

**NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE TRUST**

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

**Northern Ireland Ambulance Service
Health and Social Care Trust**

Annual Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2012

Laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly
under Article 90(5) of the Health and Personal Social Services (NI) Order 1972
(as amended by the Audit and Accountability Order 2003)
by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

on

28th June 2012

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Any enquiries regarding this document should be addressed to the Director of Finance at the following address: Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust, Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast BT8 8SG.

This publication is also available for download from our website at www.niamb.co.uk.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

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NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

FOREWORD

These accounts for the year ended 31 March 2012 have been prepared in accordance with Article 90(2)(a) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972, as amended by Article 6 of the Audit and Accountability (Northern Ireland) Order 2003, in a form directed by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (as amended by Article 6 of the Audit and Accountability (Northern Ireland) Order 2003), the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety has directed the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust to prepare for each financial year a statement of accounts in the form and on the basis set out in the Accounts Direction. The financial statements are prepared on an accruals basis and must provide a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust, of its income and expenditure, changes in taxpayers equity and cash flows for the financial year.

In preparing the financial statements the Accounting Officer is required to comply with the requirements of the Government Financial Reporting Manual (FREM) and in particular to:

- observe the Accounts Direction issued by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety including relevant accounting and disclosure requirements, and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis;
- make judgements and estimates on a reasonable basis;
- state whether applicable accounting standards as set out in FREM have been followed, and disclose and explain any material departures in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust will continue in operation;
- keep proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust; and
- pursue and demonstrate value for money in the services the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust provides and in its use of public assets and the resources it controls.

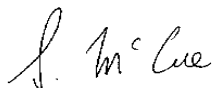
The Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety as Accounting Officer for health and personal social services resources in Northern Ireland has designated Mr L McIvor of the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust as the Accounting Officer for the Trust. The responsibilities of an Accounting Officer, including responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances for which the Accounting Officer is answerable, for keeping proper records and for safeguarding the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust's assets, are set out in the Accountable Officer Memorandum, issued by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

CERTIFICATES OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

I certify that the annual accounts set out in the financial statements and notes to the accounts (pages 16 to 62) which I am required to prepare on behalf of the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust have been compiled from and are in accordance with the accounts and financial records maintained by the Trust and with the accounting standards and policies for HSC bodies approved by the DHSSPS.



.....Director of Finance

14 June 2012

.....Date

I certify that the annual accounts set out in the financial statements and notes to the accounts (page 16 to 62) as prepared in accordance with the above requirements have been submitted to and duly approved by the Board.



.....Chairman

14 June 2012

.....Date



.....Chief Executive

14 June 2012

.....Date

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2011/12

Scope of Responsibility

The Board of the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust (NIAS) is accountable for internal control. As Accounting Officer and Chief Executive of the Board, I have responsibility for maintaining a sound system of internal control that supports the achievement of the organisation's policies, aims and objectives, whilst safeguarding the public funds and assets for which I am responsible in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to me by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS).

In essence, the role of Accounting Officer is to see that the Trust carries out the following functions in a way that ensures the proper stewardship of public money and assets:

- To enter into and fulfil service level agreements with health and social care commissioners;
- To meet statutory financial duties; and
- To maintain and develop relationships with patients, the local community, commissioners, other HSC bodies and suppliers.

The Trust is directly accountable to the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) for the performance of these functions.

The Trust works in partnership with the DHSSPS, Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) and the Public Health Agency (PHA) through groups such as the Performance Management and Service Improvement team at HSCB. The Trust also works closely with other partner organisations through the establishment and representation on various working groups, for example local ambulance liaison groups. These arrangements continue to be reviewed and updated in response to changes in the structure of Health and Social Care across Northern Ireland.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than 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 organisational policies, aims and objectives; and
- 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 Trust for the year ended 31 March 2012 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts and accords with Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety guidance.

The Board exercises strategic control over the operation of the organisation through a system of corporate governance which includes:

- a schedule of matters reserved for Board decisions;
- a scheme of delegation, which delegates decision making authority within set parameters to the Chief Executive and other officers; and
- standing orders and standing financial instructions, including the establishment of an audit committee, an assurance committee and a remuneration committee.

The system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular financial information, administrative procedures including the segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular it includes:

- comprehensive budgeting systems with an annual budget which is reviewed and agreed by the Board;
- regular reviews by the Board of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against the forecast;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performances;
- clearly defined capital investment control guidelines; and
- as appropriate, formal budget management disciplines.

The Trust has an internal audit function which operates to defined standards and whose work is informed by an analysis of risk to which the Trust is exposed. Annual audit plans are based on this analysis. In 2011/12 Internal Audit reviewed the following systems:

Audit Assignment	Overall Level of Assurance
• Payroll (including overtime and Human Resources)	Substantial
• Non-pay Expenditure	Satisfactory
• Bank & Cash	Substantial
• Budgetary Control	Satisfactory
• Income	Satisfactory
• Management of Contracts	Limited
• Information Governance	Satisfactory
• Business Continuity and Emergency Planning	Satisfactory
• Risk Management	Satisfactory

In the annual report, the Internal Auditor's overall opinion for the year ended 31 March 2012 was that there was a satisfactory system of internal control within NIAS designed to meet the Trust's objectives. However, weaknesses in control were identified in a number of areas.

Limited assurance was provided in relation to the arrangements in place in respect of the management of contracts. This related particularly to the arrangements in place for a complex contract with respect to the allocation of work, the accuracy of charging compared to contracted rates, the basis of charging for some elements within the contract and the adequacy and application of procedures. A programme of work in conjunction with relevant partners, including the Procurement and Logistics Service, has been developed to address these weaknesses.

In respect of non pay expenditure, Internal Audit identified an instance where procurement guidance had not been followed and the required number of quotations had not been sought. Staff have been reminded of their responsibilities in this area.

