
Main Supply Estimate 2011-12

for the year ending 31 March 2012

Supply Estimates

The Electoral Commission

Presented by the Speaker on behalf of the Speaker's Committee
pursuant to Paragraph 14(5) of Schedule 1 to the Political Parties,
Elections and Referendums Act 2000

Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed
29 June 2011

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Introduction

Paragraph 14 of Schedule 1 to the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 requires the Electoral Commission to submit to the Speaker's Committee each financial year an estimate of the Commission's income and expenditure. After concluding its examination and making modifications (if any) to the Estimate the Speaker's Committee shall lay the Estimate before the House of Commons.

Supply Estimates are the means by which the Electoral Commission seeks authority from Parliament for its spending each year. The Main Estimate starts the process and is presented to Parliament around the start of the financial year to which it relates.

This Main Estimate is presented in both resource and cash terms.

**Main Estimate
Part I**

The Estimate is structured as follows—

Part I of the Estimate contains the net provision sought (i.e. the amount of expenditure in resource and capital terms by budgetary category and the net cash requirement) for the coming financial year; a formal description of the services to be financed from each budget boundary and any income to be retained (known as the *Ambit*); who will account for the Estimate; and any resources and cash which have already been allocated in the Vote on Account.

Part II

Part II sets out in a tabular matrix format the resources required. Each of the columns numbered 1 to 11 is expressed in accruals terms.

Columns 1 to 6 fall within the Resource Budget. Columns 1 and 4 show direct gross resource expenditure and include amounts in respect of the current consumption of assets but do not include the amounts associated with the acquisition of assets. Columns 2 and 5 show income that may be used to offset gross resource expenditure and are deducted from the amounts in columns 1 and 4 to give a net total amount (columns 3 and 6).

Columns 7 and 8 show the capital (i.e. non-resource) elements of the Estimate. Column 7 shows capital acquisitions and column 8 shows any income related to capital expenditure, such as income from the disposal of fixed assets. Column 9 gives the net total capital.

The final two columns of the table show the net total resource and capital provision for the previous year. These figures are for comparative purposes and are adjusted as far as possible to be consistent with the structure for the coming year.

A detailed explanation of the reconciliation between the net resource total and the net cash requirement, which includes capital expenditure, removes any non-cash items, adjusts for Non Departmental Public Bodies, reflects movements in working balances and removes non-voted budget items, is shown in the second section of Part II.

Part III	Part III shows the Forecast Operating Cost Statement and reconciliation table, any income received to offset gross spending, any extra income and receipts payable to the Consolidated Fund and details of the Accounting Officer's responsibilities.
Income	The source of all types of income, both resource and capital, is explained in Part I and analysed in a Note to the Estimate
2011-12 Main Estimates	The 2011-12 Main Estimates are presented in six booklets. This booklet covers the Main Estimate for the Electoral Commission. Five separate booklets are being presented to Parliament for the main central government departments, The House of Commons (Administration), the National Audit Office, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, and The Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority
Parliamentary Procedure	Full details of Parliamentary procedure for the voting of resources are given in the Main Estimate booklet for central government departments (HC 921) presented on 26 April 2011.

The Electoral Commission

Part I

	Voted	Non-Voted	Total
Departmental Expenditure Limit			
Resource	20,880,000	100,181,000	121,061,000
Capital	420,000	—	420,000
Annually Managed Expenditure			
Resource	–100,000	—	–100,000
Capital	—	—	—
Total Net Budget			
Resource	20,780,000	100,181,000	120,961,000
Capital	420,000	—	420,000
Non Budget Expenditure	—	—	—
Net Cash requirement	20,250,000	—	—

Amounts required for the year ending 31 March 2012 for expenditure by the Electoral Commission on:

Departmental Expenditure Limit:

Expenditure arising from: registration of political parties, recognised third parties and permitted participants; regulation and reporting of the income and expenditure of political parties, candidates, third parties and permitted participants; making grants to eligible parties for policy development; reviewing and advising on the administration and law of elections and encouraging best practice; providing guidance, and reporting, on the conduct of elections and referendums; determining standards of performance for those administering electoral registration, elections and referendums, and collecting information in relation to those standards and to expenditure on elections etc; conducting certain referendums and promoting public awareness of electoral systems.

Income arising from: registration and re-registration of political parties

Annually Managed Expenditure:

Expenditure arising from: provisions for early departures, pension and tax and national insurance on benefits in kind.

The Electoral Commission will account for this Estimate.

	Voted Total	Allocated in Vote on Account	Balance to complete or Surrender
Departmental Expenditure Limit			
Resource	20,880,000	10,593,000	10,287,000
Capital	420,000	300,000	120,000
Annually Managed Expenditure			
Resource	-100,000	—	-100,000
Capital	—	—	—
Non Budget Expenditure	—	—	—
Net Cash requirement	20,250,000	10,684,000	9,566,000

