TAILORING O.R. TRAINING TO YOUR PRECISE NEEDS
On Thursday 10 March, eleven HMRC staff arrived at Seymour House to take advantage of a bespoke one-day training course on Data Mining

The hands-on bespoke data mining course

The one-day Data Mining course provided a sound mix of both theoretical insights and practical implementation, illustrated by several real-life cases. Course tutor David Martens arranged a highly interactive day which included a review of the most commonly used techniques for Data Mining (for example, decision trees and artificial neural networks) and provided a hands-on opportunity for delegates to discover opportunities for improved decision making at HMRC. A number of real-life case studies were used to illustrate the practical use of Data Mining software.

As always, delegates were asked to 'score' various aspects of the course on a scale from 1-10. Pleasingly, all delegates marked the key aspects of the course – 'learned a lot that was useful' and 'could understand the course' generously – with a mean score of 8.2 and 8.7 respectively. It was also evident that the tutor was highly regarded as the mean scores on 'the tutor was knowledgeable about the subject' and 'the tutor was approachable' were an almost perfect 9.5 and 9.6 respectively.

The open ended comments were also insightful: one said 'I thought it was very well organised and presented', and another felt it was 'A very useful overview of many different techniques'. Importantly, those attending also saw how their learning could be implemented: 'Very, very good – clear, concise, interesting and applicable in real-world applications' and 'Very interesting – can definitely envisage using the knowledge gained in future work'.

Need bespoke training?
Where an organisation needs to train several staff at the same time, a bespoke course may be advantageous and The OR Society is always willing to negotiate the provision of these courses. Please contact Jennie Phelps on 0121 234 7818 jennie.phelps@theorsociety.com to discuss your requirements.