Internal Audit also carried out a number of corporate risk-based audits and have made a number of observations in Information Governance and Business Continuity and Emergency Planning.

In respect of Information Governance, a comprehensive data flow exercise to identify instances where data is transferred outside of NIAS has been partially undertaken but remains to be completed for all Directorates. Once completed, a full analysis of information governance risks for inclusion in the appropriate risk register will be carried out and an Information Asset Register compiled.

In respect of Business Continuity and Emergency Planning, the Business Continuity Operational Plan requires updating, approval and issue. This will include a rolling programme of business continuity exercises, the appointment of Business Continuity Leads from each area of NIAS and the extension of Emergency Planning to specifically include business continuity.

Recommendations to address these control weaknesses have been considered by the Audit Committee and have been or are currently being implemented. Progress on implementation will continue to be reviewed by Internal Audit and considered by the Audit Committee.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust has established an Assurance Committee, which is a sub-committee of the Board, and is responsible for overseeing all aspects of risk management within the organisation. The Assurance Committee meets at least three times a year and reviews the Corporate Risk Register, compliance with Controls Assurance Standards and the report of Untoward Incidents as standing items, as well as other health and safety and risk management issues. The meetings are recorded and the minutes are reported to the Trust Board. The Trust's Medical Director has been given delegated responsibility for risk management and a full time Risk Manager has been in post since July 2005. In order to strengthen the arrangements for Risk Management, the Trust Board continues to review the arrangements in place in respect of risk management. The NIAS Risk Management Strategy has been updated during the year and formally reviewed to reflect the revised governance arrangements and developments in the area during 2011/12.

The risk and control framework

The Trust's Risk Management Strategy specifies a number of reactive and proactive ways in which risk can be identified. The means of identification include, although not exclusively, untoward incident reporting, complaints management, risk assessment, claims management, controls assurance, benchmarking and consultation with staff and service users. The strategy also places upon all Trust employees the responsibility to be aware of and to report any and all risks to which they or the Trust are exposed.

Identified risks are recorded on the Risk Register, evaluated and, if necessary re-evaluated, in line with the AS/NZS 4360 Risk Management Standard. In accordance with the Trust's risk strategy, this takes into account the likelihood and potential impact on the Trust's patients, employees, environment, reputation and resources. This evaluation then prompts the development of individual risk treatment plans against which progress is monitored through the Trust's Risk Register, which is reviewed at each meeting of the Assurance Committee.

Corporate Risks are those that impact on the organisation as a whole or which cannot be resolved immediately or adequately reduced by treatment at a local level. They are recorded on the Corporate Risk Register, which is reviewed at each meeting of the Assurance Committee and by the responsible manager, on a continual basis.

Local Risks are those which have a localised impact and which can be reduced to an acceptable level by treatment at a local level. These are recorded on the Local Risk Register and are the responsibility of the Trusts line management. Local Risk Register updates are forwarded to the relevant Directors for distribution and review at local level on a bi-monthly basis.

Information Governance

In respect of risks to information, the Trust has in place information governance policies and procedures to support this area and has participated in data protection reviews and governance audits. The Director of Finance and ICT is the Trust's Senior Information Risk Officer (SIRO) and is supported by Information Asset Owners (IAOs) throughout the Trust. Training has been provided to staff to support the information governance agenda. The SIRO leads the Information Governance risk assessment and management processes within the Trust and advises the Board on the effectiveness of information risk management across the organisation. In addition, the Trust has established an Information Governance Steering Group, which will review the management of all information risks and information governance arrangements within the Trust. A small number of information governance incidents have been reported throughout the 2011/12 year and which were fully investigated and action to improve control in this area taken as appropriate.

The Medical Director has been appointed as the Trust's Caldicott Guardian with particular responsibility for access to, and the use of, person identifiable patient information. Part of this role includes his appointment to the UK Council of Caldicott Guardians. The Caldicott Guardian and the SIRO support the Trust Board in recognising the importance of best practice in relation to the broader information governance agenda.

Personal and Public Involvement

During 2011/12 the Trust published its Personal and Public Involvement (PPI) Consultation Scheme. The Trust continues to work to mainstream involvement with key stakeholders including service users in policy development processes. Engagement processes with service users have included NIAS involvement in workshops in community settings to obtain feedback directly from those accessing our services, use of surveys and individual meetings with service users on key policy areas. One particular example on the area of involvement in risk management processes relates to work underway to produce a policy on the transportation of assistance dogs. To this end, the Trust is working closely with the Guide Dogs for the Blind organisation and a blind service user. In order to inform this work, the Trust involved these key stakeholders in the production of a risk assessment around this policy area.

In addition, the Trust continues to contribute to regional work streams in this regard, participating in the Public Health Agency PPI Forum and the DHSSPS PPI Review Group. Through these groups, on which service users also participate, the Trust is involved in regional mechanisms to ensure a collaborative approach to the implementation of PPI within Health and Social Care.

Business Services Organisation - Services Received

The Trust receives a number of services from the HSC wide Business Services Organisation (BSO) under a service level agreement. These services include Procurements and Logistics, Internal Audit, Legal Services, an element of recruitment advertising and also the hosting of parts of the finance system. As part of the overall assurance process, the Trust receives an annual assurance from the BSO in respect of the governance arrangements in place in the BSO during the year.

In respect of Legal Services, the Trust uses the Directorate of Legal Services (DLS) which is part of the HSC wide Business Services Organisation, as its main legal services provider. As regards to compliance with Departmental guidance in respect of payments for legal and litigation services, the Trust continues to remain compliant with the Departmental guidance contained in HSS (F) 67/2006 Payments in Respect of Litigation Services.

Compliance with Controls Assurance Standards

The Trust assessed its compliance with the applicable Controls Assurance Standards which were defined by the Department and against which a degree of progress was expected in 2011/12.

