
**Returning Officers' Expenses,
Northern Ireland**

**Statement of Accounts
2011-12**

Presented to the House of Commons pursuant to Section 7
of the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000

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Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 15 May 2013

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RETURNING OFFICER'S EXPENSES, NORTHERN IRELAND

FOREWORD

Background Information

1. These Accounts cover the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012 and is in a form directed by HM Treasury.
2. UK and European Parliamentary Elections are financed from the Consolidated Fund. Funding for the Northern Ireland Assembly Elections is provided to the Northern Ireland Office by the Northern Ireland Executive through agreed funding mechanisms. It is treated as non-voted from a budgeting perspective. The account includes payments for postal charges of absent votes and poll cards, use of premises as polling places, printing of election stationery and transportation. Funding for all elections is held in separate bank accounts from the departmental commercial bank accounts.
3. Responsibility for the setting and reimbursement of the fees and expenses of Returning Officers at UK and European Parliamentary Elections in Northern Ireland was transferred from HM Treasury to the Northern Ireland Office by the Transfer of Functions (Returning Officers' Charges) Order 1991 (S.I. 1991 No. 1728) on 22 August 1991.
4. Under section 29(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, as amended by paragraph 6(3) of Schedule 21 to the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, section 68 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 and regulation 16 of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004 as amended by the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 2009 a Returning Officer at a European Parliamentary election is entitled to recover his charges in respect of services rendered or expenses incurred. The European Parliamentary Elections (Returning Officer's Charges) (Northern Ireland) Order 2009 (S.I. 2009 No. 1143), the Parliamentary Elections (Returning Officer's Charges) (Northern Ireland) 2010 (S.I. 2010 No. 869) and the Northern Ireland Assembly Elections (Returning Officer's Charges) Order 2011 (S.I. 2011 No.473) which came into force on 1 May 2009, 16 March 2010 and 20 February 2011 set the overall maximum amount that the Returning Officer may recover in respect of services rendered or expenses incurred for the Electoral Region of Northern Ireland and each Constituency. Under the Returning Officer's Accounts (Parliamentary Elections) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1991, as applied to Assembly Elections by article 3(1) of, and Schedule 1 to, the Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections) Order 2001 and the Returning Officer's Accounts (European Parliamentary Elections) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1992, a Returning Officer must submit his account to the Northern Ireland Office within twelve months from the date on which the result of the election is announced. Provision for the cost of combined polls is included in the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011.

Review of Activities

5. During the period there were transactions in progress for the UK Parliamentary Elections held on 6 May 2010, the combined polls for the Northern Ireland Assembly Elections, Local Government Elections and Alternative Vote (AV) referendum held on 5 May 2011 and a UK Parliamentary By-Election for the Constituency of Belfast West held on 9 June 2011.
6. The cost of the combined polls (excluding any cost solely attributable to the Northern Ireland Assembly Elections, the Local Government Elections and the AV referendum) was apportioned, where applicable, between the three polls. The majority of expenditure for the combined polls was paid from the Northern Ireland Assembly and AV referendum funds and apportionment of costs recharged to the twenty-six District Councils.
7. Receipts in the account include advances made available from the Consolidated Fund or the Department of Finance and Personnel or the AV referendum.
8. Surrender was made from the Northern Ireland Assembly Elections Candidates Deposit account to the Consolidated Fund during 2011-12 of the deposit of £150 forfeited by fifty-six candidates as the total number of votes credited to each of them at any stage of the count did not exceed one quarter of the quota in each of their respective constituencies. The account was closed on 15 March 2012.
9. Surrender was made from the Parliamentary By-Election Belfast West Account to the Consolidated Fund during 2011-12 of the deposit of £500 forfeited by two candidates as the number of votes credited to each of them did not exceed one twentieth of the total valid votes polled.
10. The cost of candidates mailing expenses are funded separately from Returning Officer's Charges for all elections.

