

Presented pursuant to c. 3, s. 28 (4) of the Severn Bridges Act 1992,

Severn Bridges Act 1992 Account 2003-2004

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Foreword

Background information

The road across the Rivers Severn and Wye was opened to traffic on 9 September 1966. Under the Severn Bridge Tolls Act 1965 (the 1965 Act) the Secretary of State for Transport (formerly the Minister of Transport) had powers to levy tolls for the use of this road on a scale which would be sufficient, but not more than sufficient, over a period of 40 years from the date of opening to provide for the purposes defined in Schedule 2 of the 1965 Act.

With effect from 26 April 1992, the 1965 Act was repealed by the Severn Bridges Act 1992 (the 1992 Act). The 1992 Act gave the Secretary of State powers to procure, from private funds, the construction of a second tolled road crossing of the Severn Estuary, some 3 miles downstream of the existing crossing. It also provided for a new tolling regime to apply both at the existing crossing and, once opened, the second crossing.

The new tolling regime came into effect on 26 April 1992, the day appointed by the Secretary of State under the 1992 Act. On that date, a private concessionaire, Severn River Crossing plc (SRC), under a concession agreement with the Secretary of State, took over responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the existing crossing together with the design, construction and, when built, the operation and maintenance of the second crossing. In consideration SRC retains revenues from tolls during the concession period.

Section 6 (4) of the 1992 Act provides that the concession period will run for a maximum of 30 years from the appointed day. During that period, SRC will be responsible, inter alia, for levying tolls and for preparing annually a statement of accounts of revenue and costs associated therewith. These accounts are independently audited by a firm of chartered accountants, reviewed by the Agency, and, in accordance with Section 27 of the 1992 Act, laid before Parliament by the Secretary of State.

Under Section 5.1.1 of the concession agreement, the concession period will end when SRC achieve a required cumulative real revenue target of £995,830,000, expressed in July 1989 prices. The Agency reviews the projected concession end date every six months using data supplied by SRC. The Agency also obtains assurance on the cumulative level of tolls from the accounts published by SRC and independently audited.

On the 12 of September 2000, the European Court of Justice ruled that Value Added Tax (VAT) should be applied to tolls levied by private operators. The ruling included those undertakings operated by private companies under a PFI concession agreement with the Secretary of State.

VAT was applied to the Severn Bridges tolls on 1 February 2003. However, the Government gave a commitment to offset the cost of VAT and protect the motorist from the impact of the ruling. This has been done by re-financing the Severn River Crossings concession. Under the re-financing package, the concessionaire has been given the right to collect tolls for a longer period to fully compensate them for the loss of revenue. The result of this is that the concession period will be extended from a predicted June 2014 end date to sometime in early 2016. As part of the re-financing deal, the RCRR has risen from £976,837,740 to £995,830,000.

Also the subordinated loan interest, currently being reimbursed on a half yearly basis has been deferred and, with effect from 1 January 2003, the interest will be added to the consolidated fund and subsequently repaid at the end of the concession period.

All stakeholders, including the Bank of America and the European Investment Bank, have agreed to the refinancing scheme.

Accounts of the Secretary of State

Section 28 (1) (a) of the 1992 Act requires the Secretary of State to produce a statement of accounts in respect of the period beginning immediately after the period covered by the last statement of accounts prepared under the 1965 Act and ending immediately before the appointed day, i.e. for the period 1 April 1991 to 25 April 1992. Such a statement was published on 1 April 1993 [ISBN 0-10-260193-3] and was the final account to be drawn up in the manner in which accounts under section 21 of the 1965 Act had been prepared in the past.

Section 28 (1) (b) of the 1992 Act requires the Secretary of State subsequently to prepare a statement of accounts in respect of each financial year, or part thereof, falling within the period beginning with the appointed day and ending with the last day on which tolls may be levied. The first statement produced under Section 28 (1) (b) of the 1992 Act covered the period 26 April 1992 (the appointed day) to 31 March 1993.

Finance for the project is being provided by a number of banks and by debenture stockholders. Under the concession agreement, SRC assumed responsibility for £122m of the £126m outstanding debt on the existing bridge. Of this, £62m was paid by SRC on 26 April 1992, with the balance of £60m being subordinated to the facilities granted by the lending banks and to the rights of the stockholders under the terms of an Intercreditor Agreement until the end of the concession period. This debt is linked to the Retail Prices Index. Interest at a rate of 2.956% per half annum on the indexed amount is payable by SRC by equal half yearly instalments. This has now changed in line with the refinancing package as described above.