Following the audit, the Trust achieved the following levels of compliance for 2011/12:

Standard	DHSSPS Expected Level of Compliance	Trust Level of Compliance	Reviewed By
Buildings, land, plant and non-medical equipment	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Emergency Planning	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Environment Management	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Financial Management (Core Standard)	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Internal Audit
Fire safety	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Internal Audit
Fleet and Transport Management	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Governance (Core Standard)	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Internal Audit
Health & Safety	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Human Resources	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Infection Control	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Information Communication Technology	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Management of Purchasing and Supply	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Medical Devices and Equipment Management	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Medicines Management	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment
Records Management	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Internal Audit
Risk Management (Core Standard)	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Internal Audit
Security Management	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Internal Audit
Waste Management	75% - 99% (Substantive)	Substantive	Self Assessment

The Trust has met the required levels of compliance as determined by the Department. Departmental Guidance HSS (PPM) 1/2005 indicates standards that are not applicable to the Trust which are not included in the table above.

The Trust continues to develop systems and processes to ensure compliance with Controls Assurance Standards. An action plan will be developed for any areas of non-compliance within controls assurance standards and progress against the plan will be monitored throughout the year.

The Trust will continue to work with DHSSPS and the HSC Board to deliver efficiencies in line with public consultation and maintain financial balance. Significant challenges have been identified which will require the health care system to adopt a whole-system approach to resolve. NIAS remains fully committed to playing its part in the delivery of safe, quality services within a constrained financial environment.

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for the review of effectiveness of the system of internal control. My review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of Internal Audit and the executive managers within the Trust 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 Trust Board, Audit Committee and Assurance Committee. A plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement to the system is in place.

The process of maintaining and reviewing the effectiveness of internal control is embedded throughout the organisation. In particular:

The Trust Board exercises financial supervision and control by:

- Approving the financial strategy;
- Requiring the submission and approval of budgets within approved allocations/overall income;
- Defining and approving essential features in respect of important procedures and financial systems (including the need to obtain value for money); and
- Defining specific responsibilities placed on directors and employees as indicated in the Scheme of Delegation Document.

All members of the Board and employees, severally and collectively, are responsible for:

- The security of the property of the Trust;
- Avoiding loss;
- Exercising economy and efficiency in the use of resources; and
- Conforming to the requirements of Standing Orders, Standing Financial Instructions, Financial Procedures, the Scheme of Delegation and other financial procedures which the Director of Finance may issue.

The Audit Committee's primary role is to independently contribute to the Trust Board's overall process for ensuring that an effective internal financial control system is maintained.

The Assurance Committee is responsible for assuring the Trust Board that effective and regularly reviewed arrangements are in place to support the implementation, maintenance and development of governance (clinical and non-clinical) and risk management and that such matters are properly considered and communicated to the Board.

The Remuneration Committee's primary role is to advise the Board about appropriate remuneration and terms of service for the Chief Executive and Executive Directors employed by the Trust.

Internal Audit review, appraise and report upon:

- The extent of compliance with, and the financial effect of, relevant established policies, plans and procedures;
- The adequacy and application of financial and other related management controls;
- The suitability of financial and other related management data;

- The extent to which the Trust's assets and interests are accounted for and safeguarded from loss of any kind, arising from:
 - Fraud and other offences;
 - Waste, extravagance, inefficient administration;
 - Poor value for money or other causes.
- The adequacy of follow up action taken by management in response to Internal Audit reports
- Internal Audit shall also independently verify the Assurance Statements.

During the year, Internal Audit was provided by the Business Services Organisation (BSO). BSO internal Audit had no executive responsibilities within the Trust and was sufficiently independent of the activities audited to enable the performance of duties in a manner that facilitated impartial and effective professional judgements and recommendations.

The Trust also relies on other significant assurance functions, both internal and external to the organisation, and considers the implications of any relevant findings for the governance of the organisation. These may include, but will not be limited to, any reports issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General or Public Accounts Committee, reviews by DHSSPS commissioned bodies, the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) or professional and regulatory bodies with responsibility for the performance of staff or functions (e.g. Joint Royal Colleges Ambulance Liaison Committee (JRCALC), Health Professions Council (HPC) and Royal Colleges, accreditation bodies).

Progress on prior year significant internal control issues

Internal Audit also carried out a follow up review on previous audit recommendations. Significant progress has been made and 99% of previous audit recommendations are deemed fully or partially implemented. The linking of risks to corporate objectives remains outstanding while the Trust awaits Departmental approval of the NIAS Corporate Plan 2011-2014.

The Trust continues with the agreed process of Agenda for Change in partnership with Trade Unions. However, there remain uncertainties over the outcome of the process and the Trust cannot predict what the final outcome will be or when the process will be completed. The Trust will continue to fulfil its obligations under the agreed Agenda for Change process.

Pandemic flu remains a very significant risk to business continuity and the delivery of strategic objectives. The Trust continues to build upon lessons learnt and update systems and processes as appropriate.

The Trust's Infection Prevention and Control Group continues to monitor and report on levels of reported vehicle cleaning and hand hygiene. A vehicle cleaning sub group has been established, with representation from across the Trust, to review the current vehicle cleaning reporting system. The Trust has also secured access to independent expert advice on infection control matters with the support of the Public Health Agency. The Trust is also a participant in the development of a regional policy on disease outbreaks which has been initiated by DHSSPS in light of previous outbreaks of clostridium difficile and pseudomonas aeruginosa. The revised Clinical Waste Policy was also approved by Trust Board during the year.

Revised pharmacy arrangements have been embedded and are now in place throughout the service. The revised Medicines Management Policy and Procedures as presented to and ratified by Trust Board are approved by the DHSSPS and Home Office as being compliant with statutory requirements, regulations and legislation. NIAS facilities undergo regular unannounced inspections by the DHSSPS Pharmacy Inspection Team with reports provided to the Assurance Committee along with notification of any actions taken from any issues identified.