Statement of Accounting Officer's Responsibilities

11. The Northern Ireland Office is required to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year in respect of Returning Officer's Expenses in the form and on the basis directed by HM Treasury. The accounts are prepared on a cash basis and must properly present the receipts and payments for the financial year and the balances held at year end.
12. HM Treasury has appointed the Northern Ireland Office's Accounting Officer as the Accounting Officer for Returning Officer's Expenses (Northern Ireland). The relevant responsibilities as Accounting Officer, including the responsibility for propriety and regularity of the public finances for which the post holder is answerable and for the keeping of proper records, are set out in HM Treasury's *Managing Public Money* guidance.

Julian King
Accounting Officer

4 April 2013

Governance Statement 2011-12

1. Scope of Responsibility

The Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland (CEO) is an Independent Statutory Office Holder and is funded by the Northern Ireland Office (NIO). He is assisted by the staff of the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland (EONI), the administrative structure created to support him in the discharge of his duties. The funding covers the expenses incurred in performance of his statutory duties and the cost of the staff employed in the EONI. The cost of running UK and European Parliamentary elections is funded by HM Treasury. Funding for the Northern Ireland Assembly elections is provided to the NIO by the Northern Ireland Executive. Funding for all elections is held in separate bank accounts from the NIO commercial bank accounts. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland is accountable to Parliament for all expenditure by the CEO.

As Accounting Officer, I have personal responsibility for the robustness of the control and governance arrangements operated by the CEO. The Governance Statement outlines how I have discharged my responsibility to manage and control the resources made available to the CEO during the course of the year. This sound governance system, as outlined in this Statement supports the achievement of the CEO's and the wider NIO's policies, aims and objectives, whilst safeguarding public funds and Departmental assets in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to me in *Managing Public Money*.

I also have responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control operated by the CEO. My assessment of the effectiveness of the governance arrangements is informed by the work of the internal auditors, the CEO who has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework, managers within the Department who have sponsorship responsibility for the CEO, and comments made by the external auditors in their management letter and other reports. I am also advised on the CEO's system of internal control by the Departmental Audit and Risk Committee.

2. Purpose of Governance Framework

The CEO has agreed a Framework Document with the NIO which outlines the roles and responsibilities of each party, including the governance arrangements established in relation to the administrative and financial support provided by the NIO to the CEO. This Document was reviewed during the financial year and will be reviewed again not later than November 2014, but may be reviewed before then if necessary.

In addition, the CEO has internal governance policies and procedures designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; the CEO can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The CEO operates an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of his 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 Framework Document continued to be supported within the EONI by NIO Anti Fraud and Whistleblowing Policy, Guidance to Staff on Fraud and Whistleblowing /Fraud Awareness Leaflet, Gifts and Hospitality Policy, Risk Management Policy and Strategic Risk Register.

3. Management Board

The NIO Management Board has a corporate responsibility for setting objectives, agreeing priorities and implementing ministerial policy, including ensuring that the CEO discharges his statutory duties and complies with his governance responsibilities. The NIO Board also has responsibility for monitoring the CEO's financial performance and ensuring that he complies with key policies, such as those relating to risk management, information assurance and workforce planning.

Below the Departmental level, the CEO is supported by his own Management Board comprised of the senior EONI staff. Two trade union representatives are also invited to attend all meetings; the minutes of which are made available to all staff and on the EONI website. The Management Board, which meets monthly or more often as required, has corporate responsibility for the EONI Strategic Risk Register which is reviewed on a quarterly basis and more frequently when appropriate.

The EONI Board members play an important role in managing corporate governance and audit arrangements in accordance with the framework in place for promoting accountability and assurance. They are responsible for ensuring that adequate processes are in place within their business area to identify potential risks that should be considered for inclusion in the Risk Register.

In addition to taking all strategic business decisions, the EONI Board took as standing items the review of performance against targets and development objectives, finance, contracts and procurement, staffing issues, risk management and complaints. The equality and human rights aspects of any matter were considered by the EONI Board as part of the normal decision making process.

