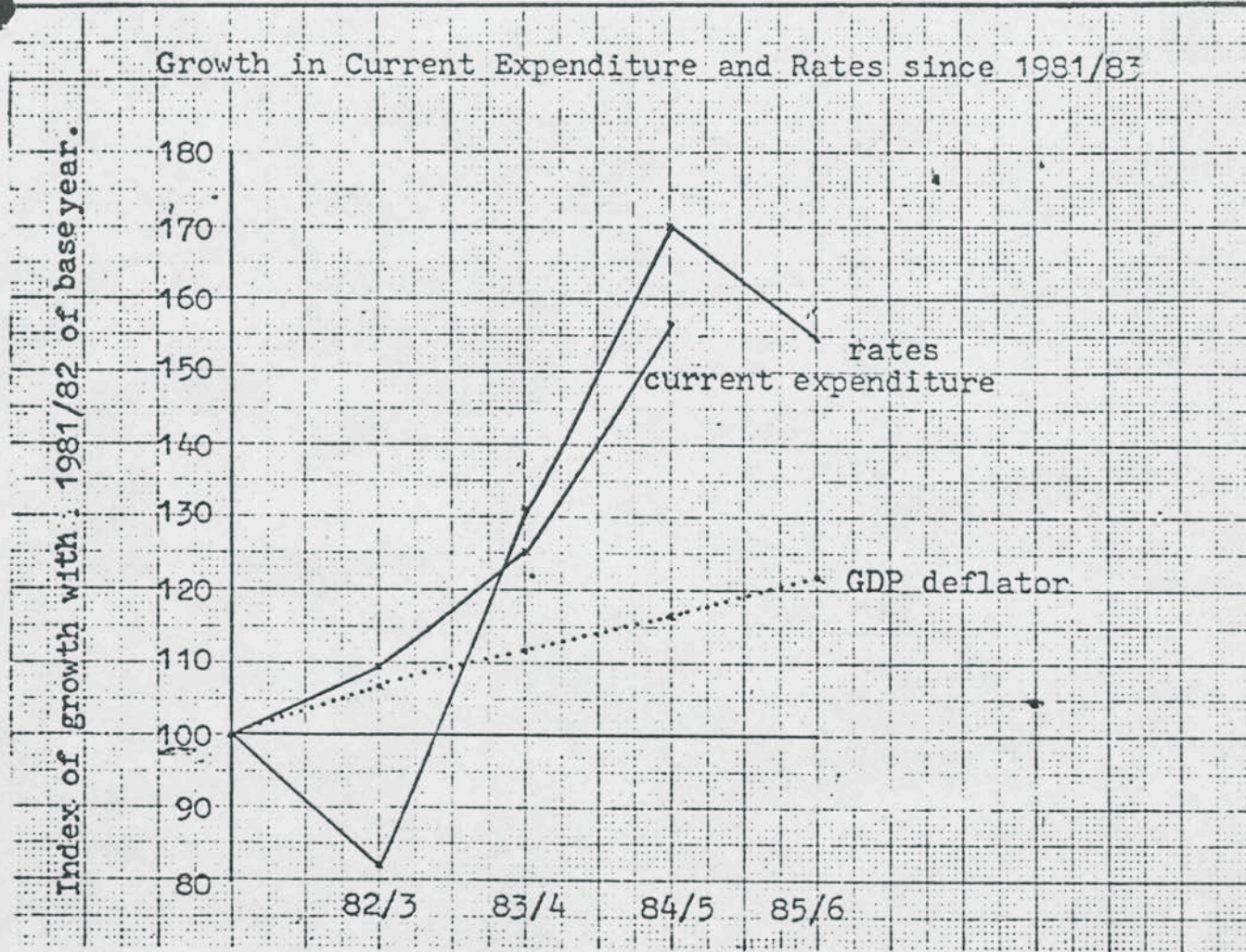
### SPENDING

ILEA's current spending has risen by 30.8% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a 1 1/2 % cash terms decrease on their 1984/85 budget.

### GRANT

Among government grants received are £0.8m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).

# Islington



## RATES

Rates in Islington have risen overall by 70.2% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 29.6% from 94.7 to 122.7p.

The rate limit proposed for Islington is 111.21p a decrease of 9.39% on their 1984/85 figure.