The Trust continues to prioritise the management of absence and has engaged in a process of reviewing the measurement of absence, setting and monitoring monthly performance targets and related action plans and benchmarking. The Trust's Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2010-2015 was underpinned by an annual Health, Wellbeing and Attendance Action Plan for 2011/12. Regrettably the overall percentage of absence rose slightly from 6.87% in 2010/11 to 7.18% in 2011/12. During 2011/12, absence management continued to be incorporated as a formal item into the regular monthly operational performance management meetings which underpin the Trust's performance management regime. The absence management policy and procedure remains under review with Trade Unions to ensure that it remains fit for purpose. The current policy continues to be rigorously applied by managers. In addition we have continued to invest to secure early access to occupational health and physiotherapy for ambulance personnel to support an early return to work and decisions on capacity to continue to work in an ambulance role. The absence management process and initiatives to enhance capability and management are informed by ongoing benchmarking of performance and reference to national best practice information.

With regard to the wider control environment, the Trust has in place a range of organisational controls, commensurate with the current assessment of risk, designed to ensure the efficient and effective discharge of its business in accordance with the law and departmental direction. Every effort is made to ensure that the objectives of the Trust are pursued in accordance with the recognised and accepted standards of public administration. The Trust continues to review and develop governance structures to respond to best practice and developments.

As part of ongoing development and in order to strengthen governance arrangements, 2011/12 was the first full year of a review of revised governance arrangements with the establishment of an Assurance Committee to replace the Clinical Governance and Risk Management committees. The Audit Committee, Assurance Committee and Remuneration Committee meet regularly and these meetings are recorded and minutes reported to the Trust Board.

During Assurance Committee meetings, members are presented with progress updates in relation to service developments in the provision of clinical care and review the Trust's Risk Register, Untoward Incident Reports, compliance with relevant Controls Assurance Standards and the Assurance Framework as standing items.

The Clinical Audit function is developing a programme through the Director of Finance and ICT to analyse clinical information contained in Patient Report Forms which are held electronically. The development of a number of Clinical Performance Indicators for a range of clinical conditions, for example acute stroke, asthma and hypoglycaemia continue in accordance with those used by the other UK Ambulance Services to facilitate benchmarking with other Services. Using these indicators, regular reports are produced and presented to the Assurance Committee on the standard of clinical care provided for a number of clinical conditions.

The Trust continued with the introduction of paramedic clinical support officers to enhance the delivery of safe, quality care through measures such as clinical supervision of front-line ambulance personnel. For example, the results of the clinical audits and performance indicators inform the delivery of supervision and training by highlighting areas where improvements can be made.

The Trust continued to deliver the paramedic training programme as approved by the Health Professions Council. NIAS staff are provided with the education, training and development required in order to fulfil their job role effectively. The annual training plan outlines the key training requirements for NIAS each year.

Recommendations of the reviews previously undertaken by the Department of Health's Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAI) and Cleanliness Division, in relation to healthcare acquired infection, and the

Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA), with regard to HSC Quality Assurance Standards, were addressed in the previous years. Monitoring these actions and performance is reported to Trust Board through the Assurance Committee.

The NIAS Infection Prevention and Control Group which oversees and monitors infection prevention and control (IPC) arrangements and practices within the Trust continue to meet bi-monthly. These meetings are recorded and reported to the Assurance Committee.

The Trust's recruitment and selection policies are based on the principle of equality of opportunity and controls are in place to ensure that all such decisions are taken in accordance with the relevant legislation.

With regard to estate management, decisions are taken within the context of an estate plan, which prioritises management action based on an assessment of risk. During 2009/10, the Trust secured Outline Business Case approval for its programme of estate renewal and replacement. Work is ongoing to develop and secure approval for individual business cases for specific developments. The Trust reports on Fire Code compliance on a regular basis to the Department and, in conjunction with Health Estates, is further developing its Estate Strategy with particular regard to Health and Safety, Fire Code and the Disability Discrimination Act.

Our Approach to Fraud

The Trust Board is absolutely committed to maintaining an anti-fraud culture in the organisation so that all staff who work in the Trust are aware of the risk of fraud, of what constitutes a fraud and the procedures for reporting it. The Trust adopts a zero-tolerance approach to fraud and will not accept any level of fraud within the organisation. It is also Trust policy that there will be a thorough investigation of all allegations or suspicions of fraud and robust action will be taken where fraud is proven in line with the Trust's Fraud Response Plan.

During 2011/12, the Trust continued the investigation, conducted in conjunction with the Counter Fraud and Probity Services, into the ten cases remaining from the data matching exercises carried out as part of the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) exercises. A further two cases of suspected fraud have been reported anonymously to the Trust during the year.

New significant control issues

New significant control issues have been aligned under the following headings for ease of reference.

Financial Position

During 2011/12 the Trust continued with efforts to secure financial breakeven in a difficult financial environment. All previously required efficiency savings have been delivered and while there were no further specific efficiency savings required in year, the Trust has been tasked with realising £1.2m of savings in the 2012/13 financial year. The Trust will continue to work with all stakeholders to achieve these savings while maintaining safe and effective care to patients.

Restructuring of Acute Services

Further changes in the wider acute sector health care system continued during 2011/12 which necessitated the revision and enhancement of ambulance resources to compensate for the withdrawal of some acute services and changes in some specialties. This placed an additional pressure on NIAS in relation to the provision of extra resources, both staff and non-staff, at short notice and against a backdrop of increasing activity and delays in patient handover at emergency departments. This continues to present a risk for the future and the Trust is engaged with the development and implementation of a programme of work led by the HSCB on the direction of the Minister.

Attendant at Incidents

During the year, a risk to patients in the care of the Trust was identified in that their care and treatment could be compromised by the attendant at an incident having a lower level of clinical expertise than the driver of the vehicle. The risk arises because ambulance crews currently have a degree of discretion in relation to which member of the crew operates as attendant at incidents. This was a national issue and guidance from the Health Professions Council has been accepted by the Trust and issued to staff.