The remaining debt is the responsibility of the Secretary of State.

The accounts of the Secretary of State deal with subordinated debt, the balance of debt to the Consolidated Fund remaining the responsibility of the Secretary of State and any other expenditure arising on either the existing or the new bridge which does not fall to be met by SRC under the terms of the concession agreement. The account of the Secretary of State will record cumulative net costs to the Exchequer. The cumulative net costs at the end of the concession period are recoverable from tolls levied by the Secretary of State. Under Section 5 (4) of the 1992 Act the power to levy tolls will cease on 25 April 2027 or such earlier date as may be determined under Section 7 of the 1992 Act when the aggregate receipts accruing to the Secretary of State equal or exceed his expenditure for certain specified purposes including notional interest.

Expenditures shown in these accounts form part of Request for Resource 1, of the Department for Transport, for 2003-2004. Interest received on the Subordinated Debt also forms part of the Request for Resource 1. There are no cash flows through a discrete entity and thus there are no cash or bank balances to be recorded in these accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with a Direction given by the Treasury in pursuance of Section 28 (2) (a) of the 1992 Act. The direction is reproduced as an Appendix to the Accounts.

The accounts have been audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) under the Severn Bridges Act 1992. His opinion is expressed on pages 10 and 11.

Archie Robertson
The Highways Agency
Accounting Officer

30 November 2004

Statement of Secretary of State and Accounting Officer's responsibilities

Under Section 28 of the Severn Bridges Act 1992, the Secretary of State is required to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year in the form and on the basis directed by the Treasury. The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis and must present fairly the income and expenditure for the financial year and the assets and liabilities at year-end.

The Treasury have appointed an Accounting Officer for the account. His relevant responsibilities as Accounting Officer, including his responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances for which he is answerable and for the keeping of proper records, are set out in the Accounting Officers' Memorandum issued by the Treasury and published in 'Government Accounting' (TSO).

Statement on Internal Control

Scope of responsibility

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for maintaining a sound system of internal control that supports the achievement of the Highways Agency's policies, aims and objectives, whilst safeguarding the public funds and departmental assets for which I am personally responsible, in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to me in Government Accounting. This includes responsibility for transactions in respect of the Severn Bridges.

Ministers receive direct reports on risks to key initiatives, the outcome of key Gateway Reviews and other key risk areas as necessary. They receive reports on risks to delivery of Public Service Agreement Targets through the Department for Transport reporting system.

My staff work closely with their counterparts in the Department for Transport to ensure that risk management, planning and performance measurement systems are compatible, clear accountability for risk management is agreed, joint action is taken where appropriate to manage, transfer or tolerate risks, and the Department is kept informed of risks as appropriate.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of departmental policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in the Highways Agency for the year ended 31 March 2004 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts, and accords with Treasury guidance.

Capacity to handle risk

The Highways Agency Board, Directors, and other senior managers lead risk management in their commands, supported by a team of risk management co-ordinators led by a risk management adviser. This team develops and maintains procedures for risk management, and identifies and spreads good practice internally. Additionally the risk management adviser participates in benchmarking and information exchange with a wide range of public and private sector bodies.

Risk management guidance is available to all staff. The guidance explains the Agency's underlying approach to risk management, documents the roles and responsibilities of the Highways Agency Board (HAB), managers and staff, outlines key aspects of the risk management process and identifies the main reporting procedures.

Training in governance, internal control and risk management has been delivered to senior managers, and some operational staff have attended risk management awareness seminars.

The risk and control framework

The Highways Agency Board sets the Agency's risk appetite in line with that of the DfT Board. The risk appetite is set to ensure that all risks with high residual impact on the Agency's performance or stewardship of public funds or on the Agency's or the wider Government's reputation receive focussed management attention, that decisions to tolerate or treat risks are made on cost-justified grounds, and that where appropriate action is escalated through the line management chain to DfT and Ministers.

Priority is given to risks to achievement of the DfT's targets of reducing congestion and improving safety, and those to stewardship of public resources and assets.

Risk management is an integral part of the Agency's management and project planning procedures. Risks to successful delivery of the Agency's operational and control objectives are identified and evaluated by managers when formulating directorate and divisional management plans, by project sponsors when formulating project plans, and at strategic level by the Board.