## SPENDING

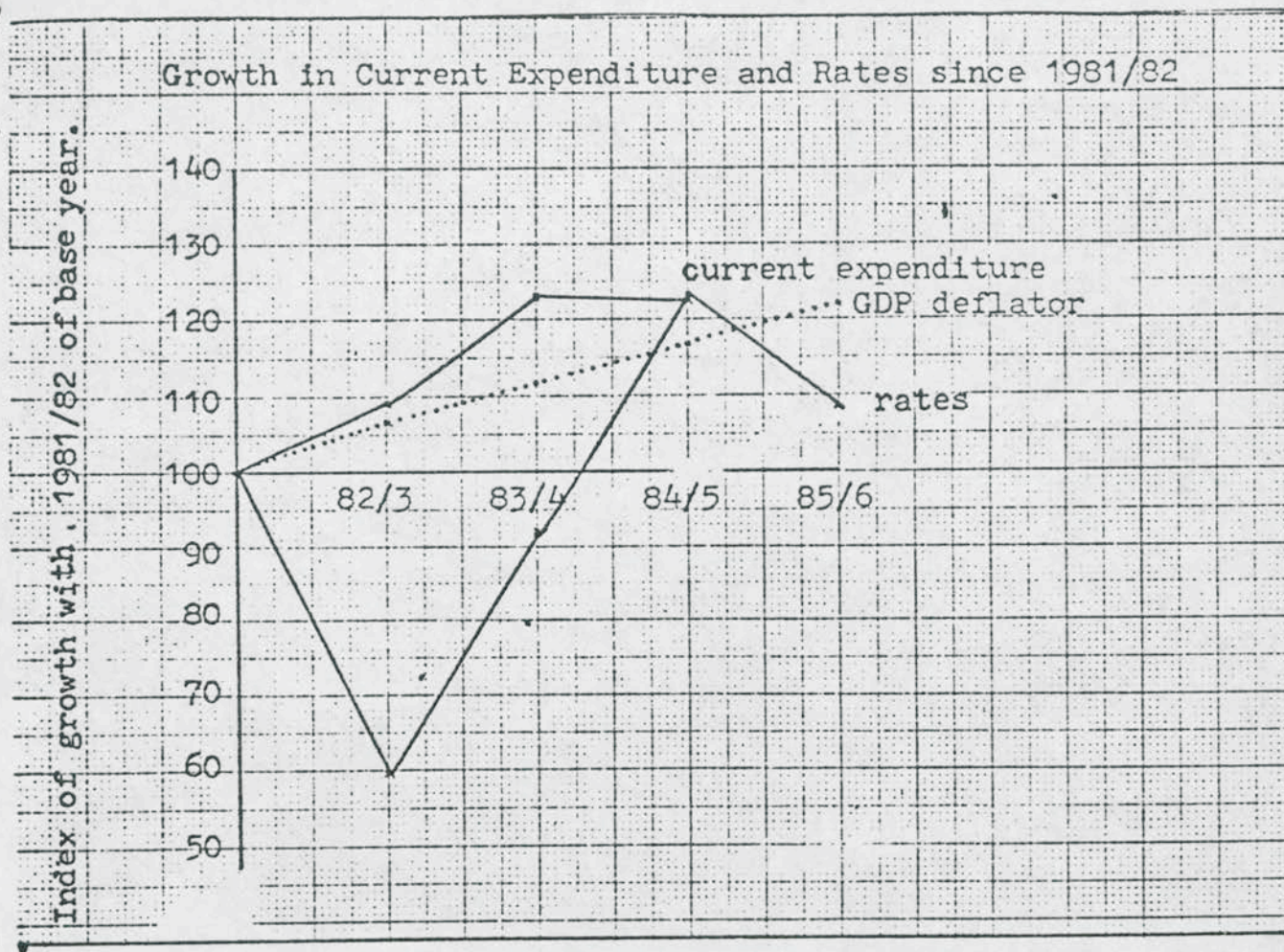
Islington current spending has risen by 56.7% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Islington have received £91m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £7m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £36.38m in housing subsidy and £10.77m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).

# Lambeth

3



## RATES

Rates in Lambeth have risen overall by 2 3% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 34% from 91.6p to 122.3 p

The rate limit proposed for Lambeth is 107.57p a decrease of 12.07% on their 1984/85 figure.