Industrial Action

Business continuity was tested during two days of industrial action during the year. The Trust responded with significant coordination and cooperation within the Trust across all Directorates and with HSC and Trade Union colleagues to maintain emergency cover.

Business Services Transformation Programme

The Trust is also engaged as part of the Business Services Transformation Programme (BSTP) which is working to introduce replacement Finance and Human Resource systems in 2012/13. Specific elements of the programme include replacement Financial, Procurement and Logistics (FPL) systems, replacement Human Resource, Payroll, Travel and Subsistence (HRPTS) systems and the introduction of Shared Services. There are a number of key risks associated with the introduction of replacement systems and changes in working practices. These risks relate to maintaining business as usual, ensuring the successful transition to the new systems and practices and also in ensuring that the benefits of modern systems and ways of working are realised. The Trust will continue to work with the BSTP to mitigate against these risks.

Senior Executive Remuneration

There is a risk to the Trust that the current terms and conditions of service available to senior executives may not be sufficiently attractive to support retention of existing staff or recruitment of suitably qualified and experienced applicants should a vacancy arise. The Trust continues to engage with the DHSSPS on this issue.

As Accounting Officer, I am ultimately accountable to the Board and to the Accounting Officer of the DHSSPS for ensuring that the Trust Board meets its obligation to perform its functions within the available financial resources. In my role as the Chief Executive, I have overall executive responsibility for the Trust's activities and I am responsible to the Board for ensuring that its financial obligations and targets are met and I also have overall responsibility for the Trust's system of internal control.



Mr L McIvor
Accounting Officer

14 June 2012

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE

THE CERTIFICATE AND REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL TO THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service for the year ended 31 March 2012 under the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972, as amended. These comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity, the Statement of Cash Flows, and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out within them. I have also audited the information in the Remuneration Report that is described in that report as having been audited.

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 and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972, as amended. 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 Northern Ireland Ambulance Service's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report 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 expenditure and income reported in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by the Assembly and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Opinion on Regularity

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

Opinion on financial statements

In my opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of Northern Ireland Ambulance Service's affairs as at 31 March 2012 and of the net expenditure, cash flows and changes in taxpayers' equity for the year then ended; and
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972, as amended and Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety directions issued thereunder.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion:

- the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety directions made under the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972, as amended; and
- the information given in the Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on 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 and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit; or
- the Statement on Internal Control does not reflect compliance with Department of Finance and Personnel's guidance.

Report

I have no observations to make on these financial statements.



KJ Donnelly
Comptroller and Auditor General
Northern Ireland Audit Office
106 University Street
Belfast
BT7 1EU

25th June 2012

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

STATEMENT of COMPREHENSIVE NET EXPENDITURE for the year ended 31 March 2012

	NOTE	2012 £000s	Restated 2011 £000s
Expenditure			
Staff costs	3.1	(47,939)	(40,557)
Depreciation	4.1	(3,511)	(3,535)
Other expenditures	4.1	(10,840)	(10,532)
		<u>(62,290)</u>	<u>(54,624)</u>
Income			
Income from activities	5.1	1,576	1,440
Other income	5.2	132	217
Deferred income	5.3	0	0
		<u>1,708</u>	<u>1,657</u>
Net Expenditure		<u>(60,582)</u>	<u>(52,967)</u>
Revenue Resource Limit (RRL)	24.1	<u>60,659</u>	<u>52,978</u>
Surplus / (Deficit) against RRL		<u>77</u>	<u>11</u>
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE EXPENDITURE			
	NOTE	2012 £000s	2011 £000s
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment	6.1/10/6.2/10	456	405
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation of Intangibles	7.1/10/7.2/10	0	0
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation of available for sales financial assets		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE EXPENDITURE for the year ended 31 March 2012		<u>(60,126)</u>	<u>(52,562)</u>

The notes on pages 20 to 62 form part of these accounts.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

STATEMENT of FINANCIAL POSITION as at 31 March 2012

	NOTE	2012		2011		2010	
		£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Non Current Assets							
Property, plant and equipment	6.1-2	24,929		24,529		23,104	
Intangible assets	7.1-2	44		66		89	
Financial assets	8.1	0		0		0	
Trade and other receivables	12.1	0		0		0	
Other current assets	12.1	0		0		0	
Total Non Current Assets			24,973		24,595		23,193
Current Assets							
Assets classified as held for sale	9.1	0		0		2	
Inventories	11.1	77		48		54	
Trade and other receivables	12.1	389		400		1,841	
Other current assets	12.1	94		201		97	
Financial assets	8.1	0		0		0	
Cash and cash equivalents	13.1	95		98		96	
Total Current Assets			655		747		2,090
Total Assets			25,628		25,342		25,283
Current Liabilities							
Trade and other payables	14.1	(9,903)		(9,506)		(12,499)	
Other liabilities	14.1	0		0		0	
Provisions	16.1-5	(293)		(325)		(518)	
Total Current Liabilities			(10,196)		(9,831)		(13,017)
Non Current Assets plus / less Net Current Assets / Liabilities			15,432		15,511		12,266
Non Current Liabilities							
Provisions	16.1-5	(2,850)		(3,198)		(2,637)	
Other payables > 1 yr	14.1	(2,261)		(2,261)		(2,261)	
Financial liabilities	8.1	0		0		0	
Total Non Current Liabilities			(5,111)		(5,459)		(4,898)
Assets less Liabilities			10,321		10,052		7,368
Taxpayers' Equity							
Revaluation reserve		4,692		4,314		3,940	
SoCNE reserve		5,629		5,738		3,428	
			10,321		10,052		7,368

The notes on pages 20 to 62 form part of these accounts.

