

B.R.
Mr Tomball

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PRIME MINISTER

You may be interested to see the attached question answered by Peter Rees about public expenditure since 1975/76. As you will see, the programmes which have shown a significant increase since 1978/79 are defence, law and order, health and personal social services and social security. Significant reductions include Government lending to nationalised industries (although this peaked in 1979/80 and 1980/81), housing (this is not of receipts from council house sales) and overseas aid and other services (which presumably reflect EEC refunds). The health figure reveals the real increase which has taken place in every year that this Government has been in office and bears out the fact that Labour actually cut NHS expenditure in real terms in 1977/78.

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6 December 1983

Social Workers

Mr. Kilfedder asked the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland whether he is satisfied with the liaison arrangements of the Northern Ireland Eastern health and social services board to ensure that the officer in charge of a residential home for the elderly is being properly supported by senior social workers.

Mr. Chris Patten: Social work staff at a senior level are available in all the districts and units of management of the Eastern health and social services board to provide support and advice for the officers in charge of residential homes for the elderly.

Croft House Residential Home

Mr. Kilfedder asked the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland when was the last occasion when a resident of the Croft House residential home, Holywood, asked for a transfer to another home; and what was the result of the request.

Mr. Chris Patten: On 9 September 1983 the officer in charge of Croft House, Holywood, made a written request on behalf of a resident for a transfer to Loch Cuan House, Newtownards. This was acknowledged by the principal social worker—residential and day care—of the unit of management on 23 September 1983 and the resident's name was placed on the waiting list at Loch Cuan House.

Strip Searches

Mr. McNamara asked the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (1) how many strip searches were made of female prisoners in Her Majesty's prison, Armagh, in the months of October and November, respectively; if he

will give the number of prisoners involved and the number of times each prisoner was searched; whether any prison contraband, smuggled items or illegal correspondence was discovered in any of the searches, indicating which items; and whether any of these items were hidden in the orifices of the body;

(2) whether, following his reply to the hon. Member for Kingston upon Hull, North on 24 October, *Official Report*, c. 41, he will indicate the nature of the unauthorised items being smuggled into Her Majesty's prison, Armagh, by persons subject to strip searches, indicating the number of prisoners involved, whether the items were hidden in the orifices of the body, and whether the persons concerned were engaged on the pre-release working out scheme.

Mr. Scott: I shall reply to the hon. Member as soon as possible.

NATIONAL FINANCE

Public Expenditure

Mr. Deakins asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he will publish a table showing public expenditure by main programme in real terms for each year from 1975 onwards, taking 1975 as the base year at 100.

Mr. Peter Rees: The figures in cost terms—that is, cash adjusted for the effects of general inflation as measured by the gross domestic product deflator—1975-76=100, are shown in the following table.

For 1983-84 and 1984-85, public expenditure planning totals in cost terms were given in table 2.2 of the autumn statement. Main programme breakdowns for these years are not yet available.

Public Expenditure in Cost Terms (1975-76 = 100)

	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83
1. Defence	100	102.3	99.3	98.8	104.1	106.2	109.0	116.8
2. Overseas aid and other services	100	124.4	-164.9	175.8	169.3	111.4	105.3	129.3
3. Agriculture, Fisheries, Food and Forestry	100	66.0	50.9	43.2	45.9	51.7	48.3	61.0
4. Industry, energy, trade and employment	100	90.6	57.5	71.9	57.5	67.4	81.1	82.5
5. Government lending to nationalised industries	100	23.1	-14.7	45.6	107.5	105.5	61.7	39.1
6. Transport	100	88.8	76.0	74.3	77.1	75.5	77.7	82.2
7. Housing	100	99.9	81.8	77.4	83.9	69.8	44.3	35.4
8. Other environmental services	100	85.9	77.2	80.8	82.7	83.0	76.1	80.3
9. Law, order and protective services	100	101.7	95.4	98.2	106.5	110.2	119.4	125.9
10. Education, science, arts and libraries	100	99.8	92.2	92.1	91.0	93.3	92.3	93.4
11. Health and personal social services	100	100.8	97.6	100.3	102.9	110.7	112.8	115.8
12. Social Security	100	103.3	108.9	116.5	117.8	119.7	132.8	141.5
13. Other public services	100	100.7	92.7	88.8	91.2	95.5	93.1	92.2
14. Common services	100	97.3	92.6	93.3	94.5	86.7	104.4	105.1
15. Scotland	100	97.7	90.8	93.4	96.7	97.3	96.2	96.1
16. Wales	100	100.5	91.1	95.7	99.3	99.0	95.2	96.1
17. Northern Ireland	100	99.2	97.4	103.5	101.6	101.5	102.4	106.4
Adjustments (public corporations net overseas and market borrowing, and special sales of assets)	100	241.9	49.1	73.2	-209.1	-115.9	36.8	-174.7
Planning Total	100	98.2	90.1	94.5	94.6	96.1	98.7	100.4

Excise Duty

Mrs Renée Short asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer how much was raised in excise duty from cigarette sales in 1982; and how this compares in real terms with 1973.

Mr. Hayhoe: In 1982 net receipts of excise duty on cigarettes were £3,150 million.

It is not possible to compare this in real terms with 1973 because duty was then charged on the tobacco leaf used in the manufacture of hand-rolling tobacco, pipe tobacco