## SPENDING

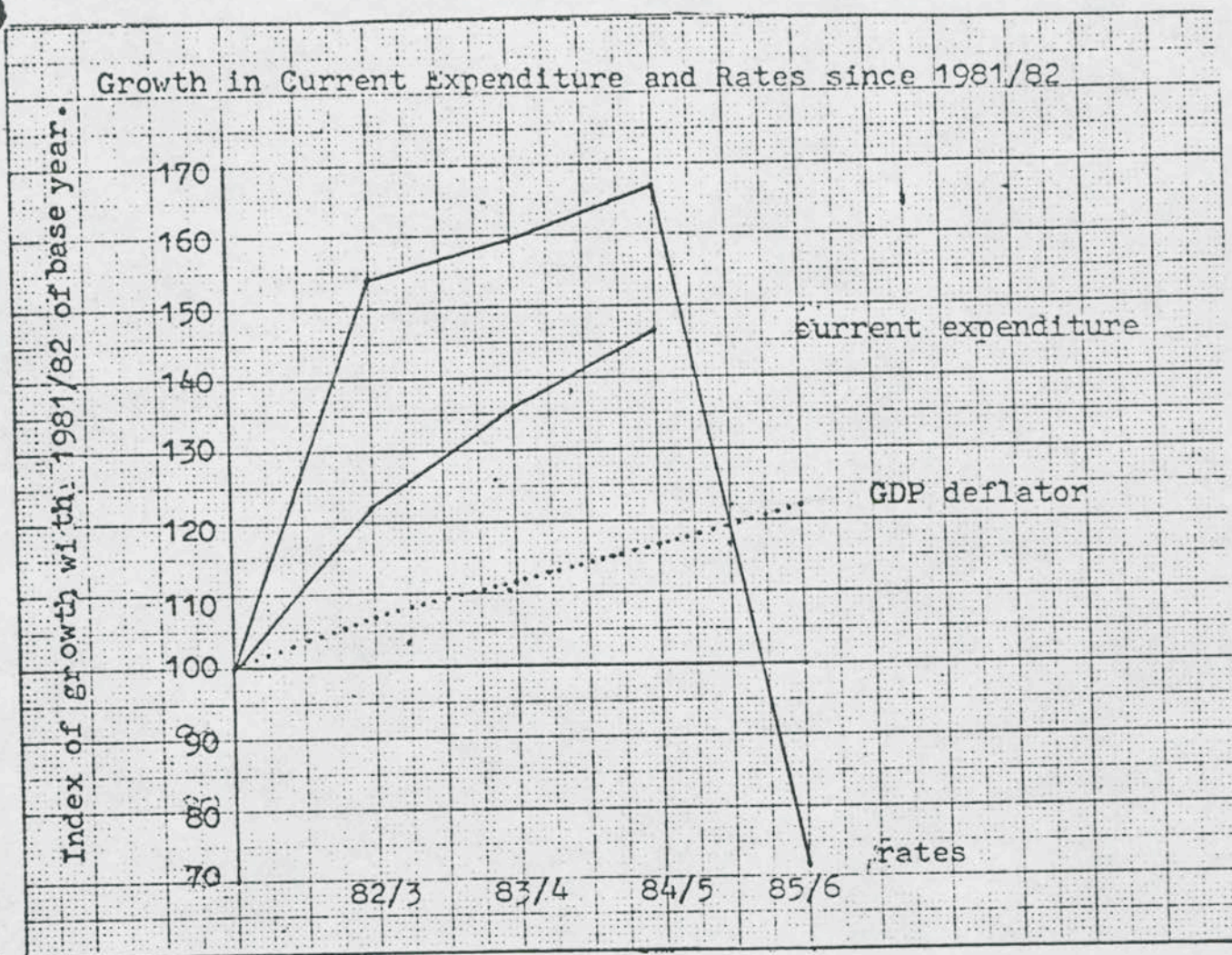
Lambeth's current spending has risen by 22.4% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Lambeth have received £198m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £40m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £38.18m in housing subsidy and £13.75m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).

# Leicester

3



## RATES

Rates in Leicester have risen overall by 66.7% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 4.7% from 35.8 to 37.5p.

The rate limit proposed for Leicester is 16.27p a decrease of 56.6% on their 1984/85 figure.