Signed



(Chairman)

Date

14 June 2012

Signed



(Chief Executive)

Date

14 June 2012

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

STATEMENT of CHANGES in TAXPAYERS' EQUITY for the year ended 31 March 2012

	NOTE	SoCNE Reserve £000s	Revaluation Reserve £000s	Total £000s
Balance at 1 April 2010		3,428	3,940	7,368
Changes in Taxpayers Equity 2010-11				
Grant from DHSSPS		55,224	0	55,224
Transfers between reserves		31	(31)	0
(Comprehensive expenditure for the year)		(52,967)	405	(52,562)
Transfer of asset ownership		0	0	0
Non cash charges - auditors remuneration	4.1	22	0	22
Balance at 31 March 2011		5,738	4,314	10,052
Changes in Taxpayers Equity 2011-12				
Grant from DHSSPS		60,335	0	60,335
Transfers between reserves		78	(78)	0
(Comprehensive expenditure for the year)		(60,582)	456	(60,126)
Transfer of asset ownership		38	0	38
Non cash charges - auditors remuneration	4.1	22	0	22
Balance at 31 March 2012		5,629	4,692	10,321

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

STATEMENT of CASH FLOWS for the year ended 31 March 2012

	NOTE	2012 £000s	2011 £000s
Cashflows from Operating Activities			
Net expenditure after interest		(60,582)	(52,967)
Adjustments for non cash costs		3,766	4,186
(Increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables		118	1,337
<i>Less movements in receivables relating to items not passing through the NEA</i>			
Movements in receivables relating to the sale of property, plant and equipment		0	0
Movements in receivables relating to the sale of intangibles		0	0
Movements in receivables relating to finance leases		0	0
Movements in receivables relating to PFI and other service concession arrangement contracts		0	0
(Increase) / decrease in inventories		(29)	6
Increase / (decrease) in trade payables		397	(2,993)
<i>Less movements in payables relating to items not passing through the NEA</i>			
Movements in payables relating to the purchase of property, plant and equipment		1,442	(2,443)
Movements in payables relating to the purchase of intangibles		(219)	(15)
Movements in payables relating to finance leases		0	0
Movements in payables relating to PFI and other service concession arrangement contracts		0	0
Use of provisions	16.1-5	(599)	(246)
Net Cash Outflow from Operating Activities		(55,706)	(53,135)
Cashflows from Investing Activities			
(Purchase of property, plant & equipment)	6.1	(4,657)	(2,165)
(Purchase of intangible assets)	7.1	0	0
Proceeds of disposal of property, plant & equipment		19	72
Proceeds on disposal of intangibles		0	0
Proceeds on disposal of assets held for resale		6	6
Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities		(4,632)	(2,087)
Cashflows from Financing Activities			
Grant in aid		60,335	55,224
Cap element of payments - finance leases and on balance sheet (SoFP) PFI and other service concession arrangements		0	0
Net Financing		60,335	55,224
Net (Decrease) Increase in Cash & Cash Equivalents in the Period		(3)	2
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Period	13.1	98	96
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the End of the Period	13.1	95	98

The notes on pages 20 to 62 form part of these accounts.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Authority

These accounts have been prepared in a form determined by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety based on guidance from the Department of Finance and Personnel's Financial Reporting manual (FReM) and in accordance with the requirements of Article 90(2)(a) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 No 1265 (NI 14) as amended by Article 6 of the Audit and Accountability (Northern Ireland) Order 2003.

The accounting policies follow IFRS to the extent that it is meaningful and appropriate to HSC Trusts. Where a choice of accounting policy is permitted, the accounting policy which has been judged to be most appropriate to the particular circumstances of the HSC body for the purpose of giving a true and fair view has been selected. The HSC body's accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items considered material in relation to the accounts.

1.2 Accounting Convention

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention modified to account for the revaluation of property, plant and equipment.

1.3 Currency and Rounding

These accounts are presented in UK pounds sterling. The figures in the accounts are shown to the nearest £1,000.

1.4 Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment assets comprise: Land, Buildings (excluding Dwellings), Transport Equipment, Plant & Machinery, Information Technology, Furniture & Fittings, and Assets under Construction.

Recognition

Property, plant and equipment must be capitalised if:

- it is held for use in delivering services or for administrative purposes;
- it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to, or service potential will be supplied to, the Trust;
- it is expected to be used for more than one financial year;
- the cost of the item can be measured reliably; and
- the item has a cost of at least £5,000; or

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- collectively, a number of items have a cost of at least £5,000 and individually have a cost of more than £1,000, where the assets are functionally interdependent, they had broadly simultaneous purchase dates, are anticipated to have simultaneous disposal dates and are under single managerial control; or
- items form part of the initial equipping and setting-up cost of a new building or station, irrespective of their individual or collective cost.

On initial recognition property, plant and equipment are measured at cost including any expenditure such as installation, directly attributable to bringing them into working condition. Items classified as “under construction” are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position to the extent that money has been paid or a liability has been incurred.

Valuation of Land and Buildings

Land and buildings are carried at the last professional valuation, in accordance with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (Statement of Asset Valuation Practice) Appraisal and Valuation Standards in so far as these are consistent with the specific needs of the HSC.

The last valuation was carried out on 31 January 2010 by Land and Property Services (LPS) which is an independent executive within the Department of Finance and Personnel. The valuers are qualified to meet the ‘Member of Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors’ (MRICS) standard.

Professional revaluations of land and buildings are undertaken at least once in every five year period and are revalued annually, between professional valuations, using indices provided by LPS.

Land and buildings used for the Trust’s services or for administrative purposes are stated in the Statement of Financial Position at their revalued amounts, being the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Fair values are determined as follows:

- land and non-specialised buildings – open market value for existing use;
- specialised buildings – depreciated replacement cost; and
- properties surplus to requirements – the lower of open market value less any material directly attributable selling costs, or book value at date of moving to noncurrent assets.

