



OPERATIONAL SELECTION POLICY OSP1

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
1970-1979

Revised November 2005

Authority

The National Archives' Acquisition Policy statement announced the Office's intention of developing Operational Selection Policies across government. These Policies would apply the collection themes described in the statement to the records of individual departments and agencies.

Operational Selection Policies are intended to be working tools for those involved in the selection of public records. This policy may, therefore, be reviewed and revised in the light of comments received from the users of the records, from archive professionals, as a result of the department's experience of using the policy, or as a result of newly discovered information. There is no formal cycle of review but we would welcome comments at any time. The extent of any review and revision exercise will be determined according to the nature of the comments received.

If you have any comments upon this policy, please e-mail records-management@nationalarchives.gov.uk or write to:

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1 Scope

This policy relates to the core "environment functions" of the Department of the Environment 1970-1979, particularly housing, planning, local government, water and environmental protection. It does not cover the functions of the former Property Services Agency, those which were transferred to the Department of Transport upon its formation in 1976, or the Department's heritage functions, most of which were transferred to the Department of National Heritage following its creation in 1992.

It is not an exhaustive statement of all the records that will be acquired but is intended to provide a clear direction to acquisition work and to those who are making review decisions.

As the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions has completed the review of files resulting from the exercise of these functions in 1970, the policy will focus on 1971 onwards.

2 Responsibilities of the Department of the Environment

The Department of the Environment was responsible for planning, housing, construction, local government, water, the historic environment, environmental

protection and for research into building and hydraulics. The Department's Property Services Agency, established in 1972, was responsible for government building services. To 1976 the Department was also responsible for transport matters, including research. However, neither these last two responsibilities nor the Department's responsibility for the historic environment are covered by this selection policy.

3 Relevant Collection Themes in The National Archives' Acquisition Policy

The Acquisition Policy statement outlines those themes which form the basis of The National Archives' appraisal and selection decisions. Of these themes, the following are of potential relevance to the work of the Department of the Environment:

- 2.1 Policy and administrative processes of the state:
 - 2.1.1 management of the economy
 - 2.1.5 formulation and delivery of social policies
- 2.2 Interaction of the state with its citizens and with the physical environment:
 - 2.2.1 the economic, social and demographic condition of the UK, as documented by the state's dealings with individuals, communities and organisations outside its own formal boundaries
 - 2.2.2 impact of the state on the physical environment

4 Key themes within the Department of the Environment

Within the core environmental functions of the Department of the Environment, the themes listed below were of particular significance, 1970-1979. The order of the themes is not significant.

5.1 Housing

This theme relates to sections 2.1.5 and 2.2.1 of the acquisition policy.

A wide range of housing initiatives were undertaken in the 1970's relating to: housing finance; the encouragement of home ownership; the management of the housing supply, including the housing of immigrants and the homeless; the extension of protection for tenants; and a shift away from slum clearance programmes to housing improvement schemes. In addition, housing policy was affected by policies for the control of inflation through the control of rent and local authority capital expenditure.

The following areas will be documented by the selection of policy and relevant case files: the sale of council houses; the encouragement of loans for first-time buyers; the development and preparation of the Housing Finance Act 1972, its implementation and subsequent housing finance policies, including the housing investment programme; the review of housing conducted 1974-1978; the impact of the Race Relations Act 1976 and the Housing (Homeless

Persons) Act 1977 on the availability of housing; “difficult to let estates”; the decline of slum clearance and its replacement by housing improvement programmes; and the development of policies to assist tenants of rented accommodation.

5.2 Urban planning issues

This theme relates to sections 2.1.5 and 2.2.1 of the acquisition policy.

During 1970-1979 a significant shift in emphasis occurred in urban planning policy. Although the new and expanding towns programmes continued, there was an increasing awareness of inner-city problems, including the impact of the out-of-town shopping centre. In 1976 this led to a shift in resources from the new towns programme to the inner cities.

The inner cities studies which led to this policy change will be documented in detail. The work of the Home Office’s Community Development Teams will also be documented, although case files in this area will not be preserved as they contain no papers of substance. The progress of the new and expanding towns programme will be documented through the selection of policy files, including those relating to specific new and expanding towns. Policy files relating to the development of inner cities policy and the review of commercial property will be preserved, as will the policy files relating to the development and implementation of the urban fringe initiative.