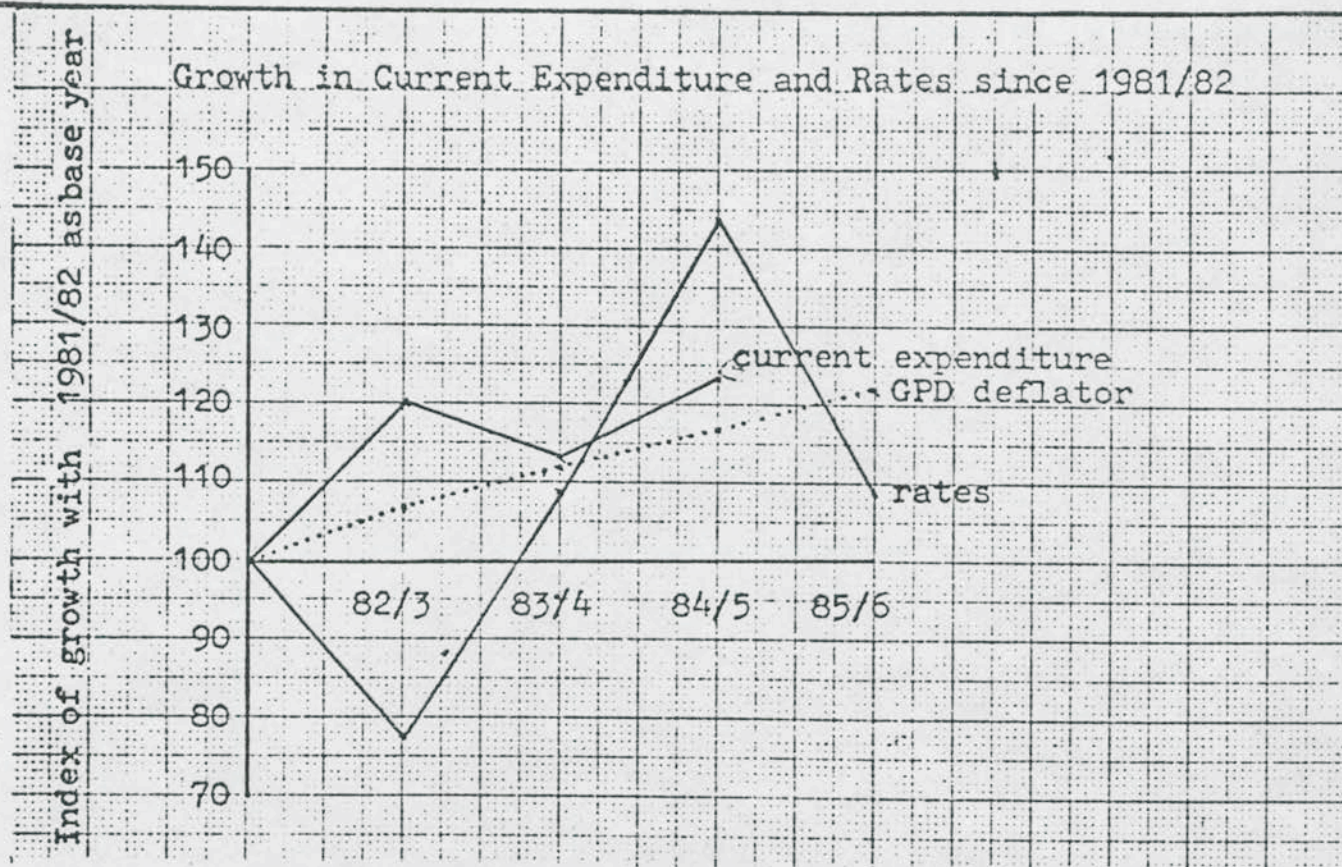
## SPENDING

Leicester's current spending has risen by 46.1% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Leicester have received £35.9m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £9, in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £5.4m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant)

# Lewisham



## RATES

Rates in Lewisham have risen overall by 43.7% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 32.1% from 87.6p to 115.7p.

The rate limit proposed for Lewisham is 87.49p a decrease of 24.41 on their 1984/85 figure.

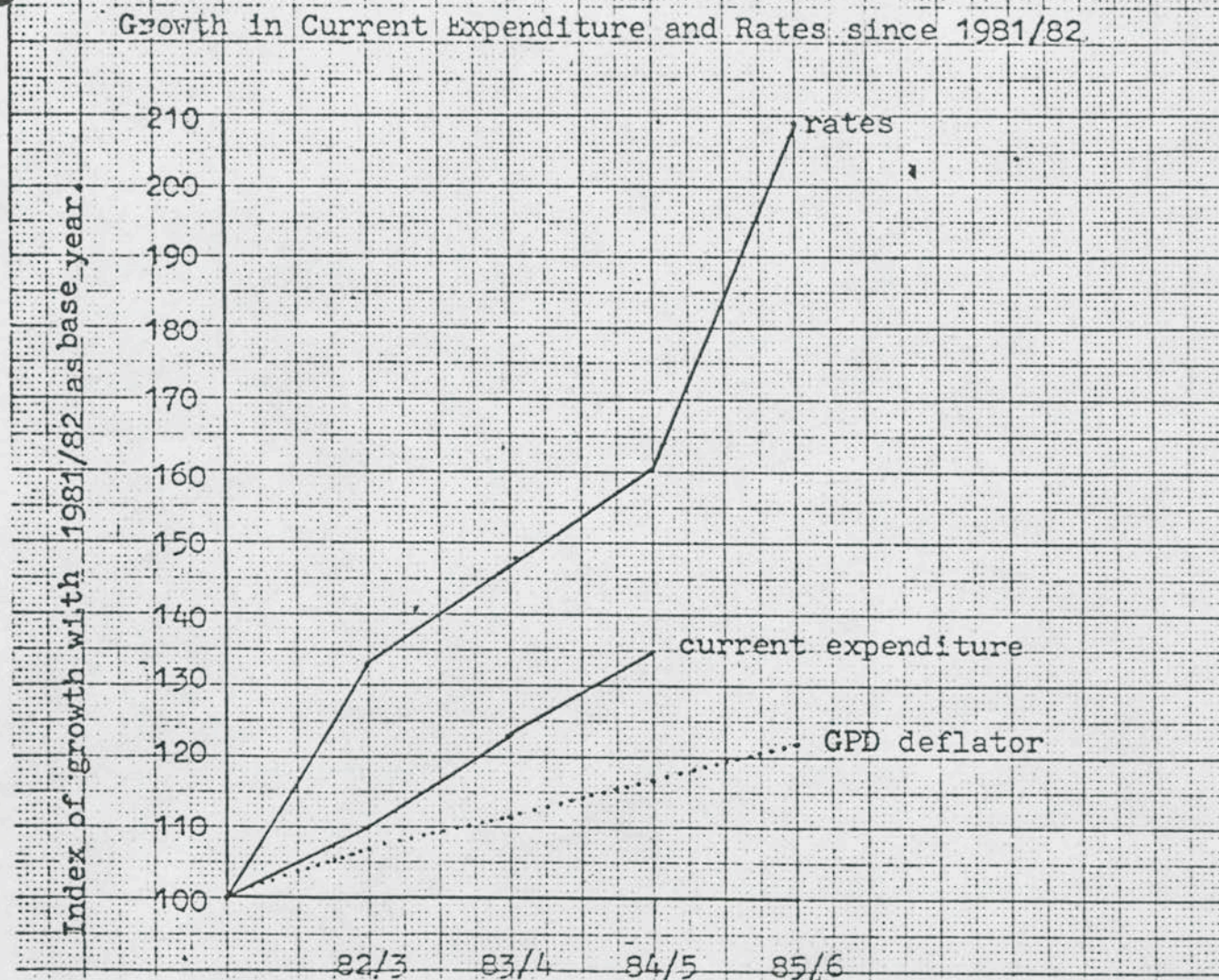
## SPENDING

Lewisham's current spending has risen by 23.5% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Lewisham have received £179m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £43m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included in housing subsidy and £2.24m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).