4. Board Assessment of Effectiveness

There were no significant changes to the composition or practices of the EONI Management Board during 2011-12. In October 2011, following a request from the NIO, the EONI Board agreed that a standing agenda item should be contracts and procurement to be monitored and discussed on a monthly basis.

The EONI Management Board demonstrated its effectiveness in monitoring performance against targets and objectives by the achievement of the five targets and fourteen development objectives set for the financial year.

5. Audit and Risk Committee

The EONI is not a public body, and because of its size it would not be appropriate for the CEO to be supported by an independent Audit and Risk Committee; however, the Departmental Audit and Risk Committee provided this advisory function to the Accounting Officer during 2011-12.

6. Internal Audit

During 2011-12, Internal Audit services were procured by the EONI under contract from a private sector firm operating to Government Internal Audit (GIA) Standards. The Head of Internal Audit (HIA) for the EONI is required to submit regular reports to the CEO and the NIO and significant internal control problems are reported to the Departmental Audit and Risk Committee.

In year, the Internal Audit service undertook planned audits of four areas agreed by the NIO and the EONI Management Board as suitable for detailed examination. In all of these areas, a satisfactory assurance rating was given. Twelve recommendations were made by the auditors which were considered by EONI. All recommendations were accepted and eight were implemented with immediate effect. The other four recommendations will be implemented at future elections. The status of Internal Audit recommendations is reported quarterly to the Management Board and NIO.

Towards the end of the financial year the EONI decided that in 2012-13 they would use the Internal Audit service provided by the Ministry of Justice.

7. Information Assurance

I am responsible for ensuring that information risks are assessed and mitigated to an acceptable level. Information is a key business asset for the EONI and it continues to make Information Assurance (IA) a priority.

In his role as Information Asset Owner, the CEO manages information assurance and risk across his organisation. Additionally, he attends the Security Managers' Forum, comprising of representatives from each of the NIO business areas and other sponsored bodies which meet annually. The purpose of this Forum is to improve and implement approved policies and guidance in relation to security and information assurance and to provide a mechanism for promoting and sharing best practice across the NIO and its Arms Length Bodies (ALBs).

I am satisfied that the CEO has implemented the necessary internal controls and measures, policies and training to ensure that the EONI continued to comply with Government standards.

8. Stewardship Statements

The CEO and sponsor team deputy Director sign stewardship statements biannually, providing assurance to the Accounting Officer as to governance, risk management and operation of internal controls. In addition to relying on these assurances, during 2011-12, quarterly governance meetings were held with the NIO to monitor and manage risks and safeguard the effectiveness of corporate governance processes within EONI.

I am satisfied that the statements presented by the sponsor team deputy Director and the CEO provide me with an appropriate level of assurance.

9. Risk Assessment

As Accounting Officer, I acknowledge my overall responsibility for the effective management of risk within the NIO and its sponsored bodies. In meeting this responsibility, I am supported by the NIO Management Board and the Departmental Audit and Risk Committee. The NIO Board owns and maintains the Departmental risk register, which sets out the key strategic risks facing the wider Department and the controls in place to manage these risks, and reviewed this document on a quarterly basis. The register is also provided to the Departmental Audit and Risk Committee for periodic review who also receives a regular update on the NIO's sponsored bodies.

Registers that identify, assess, and set out mitigating actions to significant risks, are in place across the NIO and its ALBs, including the EONI. The senior risk owner within the EONI is the CEO who delegates accountability for risk management to his senior managers who are responsible for personally addressing the risks in their respective

business area. The EONI Management Board members also play a crucial role in ensuring that risk-related issues are properly addressed when plans and policies are being prepared or revised in their business area. The EONI strategic risk register is regularly submitted to the Department's Corporate Governance Unit who in turn reports any significant risks to the Departmental Audit and Risk Committee.