Part II: Subhead detail

£'000

2011-12 Plans									2010-11 Provisions	
Resources						Capital			Resources	Capital
Gross 1	Administration Income 2	Net 3	Gross 4	Programme Income 5	Net 6	Gross 7	Income 8	Net 9	Net 10	Net 11
Spending in Departmental Expenditure Limits (DEL)										
Voted expenditure										
–	–	–	20,906	–26	20,880	420	–	420	23,056	1,686
<i>Of which:</i>										
A Electoral Commission										
–	–	–	20,906	–26	20,880	420	–	420	23,056	1,686
Non-voted expenditure										
–	–	–	100,181	–	100,181	–	–	–	–	–
<i>Of which:</i>										
B Referendum Funding										
–	–	–	100,058	–	100,058	–	–	–	–	–
C Commissioners fees										
–	–	–	123	–	123	–	–	–	–	–
Total Spending in DEL										
–	–	–	121,087	–26	121,061	420	–	420	23,056	1,686
Spending in Annually Managed Expenditure (AME)										
Voted expenditure										
–	–	–	–100	–	–100	–	–	–	–200	–
<i>Of which:</i>										
D AME Expenditure										
–	–	–	–100	–	–100	–	–	–	–200	–
Total Spending in AME										
–	–	–	–100	–	–100	–	–	–	–200	–
Total for Estimate										
–	–	–	120,987	–26	120,961	420	–	420	22,856	1,686
<i>Of which:</i>										
Voted expenditure										
–	–	–	20,806	–26	20,780	420	–	420	22,856	1,686
Non-voted expenditure										
–	–	–	100,181	–	100,181	–	–	–	–	–

Part II: Resource to cash reconciliation

	£'000		
	2011-12 Plans	2010-11 Provisions	2009-10 Outturn
Net Resource Requirement	120,961	22,856	22,672
Net Capital Requirement	420	1,686	770
Accruals to cash adjustments	-950	-800	-665
<i>Of which:</i>			
<i>Adjustments to remove non-cash items:</i>			
Depreciation	-900	-650	-667
New provisions and adjustments to previous provisions	-	-	16
Departmental Unallocated Provision	-	-	-
Supported capital expenditure (revenue)	-	-	-
Prior Period Adjustments	-	-	-
Other non-cash items	-150	-150	-60
<i>Adjustments for NDPBs:</i>	-	-	-
Remove voted resource and capital	-	-	-
Add cash grant-in-aid	-	-	-
<i>Adjustments to reflect movements in working balances:</i>	-	-	-
Increase (+) / Decrease (-) in stock	-	-	-
Increase (+) / Decrease (-) in debtors	-	-	103
Increase (-) / Decrease (+) in creditors	-	-200	-166
Use of provisions	100	200	109
Removal of non-voted budget items	-100,181	-	-
<i>Of which:</i>			
Consolidated Fund Standing Services	-100,181	-	-
Other Adjustments	-	-	-
Net Cash Requirement	20,250	23,742	22,777

Part III: Note A – Forecast Operating Cost Statement & Reconciliation Table

	£'000		
	2011-12 Plans	2010-11 Provisions	2009-10 Outturn
Gross Administration Costs	–	–	–
<i>Less:</i>			
Administration DEL Income	–	–	–
Net Administration Costs	–	–	–
Gross Programme Costs	120,987	22,882	22,690
<i>Less:</i>			
Programme DEL Income	–26	–26	–18
Programme AME Income	–	–	–
Non-budget income	–	–	–
Net Programme Costs	120,961	22,856	22,672
Total Net Operating Costs	120,961	22,856	22,672
<i>Of which:</i>			
Resource DEL	120,961	22,856	22,672
Capital DEL	–	–	–
Resource AME	–	–	–
Capital AME	–	–	–
Non-budget	–	–	–
<i>Adjustments to include:</i>			
Departmental Unallocated Provision (resource)	–	–	–
Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts in the budget but not in the OCS	–	–	–
<i>Adjustments to remove:</i>			
Capital in the OCS	–	–	–
Non-budget Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts in the OCS	–	–	–
Other adjustments	–	–	–
Total Resource Budget	120,961	22,856	22,672
<i>Of which:</i>			
Resource DEL	120,061	23,056	22,781
Resource AME	–100	–200	–109
<i>Adjustments to remove:</i>			
Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts in the resource budget	–	–	–
Other adjustments	–	–	–
Total Resource (Estimate)	120,961	22,856	22,672

Part III: Note B – Analysis of Income

	£'000		
	2011-12 Plans	2010-11 Provisions	2009-10 Outturn
Voted Resource DEL	-26	-26	-18
<i>Of which:</i>			
Programme	-	-	-
Sale of goods and services	-26	-26	-18
<i>Of which:</i>			
Section A: Electoral Commission	-26	-26	-18
Total Voted Resource Income	-26	-26	-18

Part III: Note C - Analysis of Consolidated Fund Extra Receipts

No CFER income or receipts are expected in 2011-12, 2010-11 or 2009-10.

Part III: Note D - Explanation of Accounting Officer responsibilities

The Accounting Officer prepares resource accounts for each financial year.

The Speakers' Committee has appointed The Chief Executive of the Commission, as Accounting Officer of the Electoral Commission.

The Chief Executive has personal responsibility for the proper presentation of the Electoral Commission's resource accounts and their transmission to the Comptroller & Auditor General, and is also responsible for the use of public money and stewardship of assets.

In discharging these responsibilities, particular regard is given to:

- observing any accounting and disclosure requirements (including any Accounts Direction) and applying suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis;
- making judgements and estimates on a reasonable basis;
- stating whether applicable accounting standards, as set out in the Financial Reporting Manual (FReM), or an organisation's version of it, have been followed, and explain any material departures in the accounts; and
- preparing the accounts on a going concern basis.

The responsibilities of an Accounting Officer, including responsibility for regularity and propriety of the public finances for which an Accounting Officer is answerable, for keeping proper records and safeguarding assets, are also set out in Chapter 3 of *Managing Public Money*.



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