As part of the routine risk reporting process staff and managers are required to identify new or increased risks and opportunities, for discussion and reporting to senior management and the Board. Risk is a standard agenda item in team meetings in many areas of the Agency. Key risks and their handling are included in Directorates' performance reporting arrangements.

Risks are reviewed, the effectiveness of risk treatments and their impact on residual risk are monitored, and changes identified and evaluated throughout the year, as part of routine management activity. Risk owners make quarterly stewardship reports on their handling of operational risk as part of the cycle of performance management and reporting. The Board allocates the management of strategic risks to nominated directors who report back as appropriate through the year.

Risks to public stakeholders arise from many aspects of the development and operation of the strategic highways network.

In developing new works, the public are involved in risk management through the statutory consultation process.

In operations, I and my senior staff regularly meet with stakeholder groups and consider their views on risks to their interests in these meetings.

Risk management informs a number of internal control processes designed to fulfil the following control objectives

- to ensure that the Agency has established (agreed) clear strategic direction, objectives and key targets in support of Government policies;
- to ensure regularity and propriety in the Agency's stewardship of public funds and other assets with due regard to accountability, probity and integrity;
- to ensure that the Agency delivers its services safely to time/cost/quality;
- to ensure that the quality of Agency projects and advice are effective, accurate and timely; and
- to ensure that HA people and procedures comply with relevant legal, government, departmental and technical standards and requirements.

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. My review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal auditors and the executive managers within the Agency who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework, and comments made by the external auditors in their management letter and other reports.

I have been advised on the implications of the result of my review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control by the Board and the Audit Committee. A plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

The Highways Agency Board (which comprises the senior members of the Agency and two independent non-executive directors) meets frequently to consider the plans, performance and strategic direction of the Agency, the most important risks to successful delivery of those plans and the Agency's stewardship of public assets.

The Audit Committee is made up of the two non-executive directors, one of whom chairs it, and three Highways Agency Board members. I, together with my Head of Internal Audit, and Representatives from the DfT and National Audit Office attend as observers. The independent chairman of the Audit Committee advises as appropriate on key risk and control issues.

My Head of Internal Audit provides regular reports on key risk and control issues, to standards defined in the Government Internal Audit Manual, and provides an annual independent opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Agency's system of internal control together with recommendations for improvement. The Head of Internal Audit's opinion for the year 2003-2004 is that on the basis of the evidence obtained during the year he can provide an overall assurance level as follows

- Risk Management - MEDIUM to HIGH;
- Risk Handling / Internal Control - MEDIUM to LOW; and
- Governance – MEDIUM.

This means that our governance and risk management arrangements, whilst open to some improvement, are broadly satisfactory, but significant work (some of which is outlined below) is necessary to bring risk handling and internal control up to a satisfactory standard.

Managers make regular reports on the steps they are taking to manage risks in their areas of responsibility including progress reports on key projects.

The following actions are in hand to accelerate improvements in areas where the control environment gives Medium to Low assurance

- Monthly Management Accounts have been developed;
- A monthly financial risk monitoring tool has been developed;
- The structure of the finance function is under review, with the aim of embedding financial control into the business;
- A system of top down monthly business reviews is being developed;
- A System of Stewardship reporting by senior managers is being introduced; and
- Improvements in the definition of our processes and internal controls and the guidance on how they are to be operated are being introduced.

Archie Robertson
Accounting Officer

30 November 2004

The Certificate and Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I certify that I have audited the financial statements on pages 10 to 15 under the Severn Bridges Act 1992. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 12.

Respective responsibilities of the Secretary of State and Accounting Officer and auditors

As described on page 4, the Secretary of State and Accounting Officer are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for ensuring the regularity of financial transactions. The Secretary of State and Accounting Officer are also responsible for the preparation of the contents of the Foreword. My responsibilities, as independent auditor, are established by statute and guided by the Auditing Practices Board and the auditing profession's ethical guidance.

I report my opinion as to whether the financial statements present fairly the assets and liabilities in relation to functions exercised under the Severn Bridges Act 1992 and are properly prepared in accordance with the Severn Bridges Act 1992 and Treasury directions made thereunder, and whether in all material respects the expenditure and income have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them. I also report if, in my opinion, the Foreword is not consistent with the financial statements, if the Highways Agency has not kept proper accounting records, or if I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

I read the other information contained in the Foreword, and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. I consider the implications for my certificate if I become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements.