During the financial year, I received assurance first hand through discussions with NIO staff in the relevant sponsor team and Corporate Governance Unit and through sight of submissions and other documentation setting out advice and guidance to ministers and senior officials. I also received assurance through written stewardship statements provided by the sponsoring deputy Director and the CEO.

10. Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control within the NIO and its sponsored bodies. The CEO's system of internal control is based on a framework of regular management information, financial regulations, administrative procedures including segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability.

For the period 2011-12, I am able to report that there were no significant weaknesses in CEO's system of internal controls which affected the achievement of the EONI's objectives, the CEO's statutory duties or the Department's key policies, aims and objectives. In addition, I am satisfied that the CEO exercised control over the election expenses through detailed review of expenditure.

Julian King
Accounting Officer

4 April 2013

Returning Officer's Expenses, Northern Ireland 2011-12

THE CERTIFICATE AND REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

I certify that I have audited the Returning Officer's Expenses, Northern Ireland financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2012 under the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000. These comprise the Receipts and Payments Account and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out within them.

Respective responsibilities of the Accounting Officer and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Accounting Officer's Responsibilities, the Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 and HM Treasury directions made thereunder. My responsibility is to audit, certify and report on the financial statements in accordance with the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000. I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me and my staff to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances relevant to the Returning Officer's Expenses, Northern Ireland account and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Accounting Officer in preparing that account; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In addition I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Foreword and Governance Statement to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my certificate.

In addition, I am required to obtain evidence sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the receipts and payments reported in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Opinion on Regularity

In my opinion, in all material respects the receipts and payments have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Opinion on financial statements

In my opinion:

- the financial statements properly present the receipts and payments of the Northern Ireland Returning Officer for the year ending 31st March 2012; and

- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 and HM Treasury directions issued there under.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion:

- the information given in the Foreword for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters for which I report by exception

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters which I report to you if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records or returns; or
- I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit; or
- the Governance Statement does not reflect compliance with HM Treasury's guidance.

Report

I have no observations to make on these financial statements.

Amyas C E Morse
Comptroller and Auditor General

18 April 2013

National Audit Office
157-197 Buckingham Palace Road
Victoria
London SW1W 9SP

**RETURNING OFFICER'S EXPENSES – NORTHERN IRELAND
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012**

	Note	2011-12		2010-11	
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Advances from the Consolidated Fund		3,191,640		2,982,949	
Candidates Deposits		21,000		69,200	
Other Receipts		<u>1,722,803</u>		<u>40,234</u>	
	2		4,935,443		3,092,383
Payments					
Constituency Claims	3	1,922,583		2,151,361	
Other Payments - includes Candidates Mailing	4	<u>3,066,118</u>		<u>738,811</u>	
	5		<u>4,988,701</u>		<u>2,890,172</u>
Excess of (payments over receipts)/ receipts over payments before amounts to be surrendered to the Consolidated Fund			(53,258)		202,211
Less: amounts surrendered to the Consolidated Fund in respect of:					
Forfeited Deposits	6	9,400		14,500	
Surplus Advances	6	<u>-</u>		<u>11,558</u>	
			<u>(9,400)</u>		<u>(26,058)</u>
Excess of (payments over receipts)/ receipts over payments			<u>(62,658)</u>		<u>176,153</u>

Statement of Balances as at 31 March 2012

Balance at 1 April 2011		188,700		12,547
Less: Excess of (payments over receipts)/ receipts over payments			<u>(62,658)</u>	<u>176,153</u>
Balance at 31 March 2012	7		<u>126,042</u>	<u>188,700</u>

The notes on pages 10-14 form part of these accounts

**Julian King
Accounting Officer**

4 April 2013

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNT

1 These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the accounts direction issued by HM Treasury dated 19 February 2007.

