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Gork Moch

## 10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

13 April, 1981

The Prime Minister has seen the Lord President's minute of 10 April, about the Review of the Government's Statistical Services.

She is content with the format for publication of the outcome of the review suggested by the Lord President. As I mentioned on the telephone last week, the timing will need to be finalised in conjunction with that of the Efficiency White Paper. I understand that the progress of the Civil Service dispute may be relevant. Perhaps you could be in touch with us again about this when you have firm proposals.

I am sending copies of this letter to David Wright (Cabinet Office), Peter Unwin (Central Statistical Office), Jeremy Colman (CSD) and Clive Priestley (Sir Derek Rayner's Office).

M. A. PATTISON

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E G M Chaplin, Esq Lord President's Office

c. Mr. Gaffin 27 April 1981 Thank you for your letters of 24 April about the White Paper on Government Statistical Services. I confirm that we are content with the arrangements which have been made.

M. A. PATTISON

E.G.M. Chaplin, Esq., Civil Service Department.



## Civil Service Department Whitehall London SW1A 2AZ

My luca

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M. Pattism Esq ... 10 Daning St.

Your reference

Our reference

Date

28 April 1981

WHITE PAPER ON GOVERNMENT STATISTICAL SERVICES

I attach a copy of the Confidential First(
Revise of the White Paper which is to be
published at 3.30pm on Wednesday 29 April.

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SUSAN SCALES FP1 Division

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eMr Gaffin

Civil Service Department Whitehall London SW1A 2AZ 01-273 4400

Mike Pattison Esq Private Secretary to the Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SW1

24 April 1981

PRIME MINISTER To see these two letter about

Dear Mike.

the White Paper on the Govt Statistical Services-

WHITE PAPER ON GOVERNMENT STATISTICAL SERVICES to be published art wednesday.

There have been no objections from Ministers to going ahead now with a White Paper on Government Statistical Services, a draft of which the Lord President circulated on 10 April. A few, minor drafting amendments have been made. We propose to publish on 29 April.

24/4

The Minister of State will take the opportunity of a written Parliamentary Question already down that day from Mrs Short to draw the House's attention to the White Paper. Similar arrangements are being made for the House of Lords. We shall also issue a press statement here. Departments' Press Offices have been invited to make appropriate preparations to cover their interests.

Copies of this letter go to Private Secretaries to the recipients of the Lord President's minute of 10 April.

Your even Edward Augho

E G M CHAPLIN Private Secretary 24 APRISET W 2 1 23

Of Mr Gaffin

Civil Service Department Whitehall London SW1A 2AZ 01-273 4400

Mike Pattison Esq Private Secretary to the Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SW1

24 April 1981

De. Mike.

## WHITE PAPER ON GOVERNMENT STATISTICAL SERVICES

As you will have seen from my earlier letter today to you, copied to other Private Secretaries of Ministers concerned, we plan to go ahead with publication of the White Paper on Government Statistical Services on 29 April.

As I mentioned on the telephone last week, the timing of publication (your letter of 13 April) was carefully considered. The Lord President is satisfied that this White Paper will be a useful precursor to the White Paper on Efficiency. The point about the Civil Service pay dispute is more relevant to the latter, which he agrees should not be published until after the Civil Service dispute.

Our two Press Offices are in touch, and together with Sir Derek Rayner's Office and the CSO, will agree arrangements for informing the press.

I am copying this letter to David Wright (Cabinet Office), Ian Stewart (Central Statistical Office), Jeremy Colman here and Clive Priestley (Sir Derek Rayner's Office).

Tous eve. Edund Augli.

E G M CHAPLIN Private Secretary

Ger Mach, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD WHITEHALL PLACE, LONDON SWIA 2HH From the Minister The Rt Hon Lord Soames CH GCMG GCVO CBE Lord President of the Council 9 765 138 Civil Service Department Whitehall /6 April 1981 London SW1A 2AZ Advertigete REVIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT STATISTICAL SERVICES I refer to your letter of 10 April and the draft of the White Paper setting out the results of the Review. I have no comments on the draft, the sections relating to this department having been prepared in consultation with officials here. Annex 1 of the White Paper refers to the publication of the departmental "Rayner Reports" and the Action Documents. Thosefor this Ministry will be available very shortly and my officials will liaise with Sir John Baroham's office on this with Sir John Boreham's office on this. I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister and to Sir Derek Rayner, Sir John Boreham and Sir Robert Armstrong. PETER WALKER

16 APR 1981