Modern Equivalent Asset

DFP has adopted a standard approach to depreciated replacement cost valuations based on modern equivalent assets and, where it would meet the location requirements of the service being provided, an alternative site can be valued. Land and Property Services (LPS) have included this requirement within the latest valuation.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Assets Under Construction (AUC)

Properties in the course of construction for service or administration purposes are carried at cost, less any impairment loss. Cost includes professional fees as allowed by IAS 23 for assets held at fair value. Assets are revalued and depreciation commences when they are brought into use.

Short Life Assets

Short life IT assets are not indexed. Short life is defined as a useful life of up to and including 5 years. Short life assets are carried at depreciated historic cost as this is not considered to be materially different from fair value and are depreciated over their useful life.

Where estimated life of fixtures and equipment exceed 5 years, suitable indices will be applied each year and depreciation will be based on indexed amount.

Revaluation Reserve

An increase arising on revaluation is taken to the Revaluation Reserve except when it reverses an impairment for the same asset previously recognised in expenditure, in which case it is credited to expenditure to the extent of the decrease previously charged there. A revaluation decrease is recognised as an impairment charged to the Revaluation Reserve to the extent that there is a balance on the reserve for the asset and, thereafter, to expenditure.

1.5 Depreciation

No depreciation is provided on freehold land, since land has unlimited or a very long established useful life. Items under construction are not depreciated until they are commissioned. Properties that are surplus to requirements and which meet the definition of “non-current assets held for sale” are also not depreciated.

Otherwise, depreciation is charged to write off the costs or valuation of property, plant and equipment and intangible non-current assets, less any residual value, over their estimated useful lives, in a manner that reflects the consumption of economic benefits or service potential of the assets. Assets held under finance leases are also depreciated over their estimated useful lives. The estimated useful life of an asset is the period over which the Trust expects to obtain economic benefits or service potential from the asset. Estimated useful lives and residual values are reviewed each year end, with the effect of any changes recognised on a prospective basis.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following asset lives have been used:

Asset Type	Asset Life
Freehold Buildings	10 - 55 years
Leasehold Property	Remaining period of lease
IT Assets	3 - 10 years
Intangible Assets	3 - 10 years
Other Equipment	3 - 15 years

1.6 Impairment Loss

If there has been an impairment loss due to a general change in prices, the asset is written down to its recoverable amount, with the loss charged to the Revaluation Reserve to the extent that there is a balance on the reserve for the asset and, thereafter, to expenditure within the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure. If the impairment is due to the consumption of economic benefits the full amount of the impairment is charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure and an amount up to the value of the impairment in the Revaluation Reserve is transferred to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure Reserve. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of the recoverable amount but capped at the amount that would have been determined had there been no initial impairment loss. The reversal of the impairment loss is credited firstly to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure to the extent of the decrease previously charged there and thereafter to the Revaluation Reserve.

1.7 Subsequent Expenditure

Where subsequent expenditure enhances an asset beyond its original specification, the directly attributable cost is capitalised. Where subsequent expenditure, which meets the definition of capital restores the asset to its original specification, the expenditure is capitalised and any existing carrying value of the item replaced is written-out and charged to operating expenses.

The overall useful life of the Trust's buildings takes account of the fact that different components of those buildings have different useful lives. This ensures that depreciation is charged on those assets at the same rate as if separate components had been identified and depreciated at different rates.

1.8 Intangible Assets

Intangible assets includes any of the following held - software, licences, trademarks, websites, development expenditure, patents, goodwill and intangible assets under construction. Software that is integral to the operating of hardware, for example an operating system is capitalised as part of the relevant item of property, plant and equipment. Software that is not integral to the operation of hardware, for example application software, is capitalised as an intangible asset. Expenditure on research is not capitalised: it is recognised as an operating expense in the period in which it is incurred.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Internally-generated assets are recognised if, and only if, all of the following have been demonstrated:

- the technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use;
- the intention to complete the intangible asset and use it;
- the ability to sell or use the intangible asset;
- how the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefits or service potential;
- the availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the intangible asset and sell or use it; and
- the ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development.

Recognition

Intangible assets are non-monetary assets without physical substance, which are capable of sale separately from the rest of the Trust's business or which arise from contractual or other legal rights. Intangible assets are considered to have a finite life. They are recognised only when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to, or service potential be provided to, the Trust; where the cost of the asset can be measured reliably. All single items over £5,000 in value must be capitalised while intangible assets which fall within the grouped asset definition must be capitalised if their individual value is at least £1,000 each and the group is at least £5,000 in value.

The amount recognised for internally-generated intangible assets is the sum of the expenditure incurred from the date of commencement of the intangible asset, until it is complete and ready for use.

Intangible assets acquired separately are initially recognised at fair value. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at fair value by reference to an active market, and as no active market currently exists depreciated replacement cost has been used as fair value.

1.9 Donated Assets

Donated non-current assets were previously capitalised at their fair value on receipt, with a matching credit to the Donated Asset Reserve. They were valued, depreciated and impaired as described above for purchased assets. Gains and losses on revaluations and impairments were taken to the Donated Asset Reserve and, each year, an amount equal to the depreciation charge on the asset was released from the Donated Asset Reserve to income to offset the depreciation expenditure. On sale of donated assets, the net book value was transferred from the Donated Asset Reserve to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure Reserve.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

With effect from 1 April 2011, DFP changed the above policy on Donated Asset Reserves. The Donated Asset Reserve no longer exists. What used to be contained in the Donated Asset Reserve has moved to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure (previously known as the General Fund) and to the Revaluation Reserve. Income for donated assets is now recognised when received.

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust did not have a Donated Asset Reserve (2011: £nil, 2010: £nil).

1.10 Non-current Assets Held for Sale

Non-current assets are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. In order to meet this definition IFRS 5 requires that the asset must be immediately available for sale in its current condition and that the sale is highly probable. A sale is regarded as highly probable where an active plan is in place to find a buyer for the asset and the sale is considered likely to be concluded within one year. Non-current assets held for sale are measured at the lower of their previous carrying amount and fair value, less any material directly attributable selling costs. Fair value is open market value, where one is available, including alternative uses. Assets classified as held for sale are not depreciated.

