

DTI Annual Report on Survey Activity: 1 April 2006 – 31 March 2007

Summary

1. Compliance costs are an estimate, in monetary terms, of the time taken by businesses and local authorities to complete a survey. They are estimated using the time taken to complete a survey multiplied by an hourly rate of pay dependent on the experience of the person completing the survey. Hourly rates of pay are provided each year by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).
2. Increased awareness of survey control procedures in recent years may have resulted in more complete coverage of projected departmental survey activity and therefore fewer large differences between the actual and the forecasted activity.
3. Surveys are a key instrument for evidence-based policy. The survey control unit provides statistical advice and support to survey sponsors to help them improve or maintain the quality of the evidence base provided by surveys whilst keeping the burden to the business and Local Authority communities to a minimum. There is also a DTI survey control plan in place that aims to increase awareness of survey control and reduce the compliance burden. For the year 2006/07:
 - The actual compliance cost is £9,308,638 just under the projected compliance cost for the year by 1% (or £121,803).
 - Since 2005/06 compliance has gone down by 8% (or £803,792) from £10,112,430 to £9,308,638.
 - There has been a decrease in the number of surveys recorded from 103 in 2005/06 to 89 in 2006/07.
 - There has also been an decrease of just over 23,000 in the number of businesses contacted in 2006/07 compared with 2005/06.
 - Costs to DTI have fallen from £3.6m in 2005/06 to £2.7m in 2006/07.

Appendix A gives details of all surveys carried out and comparisons with estimates.

Regular Surveys

4. 57 regular surveys were notified compared with 61 last year. For regular surveys in 2006/07:
 - Compliance costs are £9m; this figure has decreased slightly from £9.6m in 2005/06;
 - The number of businesses contacted is 435,314 a slightly lower from 2005/06 when 440,978 businesses were contacted.
 - Costs to DTI are £2.2m same as in 2005/06;

5. Under the Survey Control Procedures introduced in April 2000 only new regular surveys with annual compliance costs exceeding £50,000 need to be referred to the Office for National Statistics for clearance. During the reporting year one survey has been subject to this criteria SME IP Awareness Baseline Survey, Ministerial approval was secured.

Ad Hoc Surveys

6. 32 ad-hoc surveys have been carried out/notified since April 2006, this is an decrease on 2005/06 when 42 were notified. For ad-hoc surveys conducted during the financial year 2005/06:
 - Compliance costs are £291,000; this figure has fallen from £498,000 in 2005/06;
 - The number of businesses contacted is 34,926 a decrease from 52,952 in 2005/6.
 - Costs to DTI are £0.4m compared to £1.4m during 2005/06;

7. None of the ad-hoc surveys had a compliance cost over £50,000.

Construction surveys

8. There are several large statutory construction surveys carried out, by the DTI Industry, Economics and Statistics Directorate (IES), for the production of the national economic data on construction, which form a key part of the national accounts, with compliance costs estimated at just under £7.4m in 2006/7. This represents 80% of all DTI compliance costs.

ONS-run surveys

9. Previous year's compliance cost plans include DTI contributions towards the International Trade in Services (ITIS) survey. Compliance costs for this ONS-run survey were realised and has been included again in this year's plan.

Arthur Barnett

Tables Annual Report on Survey Activity

Table A1: DTI survey activity number of surveys and contacts comparison: actual 2005/06, estimated 2006/07 and actual 2006/07

Survey type	Number of Surveys			No of Contacts		
	Actual 2005/6	estimate 2006/7	Actual 2006/7	Actual 2005/6	estimate 2006/7	Actual 2006/7
Regular surveys	61	(52)	57	440,978	(408,837)	435,314
Ad-hoc surveys	42	(16)	32	52,952	(27,090)	34,926
Total	103	(68)	89	493,930	(435,927)	470,240

Table A2: DTI survey activity cost to DTI and compliance cost comparison: actual 2005/06, estimated 2006/07 and actual 2006/07