5.3 Pollution

This theme relates to section 2.2.2 of the acquisition policy statement.

In 1972 the UN Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment caused environmental quality to become a major political issue throughout the world. In the United Kingdom especial attention was paid to the pollution of the air with lead from car exhaust emissions, and the pollution of water as a result of shipping incidents and sewage treatment. A significant advance was made in the control of pollution in the Control of Pollution Act 1974 which introduced the principle that the “polluter pays” to deal with the consequences of environmental pollution. The department also continued its work on noise pollution.

The implementation of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 will be documented in detail, through the selection of policy files and case files relating to the implementation of the “polluter pays” principle. Records of research into pollution issues and the records of the handling and impact of major spillages of oil at sea will also be preserved. The development of policy on noise pollution will also be documented.

5.4 The ownership and taxation of development land

This theme relates to sections 2.1.5 and 2.2.1 of the acquisition policy statement.

In 1971 the Land Commission (Dissolution) Act was passed, thereby ending the taxation of profits made from the sale of development land. The 1974-1979 governments introduced measures to bring development land into public ownership.

The development and implementation of policy in this area will be documented through the preservation of relevant policy files.

5.5 Reorganisation of local government and water services

This theme relates to sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 of the acquisition policy statement.

During this period the structure of local government and water services were significantly reorganised by the Local Government Act 1972 and the Water Act 1973.

The research, policy considerations and consultations with key players leading to the development of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Water Act 1973 will be documented as will the implementation of the principle aspects of these Acts. Policy and case files relating to local government regulations, superannuation and contracts will be destroyed.

5.6 Regional planning and development

This theme relates to sections 2.1.5 and 2.2.1 of the acquisition policy statement.

During the 1970's the department continued its regional strategy work and assumed responsibility for the distribution of the EEC Regional Development Fund. The development planning system was revised in 1974 to give a two-tier system.

Regional strategies and the work of the regional Economic Planning Councils are part of a central Department of the Environment file series and, so as to avoid splitting that series, these records will be preserved by The National Archives. The National Archives will also document the recipients of grants from the EEC Regional Development Fund on a national basis. Policy files relating to the restructuring of the development plan system will be transferred to The National Archives. However, individual development plans and the discussions concerning them will not be preserved by The National Archives as the local authorities concerned took the lead in these matters.

5.7 Energy policy

This theme relates to section 2.1.1 of the acquisition policy statement.

The 1973 oil crisis and the strikes of 1972-1974 raised the prominence of energy conservation measures. The Department of the Environment carried out research into energy conservation measures and promoted them.

Files relating to ground-breaking research and promotional campaigns in this area will be preserved.

5.8 **Sponsorship of the construction industry**

The Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions and The National Archives will seek to identify a *bona fide* institution to receive these records as a presentation under section 3(6) of the Public Records Act 1958. If no institution is identified the records will be destroyed.

5.9 **Planning and countryside**

This theme relates to section 2.2.2 of the acquisition policy statement.

In 1971 the National Parks Review Committee considered the future of the national parks. In 1976 it was announced that a public inquiry would be held into a proposal to build a plant at Windscale, Cumbria for the recovery of plutonium and uranium from spent oxide fuel and in the following year the Department of the Environment became responsible for research into nuclear waste disposal. Green Belt and derelict land policies were further developed during this period.

The records of the National Parks Review Committee and of the Windscale inquiry will be preserved at The National Archives, along with supporting research into the disposal of nuclear waste. Files on the development and implementation of Green Belt and derelict land policies will be transferred to The National Archives, as will policy files on the impact of Dutch Elm Disease. The records of the 1975 Review of the Development Control System (Dobry Review) and the subsequent policy response will be preserved, but records of the routine development and implementation of the planning system, including countryside planning issues, will not be. Planning case files will not be preserved.

5.10 **Other themes**

The policy files of the Strategic Planning Directorate, the body which co-ordinated policy in the newly created Department of the Environment, will be selected for preservation. These can be found in the SPD file series.

Research, statistics, economics and establishments files will only be preserved when they support the above themes. For example, the creation and subsequent structure of the Department of the Environment will be documented, as will research and statistics relating to housing demand and to the other key themes identified above.

