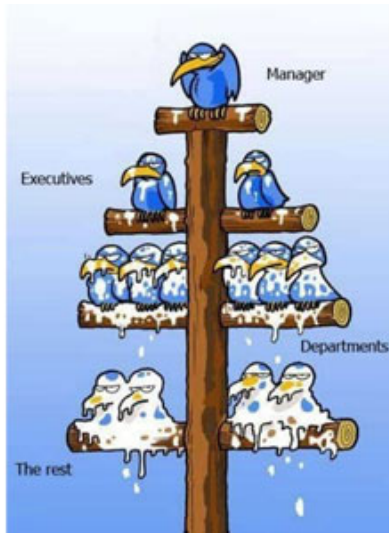


Knives are out in Government?

Written by PAG

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In these straitened times the government ask us to believe that they have savagely cut central departmental admin staff to the bare bones. They say they haven't simply targeted front line staff such as teachers and nurses - those who aren't in the corridors of power to argue their case to CEO's and ministers.

Of course it would be easier to believe this and trust our Government if they were brave enough to open up themselves to scrutiny through the passing of a Freedom of Information (Fol) Act. As ever, the encouraging noises on Fol from MHK candidates has reduced to a murmur post election.

Given this Fol free government zone, it is hard to detect what is really happening. We are only able to read between the lines of the odd report such as that below, where they can clearly afford giving up the single most important departments' Chief executive for six months at the drop of a hat. Can we really believe that they need such a vast army to support the reduced level of services they now offer when we read this news?

[Key government official seconded to Isle of Sark](#)