Survey type	DTI Cost £ thousands			Compliance Cost £ thousands		
	Actual 2005/6	estimate 2006/7	Actual 2006/7	Actual 2005/6	Estimate 2006/7	Actual 2006/7
Regular surveys	2,226	(1,957)	2,228	9,614	(8,893)	9,018
Ad-hoc surveys	1,401	(297)	489	498	(187)	291
Un-planned					(350)	
Total	3,627	(2,254)¹	2,717	10,112	(9,430)	9,309

Notes:

1. There is often insufficient data to accurately forecast DTI cost

Table A3: Comparisons of Estimated and Actual Costs by Directorate

Directorate	Estimate 2006/7			Actual 2006/07		
	Number of Respondents	£ Cost to DTI ¹	£ Compliance cost	Number of Respondents	£ Cost to DTI	£ Compliance cost
BNSC	6	0	184	6	0	184
BR1	864	110,000	10,480	411	5,050	6,200
BR2				1,387	89,078	14,934
Business link				10,000	147,239	49,056
CCP	100	20,000	1,719	150	235,000	2,551
EDU Energy Technology Unit	300	40,000	5,000	50	0	864
ER				43	0	458
ESIU				400	5,000	9,172
ESIU	9,076	415,728	261,701	8,763	416,306	253,433
IES	300,952	869,000	7,428,708	300,884	869,000	7,425,829
IGTI	400	32,078	5,135			
INSS	68,150	61,837	174,964	67,950	30,139	173,540
Legal services				206	0	293
ONS	21,000		776,500	9,000		689,000
OST	323	115,000	21,561	74	24,000	3,485
PATS Project Work Team EBG/OSI	1,040	0	11,211	21,040	30,375	106,871
RB				120	0	-
RB				343	127,000	41,803
SBS Strategic Policy Analysis	19,108	358,150	266,884	24,728	418,150	383,880
SU				50	49,415	181
SU	145	29,050	11,116	132	14,850	5,203
TI	1,000	20,938	9,980	2,460	53,016	35,835
UKTI	13,000	182,000	92,649	19,350	182,000	78,480
UKTI IIG				360	0	2,551
XNP	437	0	1,874	383	0	2,702
Other	26	0	776	1,950	21,000	22,134
Sub Total	435,927	2,253,780	9,080,441			
Unplanned surveys			350,000			
Grand Total	435,927	2,253,780	9,430,441	470,240	2,716,618	9,308,638

Notes:

1. There is often insufficient data to accurately forecast DTI cost

Table A4: List of surveys 2006/07

Directorate	Survey Sponsor	Survey Title	Frequency	Number of Respondents	Cost to DTI	Compliance cost
BNSC	Thasos Kiratzi	UK participants at the International astronomical Congress Reception	Regular	6	-	184
BR1	Toshi Sakamoto (Contact person at Automotive Unit)	Business Environment of Japanese Automotive Supply Companies in the UK	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	105	50	3,352
BR1	Sue Armfield	Current & Future use of Biotechnology by Manufacturers	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	206	-	1,441
BR1	Dr Sue Armfield	UK Industrial Biotechnology Benchmarking Survey	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	100	5,000	1,407
BR2	Russell Laverick	EITSU Stakeholder Communication Qualitative Research Project	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	25	22,090	1,612
BR2	Mark Lythaby, Constructing Excellence Ltd	Respect for People Impact Assessment 2001/06	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	1,016	36,988	6,212
BR2	Patrick Mulligan	BR/Energy Group Customer Survey	Regular	346	30,000	7,111
Business link	Moritz Flockenhaus	Businesslink.gov.uk Impact Assessment	Regular	10,000	147,239	49,056
CCP	Alison Zhu	To evaluate the face to face debt advice project and measure the impact of the project on the advice sector	Regular	150	235,000	2,551
EDU	Allan Taylor	Survey of UK companies participating in Trade Missions organised by the Renewables Trade Promotion Service.	Regular	50	-	864
Energy Technology Unit	Farida Isroliwala	Customer Satisfaction Questionnaire - for AEA contract for R&D programmes and Technical Services	Regular	43	-	458
ER	Peter Stephens	Increasing the Holiday entitlement: a further consultation	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	400	5,000	9,172
ESIU	Deirdre Taylor	Company Fuel Poverty Initiatives	Regular	9	-	1,419
ESIU	Jo Marvin	Domestic Fuels Inquiry	Regular	92	-	8,865
ESIU	Suhail Siddiqui	DTI Oil and Natural Gas Survey	Regular	87	-	9,207
ESIU	Joe Ewins	Electricity Generators Inquiry.	Regular	440	215,000	15,946
ESIU	Deirdre Taylor	Form A Crude Oil imports	Regular	96	-	980
ESIU	Deirdre Taylor	Form C: Prices paid by final consumers petroleum products	Regular	228	-	2,327
ESIU	Deirdre Taylor	Form D Net Sales Proceeds	Regular	9	-	184
ESIU	Deirdre Taylor	Generators Inquiry	Regular	88	-	5,653
ESIU	Jo Marvin	New Price Transparency Survey Domestic	Regular	6	578	578
ESIU	Jo Marvin	New Price Transparency Survey Industrial	Regular	100	-	9,636
ESIU	Deirdre Taylor	Price Transparency survey	Regular	52	-	4,245
ESIU	Deirdre Taylor	Producer Price Index	Regular	516	-	20,717
ESIU	Deirdre Taylor	Quarterly Fuels Inquiry	Regular	4,800	130,718	97,968
ESIU	Joe Ewins	Renewable Energy Statistics	Regular	90	70,010	1,227
ESIU	Joe Ewins	Survey of Coal Producers	Regular	108	-	2,286
ESIU	Joe Ewins	Survey of gas suppliers	Regular	196	-	3,348
ESIU	Joe Ewins	Survey of generators, distributors and suppliers of electricity	Regular	1,300	-	64,523
ESIU	Deirdre Taylor	Transparency of consumer energy prices - breakdown of consumers and consumption	Regular	26	-	1,670
ESIU	Deirdre Taylor	Weekly oil product prices	Regular	520	-	2,653
IES	Frances Pottier	Quarterly Inquiry of Projects in Progress (Probe)	Regular	10,000	215,000	317,475
IES	Frances Pottier	Quarterly enquiry of Activity for Construction and Allied Trades	Regular	48,000	328,000	2,019,090
IES	Frances Pottier	Monthly Inquiry of Contracts and New Orders	Regular	66,000	44,000	2,095,335
IES	Frances Pottier	Building Materials Inquiries	Regular	3,900	50,000	133,720
IES	Frances Pottier	Building and Civil Engineering Employment and Output Inquiry (DLO)	Regular	644	26,000	27,261
IES	Frances Pottier	Annual Minerals Raised Inquiry	Regular	1,340	-	86,688
IES	Frances Pottier	Annual Inquiry (also known as Small Firms Return)	Regular	171,000	206,000	2,746,260
INSS	Faisal Bachlani	Survey of IPs' views on Financial Regime	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	1,700	46	11,453
INSS	Faisal Bachlani	Survey of Creditors' views on Financial Regime	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	100	-	501
INSS	Caroline Burton	Stigma of Bankruptcy survey (Sole Proprietors)	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	7,000	3,931	44,150
INSS	Caroline Burton	Discharge Creditor Survey	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	2,500	1,435	5,509
INSS	Joseph Shaw	Complainants survey	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	50	300	260
INSS	Caroline Burton	BRO creditor survey	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	2,500	1,435	12,524
INSS	Joseph Shaw	IPs Survey (Dear IP)	Regular	1,700	340	4,854
INSS	Joseph Shaw	Insolvents Creditors Survey	Regular	300	-	927
INSS	Joseph Shaw	Insolvency Service Creditors survey	Regular	100	52	447