# Merseyside



## RATES

Rates in Merseyside have risen overall by 60.5% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 9.4% from 59.4p to 65p.

The rate limit proposed for Merseyside is 82.86p a increase of 27.43% on their 1984/85 figure.

## SPENDING

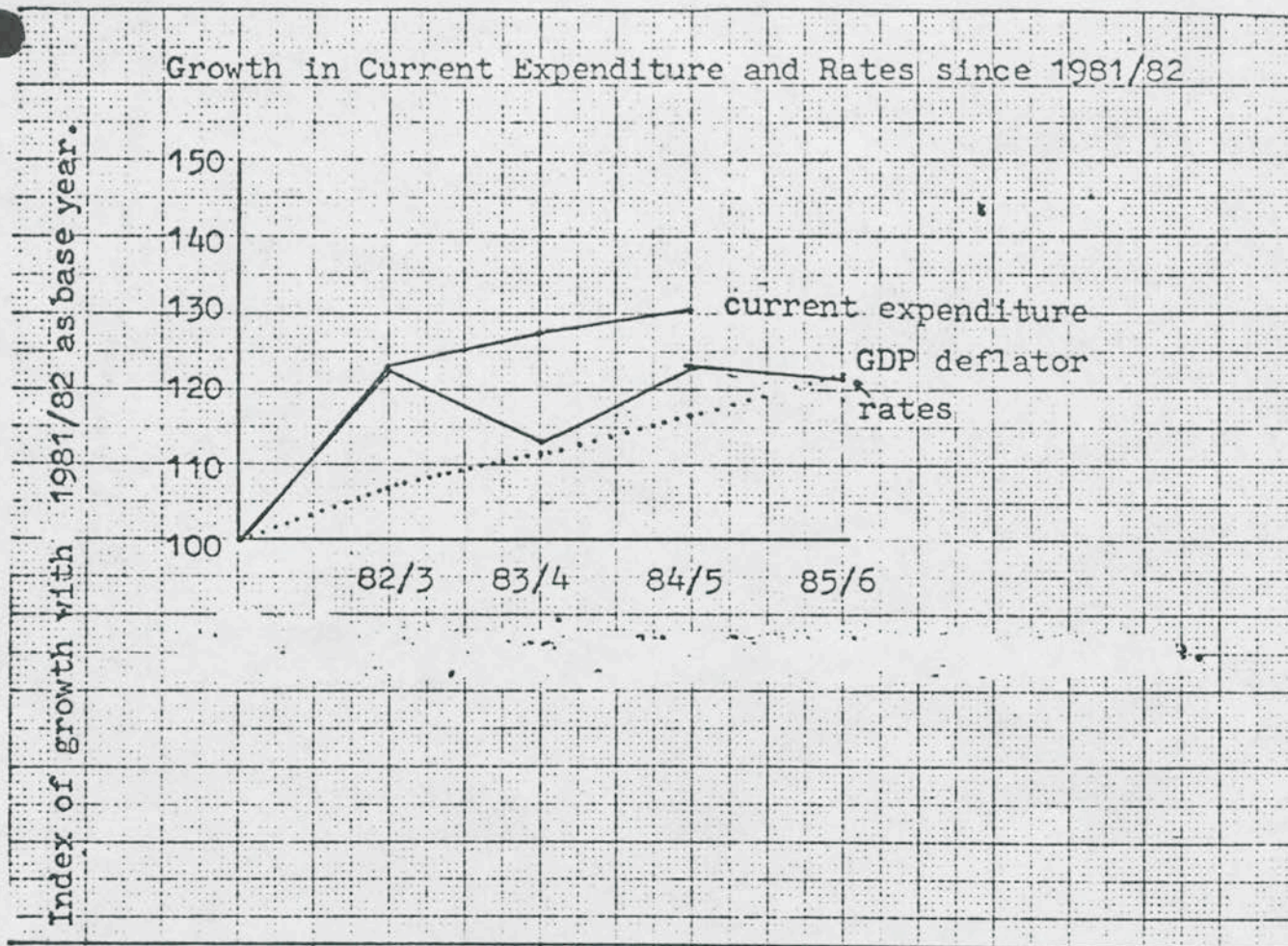
Merseyside's current spending has risen by 34.7% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Merseyside have received £270m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £63m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £0.65m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant)



# Portsmouth



## RATES

Rates in Portsmouth have risen overall by 23.1% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 8.8% from 25p to 27.2p.