5 Implementation of Selection Policy

This policy will be implemented through a two-stage process of review:

1. An initial rapid review of the files for the former Department of the Environment for this period be conducted on a file-by-file basis using functional group and title. This method will be used to separate those files, which relate to the collection themes identified in this policy, from those files which do not
2. The files identified as relating to the collection themes will then be subject to a more detailed second review to ensure that they contain high-level material worthy of preservation. The percentage of files rejected as a result of this examination will be monitored; if the percentage is low the practice can be abandoned

If the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (which have inherited from the Department of the Environment the functions covered by this Policy) later computerise their records of these files, a more systematic approach can be adopted using information obtained from the system.

March 2000, Revised October 2005

Annex 1

6 Key Events

The following is a list of key events designed to be used as a tool for reviewers to highlight material which should receive a more detailed examination. The appearance of a topic on this list does not mean that all material relating to that topic should be preserved.

6.1 1971

6.1.1 Housing

- Housing Act 1971 offered additional financial assistance for housing redevelopment in improvement areas
- Government sought to encourage the sale of council houses
- The encouragement of building societies to lend to first time buyers
- Francis Committee White Paper *Fair Deal for Housing* laid out the principle of fair rents for council housing

6.1.2 Local Government

- Local government reorganisation work

6.1.3 Planning and Countryside

- The Land Commission was dissolved by the Land Commission (Dissolution) Act 1971
- Green Belt policy was restored (South East Directorate)
- Massive programme of clearing derelict land where there had been coal mines and steelworks called *Operation Eyesore*. The *Daily Mirror* conducted a campaign asking readers to send in photographs of local eyesores which should be treated. These were passed to the appropriate local authorities, and as a result, thousands of schemes took place
- Conversion of London theatres to office blocks prevented by listing them
- Covent Garden redevelopment
- National Parks Review Committee chaired by Lord Sandford considered whether national parks had fulfilled their purpose and to make recommendations for future policies
- Town and Country Planning Act 1971 consolidated town and country planning legislation in England and Wales with amendments to give effect to recommendations of the Law Commission

6.1.4 Pollution

- Prevention of Oil Pollution Act 1971 consolidated the Oil in Navigable Waters Acts 1955 to 1971 and section 5 of the Continental Shelf Act 1964

6.1.5 Water

- Central Water Advisory Committee issued a report in February 1971 supporting a “sweeping reduction” in the number of units involved in sewage disposal and water supply and called for better co-ordination of water management activities
- Water reorganisation planning

6.1.6 Regional Planning

- Economic Planning Councils

6.2 1972

6.2.1 Housing

- Housing Finance Act 1972 passed without consultation with local authorities. It placed local authorities under a duty to charge “fair rents” for council housing and also introduced a national rent rebate scheme and a system of rent allowances for tenants of private landlords and housing associations. In June 1972 there were over 70 authorities defying the government over this Act, but the number had reduced to just over 40 in October and by November there were only about a dozen. These can be broken down into three groups: those who never implemented (Clay Cross, Bedwas and Machen), those who held out into 1973 (including Conisborough, Merthyr Tydfil, Biggleswade and Camden), and those who implemented after October 1972 but before January 1973. Halstead and Eccles gave way before default orders while Bedwas, Machen and Merthyr Tydfil were taken over by Housing Commissioners. Authorities like Camden were brought into line by the threat of withdrawal of subsidies. The Secretary of State decided to hold the Clay Cross councillors personally responsible for the loss of rent income and ordered an extraordinary audit of the accounts under the Local Government Act 1933. This led to a conflict which was resolved by local government reorganisation
- UN Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment caused environmental quality to become a major political issue throughout the world
- Major property boom

6.2.2 Local Government

- Local Government Act 1972
- Poulson affair

6.2.3 Planning

- In March 1972 the Minister for the Environment requested local authorities to notify him of all planning applications for out-of-town shopping centres and hypermarkets over 50,000 square feet of floor area because of concerns about their effect upon town centres

- UN Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment caused environmental quality to become a major political issue throughout the world
- Major property boom
- Green belt policy restored

6.2.4 Inner Cities

- Home Office established a series of Community Development Plan Teams in deprived urban areas. Their role was to stimulate the people of the areas into taking greater control over the changing conditions of their own lives
- Studies were commissioned of inner Liverpool, Birmingham (Small Heath) and London (Stockwell)