INSS	Joseph Shaw	Comments/Suggestions Card	Regular	50,000	3,600	80,300
INSS	Joseph Shaw	Business Confidence in Enforcement Regime (NoPs)	Regular	2,000	19,000	12,614
Legal services	Joseph Gee	legal D stakeholder survey	Regular	6	-	293
Legal services	Carl Warren, Director LRM	Client (satisfaction) survey	Regular	200	-	-
ONS	Tim Andrews	ITIS	Regular	9,000	-	689,000
OST TDST	Mary Lawrence	A review of the perspectives of the food chain industry and its key influencers	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	74	24,000	3,485
Other	Moritz Flockenhaus	Businesslink.gov.uk product testing	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	1,500	-	19,729
Other	Jon Elliott, Director of Inward Investment Operations, France	Aftercare Survey of 330 French Investors	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	430	21,000	1,897
Other	Moritz Flockenhaus	BusinessLink Impact Assessment	Regular	20	-	508
PATS	Nicki Curtis	Patent Searching Requirements Of UK Patent Agents	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	40	-	699
PATS	Geoff Court	Patents and Designs Journal customer survey	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	1,000	-	3,784
PATS	Chris Lewis	SME IP Awareness Baseline Survey	Regular	20,000	30,375	102,388
Project Work Team EBG/OSI	David Harris	PWT Questionnaire	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	120	-	-
RB	Tony Whitney	The Higher Education - Business and Community Interaction Survey	Regular	160	25,000	29,587
RB	Simon Bright	Knowledge Transfer Survey for Public Sector Research Establishments 2006/07	Regular	140	13,000	9,345
RB	Simon Bright	Annual survey on financial sustainability of PSREs during 2006/07	Regular	43	89,000	2,870
SBS	John Skinner	Survey of non-users of the Manufacturing Advisory Service	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	2,000	20,000	11,212
SBS	Ian Drummond	Study of regulation and small business growth.	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	1,150	-	39,712
SBS	Beatrice Parrish	Mas Evaluation Survey	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	2,000	100,000	17,502
SBS	John Skinner	Evaluation of the Manufacturing Advisory Service	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	5,000	56,000	42,921
SBS	Phillip Lacey	Customer satisfaction survey of suppliers using supply2.gov	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	2,500	-	14,748
SBS	Marianne Law	Assessing the effectiveness of different forms of support for women's enterprise	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	440	-	5,440
SBS	Helene Keller	United Kingdom Angel Groups Survey	Regular	30	-	-
SBS	Ian Drummond	Call off contract for focus groups on small business issues	Regular	108	-	8,609
SBS	John Skinner	Business Support Cross Product Monitoring Survey	Regular	4,000	60,000	37,315
SBS	Anne Clayton	Annual Small Business Survey	Regular	7,500	182,150	206,421
Strategic Policy Analysis	Natalia Chivite-Matthews	Development of research survey techniques to assess policy impact on businesses	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	50	49,415	181
SU	Angela Latta	MORI - Captains of Industry Survey 2005	Regular	132	14,850	5,203
TI	Jessica Rushworth	Impact Assessment of the Measurement for Innovators programme	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	400	32,078	5,135
TI	Mina Hatwal / Pera	Global Watch Service (GWS) Impact Assessment Survey includes Missions, ITPs, mission seminars & innovation service.	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	1,000	-	9,878
TI	Mi Andrew Culley x 3674	Companies' Experiences of Applying for R&D Tax Credits	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	60	-	10,512
TI	Mina Hatwal	Global Watch Service Impact Assessment Survey	Regular	1,000	20,938	10,310
UKTI	Heather Booth di Giovanni	Evaluation of specified trade support activities	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	300	35,000	1,124
UKTI	Heather Booth di Giovanni	Evaluation of International Trade Teams in English Regions including Passport	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	500	40,000	1,892
UKTI	Heather Booth di Giovanni	Evaluation of International Sector Group activities	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	300	35,000	1,130
UKTI	Heather Booth di Giovanni	Survey of non-user exporters	Regular	250	-	860
UKTI	Heather Booth di Giovanni	ITT Evaluation survey	Regular	6,000	-	22,884
UKTI	Heather Booth di Giovanni	ITT Evaluation survey	Regular	6,000	-	22,884
UKTI	Heather Booth di Giovanni	International Trade Support Performance Monitoring	Regular	5,000	72,000	17,772
UKTI	UKTI - IIG	Awareness tracking survey	Regular	1,000	-	9,933
UKTI IIG	Bal Dhoot	FCO Economic and Diplomatic Reporting	Ad-Hoc (One-off)	360	-	2,551
XNP	Terry Dance	CWC UK NATIONAL AUTHORITY CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY	Regular	383	-	2,702
Total				470,240	2,716,618	9,308,638