	2011-12 £	2010-11 £
2 Receipts		
Advances from the Consolidated Fund (EONI)	191,640	2,075,000
Advances from the Consolidated Fund (EONI) for Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011	3,000,000	200,000
Advances from the Consolidated Fund paid via NIO No 1 Account	-	707,949
Transfer of funds from AV referendum Account to Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011 Account to cover shared expenditure	1,588,280	-
Income from District Councils for hire of Ballot Boxes and Polling Screens	8,487	-
Deposits Income – Parliamentary Elections 2010	-	54,500
Deposits Income – Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011	18,000	14,700
Deposits Income – Parliamentary By-Election Belfast West 2011	3,000	-
Recharges from Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011 Account to Parliamentary Elections 2010 Account	-	15,619
Recharge from Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011 Account to Parliamentary By-Election Belfast West 2011 Account	76	-
Recharges from Parliamentary By-Election Belfast West 2011 Account to Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011 Account	86,576	-
Miscellaneous Receipts	39,384	24,615
	<u>4,935,443</u>	<u>3,092,383</u>
3 Constituency claims: Payments to the Returning Officer		
Advances	-	-
Final Payments	1,922,583	2,151,361
	<u>1,922,583</u>	<u>2,151,361</u>
4 Other Payments		
Candidates Mailing European Parliamentary Elections 2009	-	25,000
Candidates Mailing Parliamentary Elections 2010	-	682,949
Candidates Mailing Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011	1,034,993	-
Candidates Mailing Parliamentary By-Election Belfast West 2011	31,847	-
Miscellaneous	108,221	30,862
Share of payments on behalf of 2011 Combined Polls	1,891,057	-
	<u>3,066,118</u>	<u>738,811</u>
5 Expenditure Analysed by Election		
European Parliamentary Elections 2009	-	26,437
Parliamentary Elections 2010 (see note 8)	38,487	2,792,590
Parliamentary Elections 2010 Account – expenses incurred on behalf of Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011	-	15,619
Anticipated Parliamentary Election 2007 nugatory expenses	-	9,201
Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011 (see note 9)	2,889,389	46,325
Parliamentary By-Election Belfast West 2011 (see note 10)	169,768	-
Cost of Local Government 2011 Combined Polls	836,741	-
Cost of AV referendum 2011 Combined Polls	1,054,316	-
	<u>4,988,701</u>	<u>2,890,172</u>

	2011-12 £	2010-11 £
6 Surrenders to Consolidated Fund		
European Parliamentary Elections 2009	-	11,558
Forfeited Deposits - Parliamentary Elections 2010	-	14,500
Forfeited Deposits - Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011	8,400	-
Forfeited Deposits - Parliamentary By-Election Belfast West 2011	1,000	-
	<u>9,400</u>	<u>26,058</u>
7 Statement of Balances		
Cash at Bank - European Parliamentary Elections 2009 Account	-	-
Cash at Bank - Parliamentary Elections 2010 Account	6,176	20,325
Cash at Bank - Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011 Account	119,865	153,675
Cash at Bank - Northern Ireland Assembly Deposits 2011 Account	-	14,700
Cash at Bank - Parliamentary By- Election Belfast West 2011 Account	1	-
	<u>126,042</u>	<u>188,700</u>

8 Parliamentary Elections 2010 Expenditure by Constituency

Constituency	Maximum Cumulative		Actual	Actual
	£	£	2011-12	2010-11
Belfast East	122,500	95,312	1,802	93,510
Belfast North	138,000	118,466	2,115	116,351
Belfast South	118,500	113,857	1,991	111,866
Belfast West	130,000	113,067	1,987	111,080
East Antrim	130,000	111,134	2,089	109,045
East Londonderry	141,000	112,572	2,424	110,148
Fermanagh and South Tyrone	160,000	143,156	2,500	140,656
Foyle	143,000	112,783	2,419	110,364
Lagan Valley	136,500	97,511	2,061	95,450
Mid Ulster	148,500	115,790	2,406	113,384
Newry and Armagh	160,000	104,825	2,024	102,801
North Antrim	161,500	129,198	2,457	126,741
North Down	116,500	90,525	1,780	88,745
South Antrim	129,500	112,840	2,109	110,731
South Down	148,500	101,683	2,082	99,601
Strangford	118,500	90,898	1,780	89,118
Upper Bann	152,500	99,915	2,003	97,912
West Tyrone	<u>145,000</u>	<u>129,700</u>	<u>2,458</u>	<u>127,242</u>
	<u>2,500,000</u>	<u>1,993,232</u>	<u>38,487</u>	<u>1,954,745</u>