6.2.5 Construction

- Poulson affair

6.3 1973

6.3.1 Housing

- Furnished Lettings (Rent Allowances) Act 1973 extended rent allowances to limited numbers of tenants living in privately rented furnished accommodation
- Housing (Amendment) Act 1973 extended the operation of the Housing Act 1971 and made further provision for the imposition of conditions on the sale of houses by local authorities under the Housing Act 1957
- Circular 122 on *Land Availability for Housing* altered the long standing status of white land shown in development plans. To deal with the urgent need for housing land in the South East 800 ha of green belt land was released for development
- The shift of emphasis from slum clearance to redevelopment was announced in a White Paper of June 1973, *Better Homes: The Next Priorities*
- Housing specifically exempt from cuts made in December 1973 budget.
- Property boom
- Housing and Planning Bill offered generous subsidies to encourage housing associations to build new housing

6.3.2 Planning

- Maplin Development Bill
- Circular 122 issued on *Land Availability for Housing*
- Property boom
- Covent Garden redevelopment
- Proposals for the construction of London's Ringway One were abandoned following intense local opposition

6.3.3 Water

- Water Act 1973 set up ten regional water authorities and a National Water Board, merged utility and river basin functions under all-purpose authorities, and provided for a national water policy

6.3.4 Construction

- Summerlands disaster, 2 August 1973. Fifty-one people were killed and eighty seriously injured when a fire destroyed a six-storey entertainment centre on the Isle of Man

6.4 1974

6.4.1 Pollution

- Control of Pollution Act 1974 was chiefly concerned with the distribution of powers and responsibilities between central and local government. It gave greater powers to planning authorities to treat pollution as a crucial factor of any planning application and introduced the principle of “polluter pays”

6.4.2 Housing

- Rent Act 1974 extended protection to furnished tenancies
- Flixborough disaster
- Resources diverted from house building to keeping rents down
- Housing and Planning Bill put forward to encourage local authorities to build council housing
- Housing Act 1974 established priority housing action areas where rehabilitation and environmental improvement would be stimulated by higher levels of grant aid and local authorities could sometimes compulsorily purchase houses for improvement. It also introduced a system of annual local authority “bids” and central government “allocations” with regard to improvement expenditure
- Growing interest in “Difficult to let estates”
- Improvement grants offered to private landlords to create self-contained units in private houses in an attempt to encourage private lettings
- Property crash October 1974
- Clay Cross Council was reprieved
- Rents were frozen at the end of Labour government’s first week
- Housing review was launched
- Harold Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, negotiated an agreement with the building societies to keep mortgage rates down. (Healy wanted to increase them; Crosland to subsidise them)

6.4.3 Local Government

- October 1974 Clay Cross Council was reprieved
- Rate support grant was redistributed to relieve metropolitan areas
- Local government consultative committee established
- Local Government Act 1974 set up the Commissioner for Local Administration

6.4.4 Inner cities

Growing interest in "Difficult to let estates"

6.4.5 Planning

- August an illegal pop festival was held in Windsor Great Park. Fifty-one people were hurt in clashes with the police and two hundred and twenty were arrested
- June explosion at the Nypro chemical plant, Flixborough killed twenty-nine people, seriously injured forty and devastated a large area of the surrounding land
- June Maplin redevelopment abandoned
- Revision of development planning system to give a two-tier system. Broad brush structure plans would interpret national and regional policies at county level to establish general proposals for housing, employment, transport and conservation of the countryside. Within this framework local authorities had the discretion to produce local plans indicating detailed proposals for land use but these would not have to be submitted to the Minister for approval. Structure plans would have a time horizon of 15-20 years; local plans would generally be of ten years' duration
- October property crash
- Covent Garden redevelopment scheme
- Development gains tax proposed
- John Silkin raises proposals for the public ownership of development land
- December it was announced that the design work would go ahead for a new British Library
- The Pilcher Committee was established to examine commercial property development

6.4.6 Water

- New water units came into operation
- National Water Council was created

6.5 1975

6.5.1 Planning

- Community Land Act 1975 gave local authorities and certain other bodies the power to acquire, manage and deal with land suitable for development and to make provisions in connection with the public ownership of land
- Covent Garden redevelopment
- Pilcher Committee reported and was replaced by the Property Advisory Group

6.5.2 Housing

- Housing Finance (Special Provisions) Act 1975 prevented surcharges under the Local Government Act 1933 arising out of the Housing Finance Act 1972