I review whether the statement on pages 5 to 7 reflects the Highways Agency's compliance with Treasury's guidance on the Statement on Internal Control. I report if it does not meet the requirements specified by the Treasury, or if the statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information I am aware of from my audit of the financial statements. I am not required to consider, nor have I considered whether the Accounting Officer's Statement on Internal Control covers all risks and controls. I am also not required to form an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's corporate governance procedures or its risk and control procedures.

Basis of Audit Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts, disclosures and regularity of financial transactions included in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Secretary of State and Accounting Officer in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Severn Bridges' circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by error, or by fraud or other irregularity and that, in all material respects, the expenditure and income have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them. In forming my opinion I have also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In my opinion

- the financial statements present fairly the assets and liabilities in relation to functions exercised under the Severn Bridges Act 1992 as at 31 March 2004 and the income and expenditure for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Severn Bridges Act 1992 and directions made thereunder by the Treasury; and
- in all material respects the expenditure and income have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

I have no observations to make on these financial statements.

John Bourn
Comptroller and Auditor General

21 February 2005

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Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2004

	Notes	2003-2004 £000	2002-2003 £000
Expenditure			
Capital	3	642	244
Operations	4	146	173
Administration	5	288	477
Notional interest	6	10,260	9,940
		11,336	10,834
Income relating to subordinated debt			
Interest receivable		4,993	4,653
Indexation gain		2,416	1,163
		7,409	5,816
Deficit			
Deficit brought forward	10	79,583	74,565
Accumulated deficit carried forward		83,510	79,583

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these accounts.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 March 2004

	Notes	2003-2004 £000	2002-2003 £000
Assets			
Subordinated debt	7	81,118	78,702
Accumulated interest receivable	8	<u>6,169</u>	<u>1,176</u>
		87,287	79,878
Current liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(146)</u>	<u>(203)</u>
Net current assets/(liabilities)		(146)	(203)
		87,141	79,675
Accumulated deficit recoverable	10	83,510	79,583
Total net assets		170,651	159,258
Total due to the Consolidated Fund	11	(170,651)	(159,258)

Archie Robertson
The Highways Agency
Accounting Officer

30 November 2004

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these accounts

Notes to the Accounts

1 Statement of accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The Accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention on an accruals basis. An Accounts Direction has been given by HM Treasury and is reproduced in the Appendix.

b Notional interest

Notional Interest, calculated at National Loans Fund rates prescribed by HM Treasury, is charged on

- i The Subordinated Debt and the amount owed to the Consolidated Fund at the commencement of the concession;
- ii Balances derived from the receipt and payment transactions undertaken in the financial year;
- iii The annual deficits brought forward from previous years, as if each were financed by a term loan.

An interest rate direction has been given by HM Treasury and is also reproduced in the Appendix at page 17.

c Capital expenditure

Expenditure on capital items is charged to the Income and Expenditure Account in the year of acquisition, in order that the Accumulated Deficit fully represents the amount recoverable from tolling by the Secretary of State.

d Indexation of Subordinated Debt

Increases in the amount of the residual debt caused by the indexation clause of the Subordinated Debt agreement with the concessionaire are dealt with each year through the Income and Expenditure Account.

2 Claims

Claims by the concessionaires and contractors have arisen in the normal course of operation of the concession agreement. To the extent that it is judged that unmet claims may become payable, such amounts have been included as expenditures and accrued as current liabilities.

3 Capital expenditure

	Land	Freehold Structures	Plant and Machinery	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cumulative acquisitions written off as at 31 March 2003	9,931	4,799	122	14,852
Acquisitions in year	642	0	0	642
Cumulative acquisitions written off as at 31 March 2004	10,573	4,799	122	15,494

4 Operations

	2003-2004 £000	2002-2003 £000
Operations expenditure comprises		
Ancillary works; repairs and strengthening; and structural maintenance.	146	173
	146	173

5 Administration

	2003-2004	2002-2003
	£000	£000
Administration expenditures comprise		
Legal and professional costs	82	226
Consulting engineers	185	230
Audit fee	21	21
	288	477

6 Notional interest

	2003-2004	2002-2003
	£000	£000
<i>Notional interest on</i>		
Amount owed to Consolidated Fund at 26 April 1992	734	734
Subordinated Debt	5,625	5,625
Receipt and payment transactions	1	2
Accumulated annual deficits *	3,900	3,579
	10,260	9,940

* Interest is calculated based on the appropriate National Loans Fund maturity rate. For 2003-2004 the rate applied was 4.9% (2002-2003 4.8%).