The rate limit proposed for Portsmouth is 26.88p a decrease of 1.18% on their 1984/85 figure. Portsmouth have previously stated that they would budget within their expenditure level.

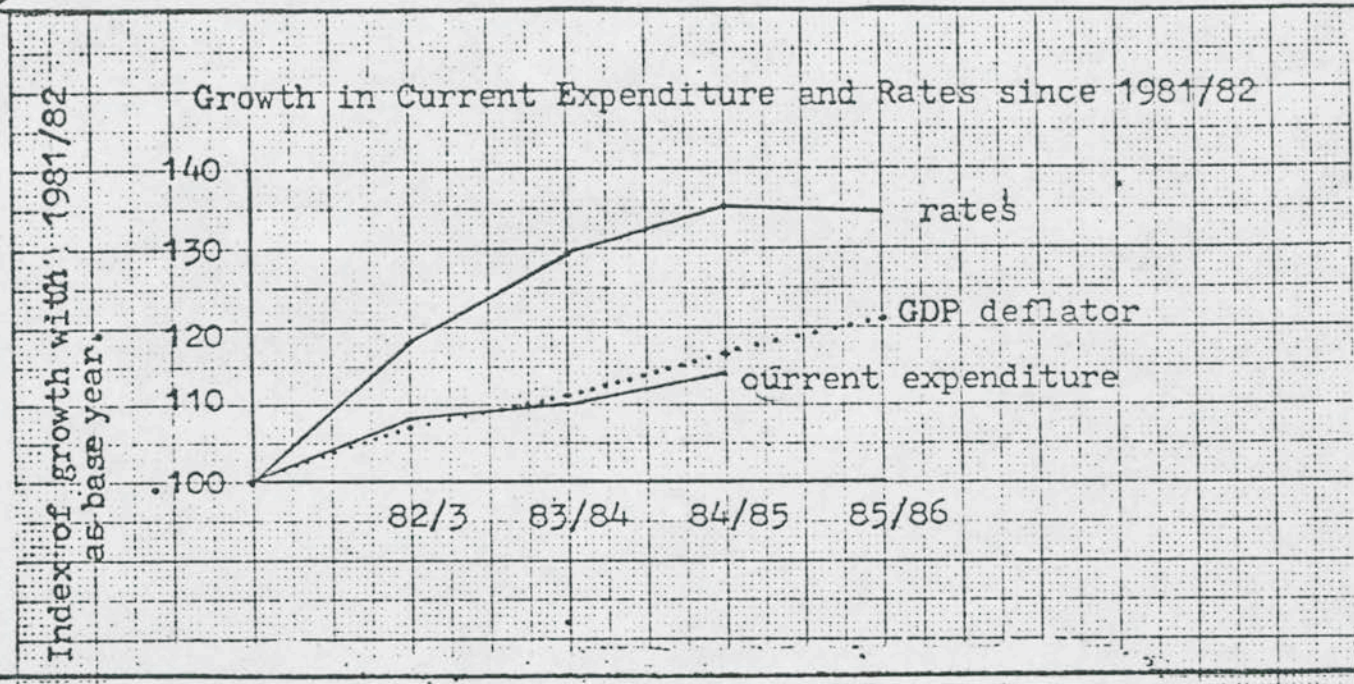
## SPENDING

Portsmouth current spending has risen by 30.9% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Portsmouth have received 32.5m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £7.8m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £0.28m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant)

# Sheffield



## RATES

Rates in Sheffield have risen overall by 35.2% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 4.7% from 198.8p to 208.2p.

The rate limit proposed for Sheffield is £207.07p a decrease of 0.56% on their 1984/85 figure.

