

Cont Markhrey

(Blind copy: Mr Pattison)

✓  
MAJ

Mr ALLEN

## REVIEW OF STATISTICAL SERVICES

Sir DR spoke to Mr Boreham on the phone yesterday afternoon at the latter's request. Mr B said that he thought the review would be far more effective if it was overseen by someone who was neither a statistician nor a civil servant. He thought that Sir DR himself would fit the bill very well but wondered whether he might have another name to suggest.

2. Sir DR said, not off the cuff. If it would be helpful, he would of course lend his name to the exercise, on the basis that he would be unable to contribute as much as he would wish because of the other pressures on him. He wondered whether that was positive enough for Mr B.

3. Mr B said that Sir DR's name would be valuable but as he was a "belt and braces" man he would be glad for other names. Sir DR said that, while he felt that a particular individual was needed for an exercise of this kind, he could not readily think of the right person.

4. Mr B said that on the whole he preferred to leave the thing on the basis that Sir DR's name was attached to the exercise. Sir DR said that he would think further about other possible individuals, but was content with leaving things as Mr B suggested.

CP

C PRIESTLEY  
9 November 1979

12 NOV 1979