7 Subordinated Debt

The Subordinated Debt is due from the concessionaire as part of the consideration for the concession agreement. The debt was assumed on 26 April 1992 for £60 million. It is indexed by reference to the Retail Price Index. Interest at a fixed rate of 2.956% per half annum on the indexed amount is payable on 30 June and 31 December. The debt is repayable when the concession is terminated or in other specified circumstances. The concessionaire may make earlier repayments subject to specified conditions, and in particular circumstances shall be relieved of the obligations to repay.

	2003-2004	2002-2003
	£000	£000
Opening balance	78,702	77,539
In year indexation	2,416	1,163
	81,118	78,702

8 Accumulated interest receivable

	2003-2004	2002-2003
	£000	£000
Opening balance	1,176	0
In year interest accrued	4,993	1,176
	6,169	1,176

With effect from 1 January 2003, interest receivable on the subordinated loan was added to the Accumulated Interest Amount in accordance with clause 4.1 of the Loan agreement. The concessionaire will pay the accumulated interest amount to the Secretary of State at the end of the concession period, currently predicted to be early 2016.

9 Creditors

	2003-2004	2002-2003
	£000	£000
Operations	126	99
Administration	15	103
Fixed assets	5	1
	146	203

10 Accumulated deficit

The Accumulated Deficit represents the cumulative net costs to the Exchequer which are recoverable from tolls levied by the Secretary of State during the period between the end of the concession period and the date on which the power to levy tolls will cease, being 25 April 2027 or such earlier date as may be determined under section 7 of the Severn Bridges Act 1992.

Comprises

	£000
Accumulated deficit at 1 April 2003	79,583
Deficit for the year	3,927
Accumulated deficit at 31 March 2004	83,510

11 Consolidated fund

	£000
Debt due to the consolidated fund at 1 April 2003	159,258
Notional interest	10,260
Notional audit fee	21
Net cash advances	1,112
Debt due to the Consolidated Fund at 31 March 2004	170,651

12 Contingent liabilities

In the event of default by the concessionaire the Highways Agency would have to assume responsibility for operating and maintaining both of the existing bridges. It is not practicable to estimate the potential net cost (if any) that would arise in such a situation.

13 Financial instruments

FRS13 'Derivatives and Other Financial Instruments' requires disclosure of the role, which financial instruments have had during the period in creating or changing the risks an entity faces in undertaking its activities. Because of the largely non-trading nature of its activities and the way in which government departments and agencies are financed, the Highways Agency is not exposed to the degree of financial risk faced by business entities. Moreover, financial instruments play a much more limited role in creating or changing risk that would be typical of the listed companies to which FRS13 mainly applies. The Highways Agency has limited powers to borrow or invest surplus funds and except for relatively insignificantly forward purchases of foreign currency, financial assets and liabilities are generated by day-to-day operational activities and are not held to change the risks facing the Highways Agency in undertaking its activities.

As permitted by FRS13, debtors and creditors which mature or become payable within 12 months from the balance sheet date have been omitted from the risk profile.

Liquidity risk

The capital, operation and administration costs of the Highways Agency are financed by resources voted annually by Parliament to the Department for Transport. The Highways Agency is not therefore exposed to significant liquidity risks.

Interest-rate risk

The financial asset carries a fixed rate of interest, therefore there is no exposure to interest rate risk.

Exchange-rate risk

The Highways Agency is not exposed to any significant exchange rate risk with regards to the Severn Bridges Act 1992 account.