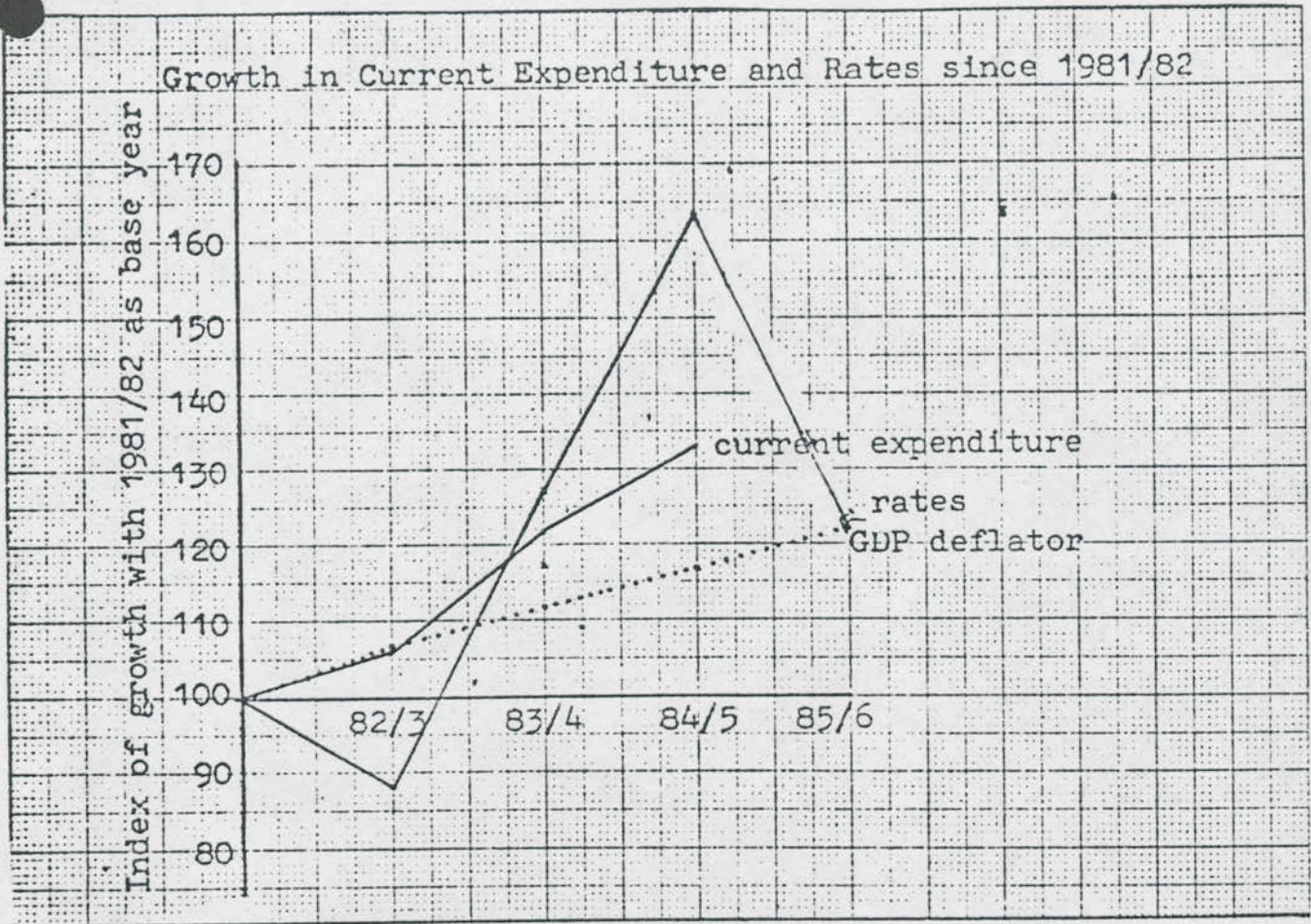
## SPENDING

Sheffield's current spending has risen by 14.3% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Sheffield have received £343m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £84m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £4.25m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).

# Southwark



## RATES

Rates in Southwark have risen overall by 63.6% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 28.4% from 116.6p to 149.7p.

The rate limit proposed for Southwark is 112.69% a decrease of 24.74% on their 1984/85 figure.