- General Rate Act 1975 postponed the coming into force of new valuation lists under Part V of the General Rate Act 1967
- Housing Rents and Subsidies Act 1975 repealed parts of the Housing Finance Act 1972, brought in a new subsidy system and provided for the phasing of rent increases
- “Chequers letter” outlining Crosland’s views on public expenditure priorities
- November-December, Crosland resisted housing budget cuts

6.5.3 Local Government

- Cuts in local government funding

6.5.4 Pollution

- Implementation of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 postponed

6.5.5 Strategic Policy Directorate

- October, Chequers letter by Anthony Crosland outlined his view on public expenditure priorities

6.6 1976

6.6.1 Planning and Countryside

- Development Land Tax Act 1976 imposed a tax on the realisation of the development value of land
- Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna was brought into force in the UK by the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act 1976
- It was announced at the end of 1976 that a public inquiry would be held into a proposal to build a plant at Windscale, Cumbria for the recovery of plutonium and uranium from spent oxide fuel
- Covent Garden redevelopment

6.6.2 Water

- Drought Act 1976

6.6.3 Housing

- Rent (Agriculture) Act 1976 gave security of tenure to agricultural workers housed by their employers
- Discontinuance of special subsidy for high-rise buildings
- Consultation paper produced on a review of the Rent Acts
- Race Relations Act 1976 applied particularly to housing and employment
- It was announced the system of “bids” and “allocations” for finance would be extended to all capital spending on housing in Housing Investment Programmes, beginning in 1977-78

6.6.4 Regional Planning

- Strategic plan for the South East revised by a joint central-local government team

6.6.5 New Towns and Inner Cities

- A five year study on Liverpool, Lambeth and Birmingham reported, causing the government to announce an Urban Programme of special aid to inner city areas, concentrated especially on 7 partnership areas and 15 smaller programme areas mainly in inner conurbation cities. Resources were expended on a variety of schemes aimed at job creation, winning development, sport and recreation. This new project meant that the new towns programme was reduced while the expanded towns programme was to all intents and purposes phased out. For example, Milton Keynes had its target population cut from 250,000 to 200,000: the resources were transferred fairly directly into the revival of the London inner city partnership areas. These changes were announced in the “Manchester speech”, September 1976

6.7 1977

6.7.1 Housing

- Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 imposed responsibilities upon local authorities with regard to the housing of the unintentionally homeless and those classed as housing priorities
- Protection from Eviction Act 1977 consolidated section 16 of the Rent Act 1957 and Part 3 of the Rent act 1965 and related enactments
- Rent Act 1977 consolidated previous rent legislation with amendments to give effect to recommendations of the Law Commission
- Green Paper issued on housing offering a tenants’ charter and a new system of council house subsidies
- A comprehensive system of housing investment programmes was introduced whereby local authorities had to bid for housing investment for the coming year. These bids were considered in the context of factors such as housing need and national priorities. Allocations were made out of these funds available nationally for expenditure in three spending blocks: local authority investment, improvement grants and lending to housing associations

6.7.2 Water

- White Paper produced on the water industry proposing an increase in local council influence and the replacement of the National Water Council by a National Water Authority. This would include the British Waterways Board in a structure that resembled a nationalised industry
- The National Water Council produced a classification of river quality objectives related to the purposes for which the water was to be used
- Setting up of public registers of discharge consents and samples checking was deferred until 1985

6.7.3 Research

- Department of the Environment became responsible for nuclear waste disposal research and development

6.7.4 Construction industry

- Delegations representing all sectors of the building industry visit the Prime Minister (June) and the Chancellor (December) to discuss the industry's economic difficulties

6.7.5 Inner cities

- White paper issued proposing that inner city planning be geared to promoting all business, meeting their needs and subsidising their development costs. Local authorities were urged to give industrial applications priority over all other types of planning applications and to be "flexible" in relation to non-conforming industrial uses

6.7.6 Planning

- Windscale inquiry
- Covent Garden redevelopment

6.8 1978

6.8.1 Housing

- Home Purchase Assistance and Housing Corporation Guarantee Act 1978 allowed the use of public money for assisting first-time purchasers of house property and to increase the financial limit governing the Housing Corporation's powers to guarantee loans to housing associations and others

6.8.2 Local Government

- Local Government Act 1978 amended the provisions of the Local Government Act 1974 relating to the Commissioner for Local Administration