This note discloses the total payments made during 2011-12 relating to the Parliamentary Elections 2010 as well as the cumulative amount paid compared to the maximum amount that could have been paid. Whilst the majority of payments were made in 2010-11, further payments were made during this year and final payments will be made during the 2012-13 year.

9 Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011 Expenditure by Constituency

Constituency	Maximum	Cumulative	Actual 2011-12	Actual 2010-11
	£	£	£	£
Belfast East	162,000	96,671	94,981	1,690
Belfast North	182,000	101,023	97,761	3,262
Belfast South	156,500	125,543	122,486	3,057
Belfast West	171,500	111,353	108,296	3,057
East Antrim	171,500	103,814	100,552	3,262
East Londonderry	186,000	100,383	97,898	2,485
Fermanagh and South Tyrone	211,000	100,689	97,669	3,020
Foyle	189,000	92,796	90,311	2,485
Lagan Valley	180,000	87,995	86,360	1,635
Mid Ulster	196,000	95,510	91,478	4,032
Newry and Armagh	211,000	95,143	93,634	1,509
North Antrim	213,000	100,067	96,035	4,032
North Down	154,000	90,561	88,871	1,690
South Antrim	171,000	87,193	83,931	3,262
South Down	196,000	92,728	91,093	1,635
Strangford	156,500	78,343	76,653	1,690
Upper Bann	201,500	95,282	93,811	1,471
West Tyrone	<u>191,500</u>	<u>97,101</u>	<u>94,050</u>	<u>3,051</u>
	<u>3,300,000</u>	<u>1,752,195</u>	<u>1,705,870</u>	<u>46,325</u>

This note discloses the total payments made during 2011-12 relating to the Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011 as well as the cumulative amount paid compared to the maximum amount that could have been paid. Whilst the majority of payments were made this year, further payments will be made during the 2012-13 year. In addition to the amounts disclosed above, the following payments related to these Elections have been made. Because of their nature these payments have not been categorised against a particular constituency.

Candidates Mailing	1,034,993
Northern Ireland Assembly Deposits 2011 Account	24,665
Other	36,419
Expenses incurred on behalf of Parliamentary By-Election Belfast West	87,442
Total Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011 Payments (see note 5)	<u>2,889,389</u>

10 Parliamentary By-Election 2011 Expenditure

Constituency	Maximum	Actual 2011-12
	£	£
Belfast West	130,000	135,845

The actual figures above reflect payments made for this By-Election during the year (see note 5). Additional costs were incurred above maximum recoverable to ensure that the count centre satisfied the Police Service of Northern Ireland security requirements. Final payments will be made during the 2012-13 year.

Candidates Mailing	31,847
Candidates Deposits	2,000
Expenses incurred on behalf of Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2011	76
Total Parliamentary By-Election Belfast West 2011 Payments (see note 5)	<u>169,768</u>

11 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland (CEO) is an Independent Statutory Office Holder appointed under section 8 of the Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006. He is supported in the performance of his duties by staff appointed under provision of the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962. These staff are referred to collectively as 'The Electoral Office for Northern Ireland' (EONI).

During the year, transactions were conducted with the Consolidated Fund as described in the accounts, as provided for by the funding arrangements for election expenses.

In addition, neither the CEO nor the EONI had any material transactions with other entities which, for reporting purposes, are regarded as related parties.

None of the key managerial staff or other related parties had undertaken any material transactions with the CEO or the EONI during the year



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