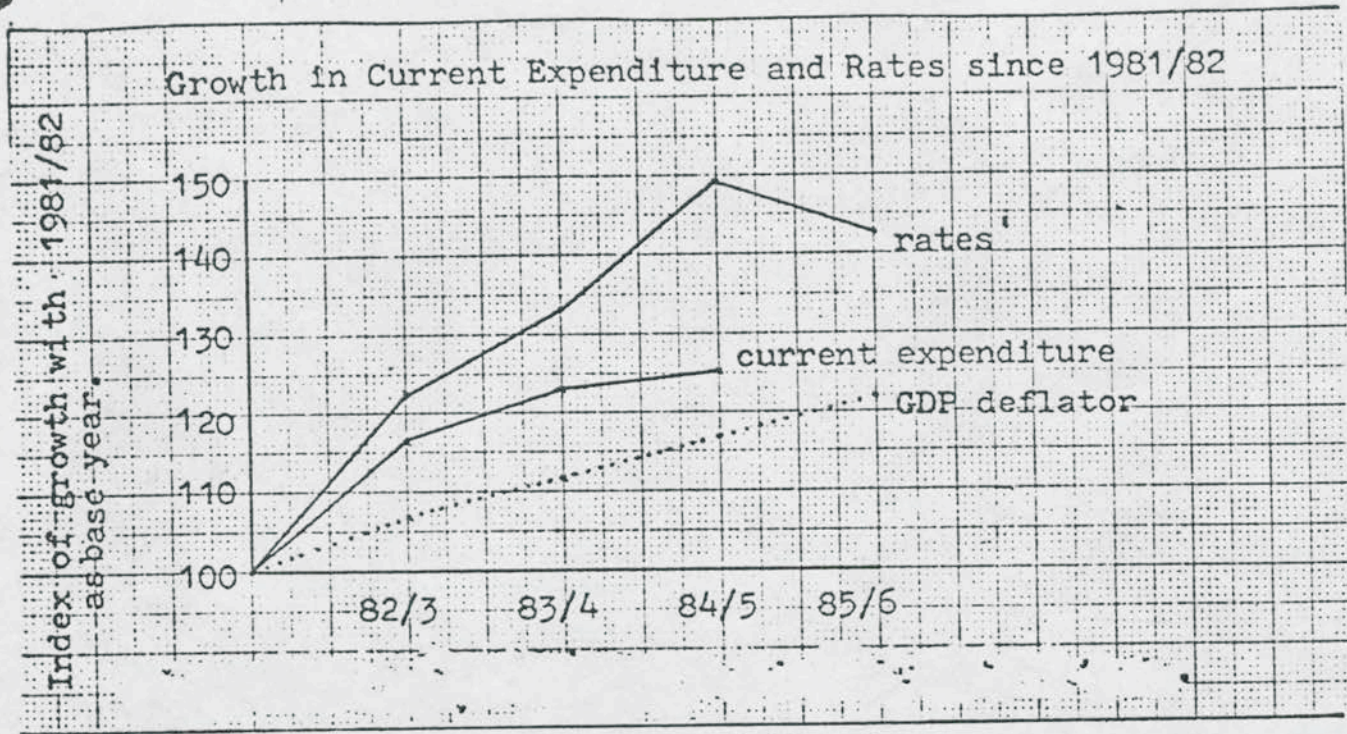
## SPENDING

Southwark's current spending has risen by 33.15% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Southwark have received £142m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £21m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £31.8m in housing subsidy and 3.61m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).

# South Yorkshire



## RATES

Rates in S. Yorkshire have risen overall by 46.1% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 9.9% from 75.8p to 83.3p.

The rate limit proposed for S. Yorkshire is 81.32p a decrease of 2.38% on their 1984/85 figure.

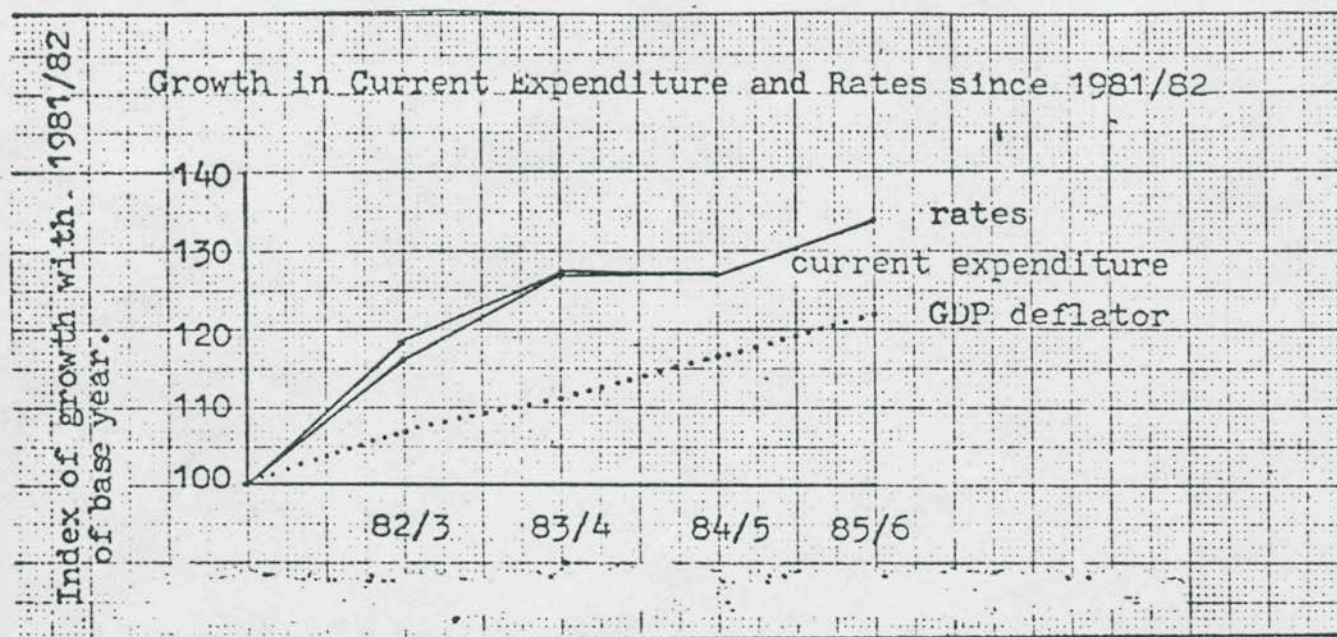
## SPENDING

S. Yorkshire's current spending has risen by 24.9% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

S. Yorkshire have received £267m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £62m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £0.07m urban programme resources (supported by 75% government grant)

# Thamesdown



## RATES

Rates in Thamesdown have risen overall by 27.2% since 1981/82 - and since 1983/84 they have gone up by 0.54% from 53.9 to 54.19p.

The rate limit proposed for Thamesdown is 57.22p  
a increase of 5.59% on their 1984/85 figure.

## SPENDING

Thamesdown's current spending has risen by 25.0% since 1981/82. Their rate limit for 1985/86 is based on a spending level which is a cash freeze on their 1984/85 budget.

## GRANT

Thamesdown have received £13.8m Rate Support Grant from the Government over the past four years. In 1984/85 they received £2.5m in RSG. Other Government grants and allocations included £0.22m urbane programme resources (supported by 75% government grant).

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