6.8.3 Pollution

- 16 March 1978 the Amoco Cadiz oil spillage occurred off the coast of Brittany. Two months later another tanker, the *Eleni V* was cut in two as the result of a collision with a French merchant vessel, the *Roseline* off East Anglia. One half of the tanker was safely salvaged but the British authorities spent over three weeks trying to pump oil out of the remaining section before blowing it up. Some five thousand tonnes of oil were spilt
- 1 October 1978 the Greek tanker, *Christos Bitas* hit rocks off the South Wales coast. Some 2,400 tonnes of oil were spilt but 31,600 tonnes were safely pumped from the hull at sea into another tanker
- 30 December 1978 the *ESSO Bernicia* hit a jetty at the Sullom Voe terminal and lost over 1,000 tonnes of oil

6.8.4 Planning

- Windscale inquiry report was published in March 1978

6.8.5 Inner Cities

- Inner Urban Areas Act 1978 sketched a new policy framework. Partnership in designated areas was key. Local authorities in England and Wales with severe inner city problems received additional powers to engage in social projects and the development of industrial, environmental and recreational areas. The first areas were: Birmingham, Gateshead, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Salford. A further fifteen areas were soon added. Finally another nineteen were added, including five in Wales

6.9 1979

6.9.1 Housing

- Leasehold Reform Act 1979 provided further protection against artificial inflation of prices for a tenant in possession seeking to acquire the freehold
- Housing Bill to implement conclusions of housing review

Annex 2

Filing Systems Of The Department Of The Environment, 1970-1979

7 Structure of the Department of the Environment's Filing Systems

The Department of the Environment followed a hierarchical filing system for its subject files. It consisted of a prefix identifying the creating division, followed by a theme number indicating the general subject area, succeeded by a sub-theme number and a file number.

Files relating to individual local authorities were organised using a similar system, except that a local authority reference preceded the local authority theme number.

Case files were organised using an alphabetical rather than a numerical theme reference.

Files were frequently re-registered from one prefix to another if responsibility for the subject concerned was transferred to another division. However, within key functional areas, particularly local government, water, housing and planning the same theme list was used irrespective of the prefix. The files are physically stored according to functional grouping in theme number order rather than by prefix.

8 Reference systems

The filing lists of the Department of the Environment for this period are currently held in manual docket books. These consist of three sets: docket books for individual files within a prefix, docket books of themes within a functional grouping, and an alphabetical index of theme subjects. Attempts were made to identify themes of relevance to the selection policy themes, but these were hindered by two factors:

1 Many of the theme titles are general and for each collection theme a number of potentially relevant filing themes could be identified. Moreover, the actual files assigned to the themes do not always correspond directly with the theme title - there is sometimes a loose relationship rather than a direct one.

2 There is no easy way of establishing whether or not files in a particular theme have survived for the period in question. As the theme lists are long and the number of potentially relevant themes for each collection theme is high this is an inefficient way of locating relevant records.

9 Correlation of Creating Divisions, Prefix References and Collection

Themes

For the reasons given above, the identification of records, which meet the collection themes identified in this policy, should be organised by functional grouping.

The table below identifies the relevant functional areas for the collection themes. Where the functional areas relate to only a small number of prefixes these have been identified in brackets after the functional area.

Theme	Functional Area
Housing	Housing Regional files Local Government Finance functions Housing Policy and Analysis Unit (HAMU)
Urban planning	Planning New towns (NT, NTX) Inner cities (UP, UPD, ICR, ICD, EC, UD) Commercial property (COD)
Pollution	Central Unit on Environmental Pollution (CUEP, CDEP) Local Government Planning Finance Functions Noise pollution (NP)
Development land	Planning Land Economy
Local government and water services reorganisation	Water Local government Finance Functions
Regional planning and development	Planning Regional development
Energy policy	ECU (Inherited from the Department of Energy)
Sponsorship of the construction industry	RE, SCD, CH, CI
Planning and countryside	Planning

Other policy	Strategic Planning Directorate (SPD and SPR) Public Expenditure Co- ordination Division (PECD) Economics and Statistics Division (ESD, DGRP) Economics Urban and Regional (ECUR) Economics Housing (ECH) Statistics Planning and Regional (SPR) Statistics Housing (SHA, SHB) Environmental Protection Statistics (EPS) Directorate General of Research (DGR) Personnel Management Establishment functions Office services
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