Accounts Direction

The Treasury in pursuance of Section 28(2)(a) of the Severn Bridges Act 1992, hereby gives the following direction

- 1 The statement of accounts which it is the duty of the Secretary of State for Transport to prepare in respect of the year ended 31 March 1994 and in any subsequent financial year shall comprise
 - a a foreword which shall include
 - i a statement that the accounts have been prepared in accordance with a Direction given by the Treasury in pursuance of Section 28(2)(a) of the Severn Bridges Act 1992;
 - ii information on significant events during the period;
 - b an Income and Expenditure Account;
 - c a Statement of Assets and Liabilities; and

including in each case such notes as may be necessary to present fairly the income and expenditure for the period and the assets and liabilities at the end of the period in relation to functions under the Severn Bridges Act 1992. The statement of accounts shall disclose the total sum due to the Consolidated Fund as at 31 March 1994 and for any subsequent financial year.
- 2 The statement of accounts shall be prepared under the historical cost convention on an accruals basis and shall follow the format attached to this Direction although minor drafting changes may be made without seeking the approval of the Treasury.
- 3 Details of movements within the Consolidated Fund shall be disclosed by way of notes to the accounts.
- 4 The accounts prepared under the Severn Bridges Act 1992 shall observe all relevant accounting and disclosure requirements as given in 'Government Accounting' and in any disclosure and accounting requirements which the Treasury may issue from time to time.
- 5 This Accounts Direction (excluding the proforma accounts) shall be reproduced as an Appendix to the accounts.

F Martin

27 July 1994

Treasury Officer of Accounts

Rates of Interest Direction given by the Treasury

- 1 The Treasury directs that under Schedule 4 of the Severn Bridges Act 1992 the following rates of interest are applicable to the accounts for the period 26 April 1992 to 31 March 1993 which were prepared in accordance with Section 28 of the Severn Bridges Act 1992
 - a for subordinated debt and the opening balance due to the Consolidated Fund the average National Loans Fund ER 10 to 15 year interest rate; and
 - b the average National Loans Fund 1 year Maturity rate in respect of receipts and payments.
- 2 The Treasury directs that under Schedule 4 of the Severn Bridges Act 1992 the following rates of interest are to be applied to the accounts from 1 April 1993 onwards and are to be prepared in accordance with Section 28 of the Severn Bridges Act 1992
 - a for the subordinated debt and the amount owed to the Consolidated Fund at the commencement of the concession the National Loans Fund 25 year Maturity rate as at 26 April 1992. This rate is deemed to be fixed and unless altered by the Treasury is to remain as such for the duration of the concession;
 - b for receipt and payment transactions undertaken within a financial year the prevailing National Loans Fund 1 year maturity rate which is to be applied to each transaction when it takes place; and
 - c for the interest on the annual deficit carried forward the National Loans Fund Maturity rate as shown in the table below

Deficit for the Financial Period / Year	Carried forward to 1 April	National Loans Fund Maturity Rate as at 1 April fixed for the duration of the concession	Current National Fund Loans Banding
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1992-1993	1993	29 year rate	= over 25 year band
1993-1994	1994	28 year rate	= over 25 year band
1994-1995	1995	27 year rate	= over 25 year band
1995-1996	1996	26 year rate	= over 25 year band
1996-1997	1997	25 year rate	= over 25 year band
1997-1998	1998	24 year rate	= over 15 year band
1998-1999	1999	23 year rate	= over 15 year band
1999-2000	2000	22 year rate	= over 15 year band
2000-2001	2001	21 year rate	= over 15 year band
2001-2002	2002	20 year rate	= over 15 year band
2002-2003	2003	19 year rate	= over 15 year band
2003-2004	2004	18 year rate	= over 15 year band
2004-2005	2005	17 year rate	= over 15 year band
2005-2006	2006	16 year rate	= over 15 year band
2006-2007	2007	15 year rate	= over 15 year band
2007-2008	2008	14 year rate	= over 10 year band
2008-2009	2009	13 year rate	= over 10 year band
2009-2010	2010	12 year rate	= over 10 year band
2010-2011	2011	11 year rate	= over 10 year band
2011-2012	2012	10 year rate	= over 10 year band
2012-2013	2013	9 year rate	= over 9 year band
2013-2014	2014	8 year rate	= over 8 year band
2014-2015	2015	7 year rate	= over 7 year band
2015-2016	2016	6 year rate	= over 6 year band
2016-2017	2017	5 year rate	= over 5 year band
2017-2018	2018	4 year rate	= over 4 year band
2018-2019	2019	3 year rate	= over 3 year band
2019-2020	2020	2 year rate	= over 2 year band
2020-2021	2021/2022	1 year rate	= over 1 year band

The above rates are to be applied to the individual amounts of the annual deficits until such time as the concession is terminated or until the Treasury so directs.

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