

Data Protection Registrar

ACCOUNT 1987—88

ACCOUNT, prepared pursuant to paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 2 of the Data Protection Act 1984 of the receipts and payments of the Data Protection Registrar for the year ended 31 March 1988; together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. (In continuation of House of Commons Paper No. 209 of 1987—88.)

Presented pursuant to Act 1984, c. 35, Sch. 2 para 7(2)

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LONDON
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

Data Protection Act 1984

Foreword

Background Information

1. The Registrar was appointed on 20th September 1984 under Section 3(2) of the Data Protection Act 1984. This Account has been prepared in accordance with Section 7(1)(b) of Schedule 2 to the Act. The Account covers the year 1 April 1987 to 31 March 1988.

Review of Activities

2. The purposes of the Act are to:

- make the nature and use of personal data in computing systems open to public scrutiny (through a public register and by enabling individuals to obtain details of information about themselves);
- ensure good practice in the use, processing and protection of personal data in computing systems (through promoting and enforcing the data protection principles); and
- allow individuals to claim compensation for damage and any associated distress arising from lack of security surrounding personal data which concern them or from inaccuracies in such data.

3. The act came fully into force in November 1987. Since then there has been a fourfold increase in complaints from members of the public. This, and efforts to encourage good practices amongst data users have led to a substantial increase in related office activities.

Besides these activities, there was a coordinated public relations campaign towards the end of 1987 to inform individuals of their new rights. At the same time a simpler registration method which had been developed for small organisations achieved a substantial increase in registration applications.

Events since the end of the Financial year

4. The Fourth Annual Report of the Data Protection Registrar was laid before Parliament on 12 July 1988. This gives fuller details of activities and reviews the operation of the Act.

E J Howe
Data Protection Registrar

15 July 1988

Data Protection Registrar

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 1987 TO 31 MARCH 1988

| | Notes | £ | £ | £ | 1986-87 £ |
|---|-------|------------------|------------------|-----------|--------------|
| HM Grants received | 2 | 2,244,057 | | 2,667,389 | |
| Operating receipts | 3 | 840,161 | 3,084,218 | 2,552,041 | 5,219,430 |
| Salaries & Wages | | 680,866 | | 615,991 | |
| Other operating payments | 4 | 1,923,233 | 2,604,099 | 1,755,322 | 2,371,313 |
| Surplus from operations | | | 480,119 | | 2,848,117 |
| Other Receipts | 5 | 89,593 | | 205,227 | |
| Other Payments | 5 | 45,874 | 43,719 | 51,166 | 154,061 |
| Surplus for Year | | | 523,838 | | 3,002,178 |
| Appropriations | 6 | | 881,176 | | 2,798,219 |
| Excess of payments over receipts for the period | | | (357,338) | | 203,959 |

STATEMENT OF BALANCES AS AT 31 MARCH 1988

| | Notes | £ | £ |
|--|-------|------------------|---------|
| Balance at beginning of period | | 474,615 | 270,656 |
| Less excess of payments over receipts for the period | | (357,338) | 203,959 |
| Balance at period end | 7 | 117,277 | 474,615 |

The Notes on the following pages form part of these statements.

Data Protection Registrar

Notes to the Accounts

1. These accounts are drawn up in a form directed by the Secretary of State, and approved by the Treasury.

| | | 1986-87 |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------|
| 2. HMG Grants received | Grants received from Class XI Vote 3 Subhead M2 1987-88. | 2,244,057 |
| | | 2,667,389 |
| 3. Operating Receipts | Receipts from registration fees | 840,161 |
| 4. Other operating payments | Rent & rates | 109,664 |
| | Maintenance, cleaning, heating & lighting | 35,050 |
| | Office supplies, printing, stationery | 359,805 |
| | Postage and telephones | 42,295 |
| | Travel and subsistence | 56,897 |
| | Staff recruitment | 10,225 |
| | Specialist assistance | 9,764 |
| | Public relations | 699,545 |
| | Legal costs | 31,142 |
| | Staff training/medical | 17,484 |
| | Computer bureau/CCTA | 338,071 |
| | Vehicle expenses | 2,264 |
| | Audit fee | 8,950 |
| | V.A.T. | 202,077 |
| | | <u>1,923,233</u> |
| | | 1,755,322 |
| 5. Other receipts/ payments | <i>— Receipts</i> | |
| | Pension contributions/transfers | 18,274 |
| | Bank interest | 67,716 |
| | Speakers' fees | 603 |
| | Sale of motor vehicle | 3,000 |
| | | <u>89,593</u> |
| | | 205,227 |
| | <i>— Payments</i> | |
| | Purchase of computer hardware/software | 18,485 |
| | Purchase of furniture and other office equipment | 15,686 |
| | Purchase of motor vehicle | 5,750 |
| | V.A.T. | 5,953 |
| | | <u>45,874</u> |
| | | 51,166 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------|------------------|
| 6. Appropriations | Amounts surrendered to the Consolidated Fund during the period | | 1986-87 |
| | Registration fees | 794,583 | 2,592,992 |
| | Other | 86,593 | 205,227 |
| | | 881,176 | 2,798,219 |
| 7. Balance at period end | Cash at bank | 117,234 | 474,585 |
| | Cash held at offices | 43 | 30 |
| | | 117,277 | 474,615 |

E. J. Howe
Data Protection Registrar

15 July 1988

Certificate and Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I certify that I have examined the accounts on pages 4 to 6, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1984, and the National Audit Office auditing standards.

In my opinion the accounts properly present the receipts and payments of the Data Protection Registrar for the year ended 31 March 1988 and the balances held at that date and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1984, as directed by the Secretary of State.

I have no observations to make on these accounts.

John Bourn
Comptroller and Auditor General

National Audit Office
29 December 1988

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