The profit or loss arising on disposal of an asset is the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying amount. The profit from sale of land which is a non depreciating asset is recognised within income. The loss from sale of land or profit / loss from sale of depreciating assets is shown within operating expenses. On disposal, the balance for the asset on the Revaluation Reserve is transferred to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure Reserve. For donated and government-granted assets, a transfer is made to or from the relevant reserve to the profit/loss on disposal account so that no profit or loss is recognised in income or expenses.

Property, plant or equipment that is to be scrapped or demolished does not qualify for recognition as held for sale. Instead, it is retained as an operational asset and its economic life is adjusted. The asset is de-recognised when it is scrapped or demolished.

1.11 Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. This is considered to be a reasonable approximation to fair value due to the high turnover of stocks.

1.12 Income

Operating Income relates directly to the operating activities of the Trust and is recognised when, and to the extent that, performance occurs, and is measured at the fair value of the consideration receivable.

Grant in Aid

Funding received from other entities, including the Department and the Health and Social Care Board are accounted for as grant in aid and are reflected through the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure Reserve.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.13 Investments

The Trust does not have any investments.

1.14 Other Expenses

Other operating expenses for goods or services are recognised when, and to the extent that, they have been received. They are measured at the fair value of the consideration payable.

1.15 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is cash in hand and deposits with any financial institution repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are investments that mature in 3 months or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

1.16 Leases

Leases are classified as finance leases when substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

The Trust as Lessee

Property, plant and equipment held under finance leases are initially recognised, at the inception of the lease, at fair value or, if lower, at the present value of the minimum lease payments, with a matching liability for the lease obligation to the lessor. Lease payments are apportioned between finance charges and reduction of the lease obligation so as to achieve a constant rate on interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance charges are recognised in calculating the Trust's surplus/deficit.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Lease incentives are recognised initially as a liability and subsequently as a reduction of rentals on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Contingent rentals are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

Where a lease is for land and buildings, the land and building components are separated. Leased land may be either an operating lease or a finance lease depending on the conditions in the lease agreement and following the general guidance set out in IAS 17. Leased buildings are assessed as to whether they are operating or finance leases.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Trust as Lessor

Amounts due from lessees under finance leases are recorded as receivables at the amount of the Trust's net investment in the leases. Finance lease income is allocated to accounting periods so as to reflect a constant periodic rate of return on the Trust's net investment outstanding in respect of the leases.

Rental income from operating leases is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging an operating lease are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

1.17 Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Transactions

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust has had no PFI transactions during the year.

1.18 Financial Instruments

- Financial Assets

Financial assets are recognised on the balance sheet when the Trust becomes party to the financial instrument contract or, in the case of trade receivables, when the goods or services have been delivered. Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights have expired or the asset has been transferred.

Financial assets are initially recognised at fair value.

- Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised on the balance sheet when the Trust becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument or, in the case of trade payables, when the goods or services have been received. Financial liabilities are de-recognised when the liability has been discharged, that is, the liability has been paid or has expired.

Financial liabilities are initially recognised at fair value.

- Financial Risk Management

IFRS 7 requires disclosure of the role that financial instruments have had during the period in creating or changing the risks a body faces in undertaking its activities. Because of the relationships with HSC Commissioners, and the manner in which they are funded, financial instruments play a more limited role within Trusts in creating risk than would apply to a non public sector body of a similar size, therefore Trusts are not exposed to the degree of financial risk faced by business entities. Trusts have limited powers to borrow or invest surplus funds and financial assets and liabilities are generated by day to day operational activities rather than being held to change the risks facing the Trusts in undertaking activities. Therefore the HSC is exposed too little credit, liquidity or market risk.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- **Currency Risk**

The Trust is principally a domestic organisation with the great majority of transactions, assets and liabilities being in the UK and Sterling based. The Trust has no overseas operations. The Trust therefore has low exposure to currency rate fluctuations.

- **Interest Rate Risk**

The Trust has limited powers to borrow or invest and therefore has low exposure to interest rate fluctuations.

- **Credit Risk**

Because the majority of the Trust's income comes from contracts with other public sector bodies, the Trust has low exposure to credit risk.

- **Liquidity Risk**

Since the Trust receives the majority of its funding through its principal Commissioner which is voted through the Assembly, it is therefore not exposed to significant liquidity risks.

1.19 Provisions

In Accordance with IAS 37, provisions are recognised when the Trust has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Trust will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period, taking into account the risks and uncertainties. Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows using DFP's discount rate of 2.2% in real terms.

The Trust has also disclosed the carrying amount at the beginning and end of the period, additional provisions made, amounts used during the period, unused amounts reversed during the period and increases in the discounted amount arising from the passage of time and the affect of any change in the discount rate.

When some or all of the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, the receivable is recognised as an asset if it is virtually certain that reimbursements will be received and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

Present obligations arising under onerous contracts are recognised and measured as a provision. An onerous contract is considered to exist where the Trust has a contract under which the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligations under the contract exceed the economic benefits expected to be received under it.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A restructuring provision is recognised when the Trust has developed a detailed formal plan for the restructuring and has raised a valid expectation in those affected that it will carry out the restructuring by starting to implement the plan or announcing its main features to those affected by it. The measurement of a restructuring provision includes only the direct expenditures arising from the restructuring, which are those amounts that are both necessarily entailed by the restructuring and not associated with ongoing activities of the entity.

1.20 Contingencies

Under IAS 37, the Trust discloses contingent liabilities where there is a possible obligation that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the trust, or a present obligation that is not recognised because it is not probable that a payment will be required to settle the obligation or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured sufficiently reliably. A contingent liability is disclosed unless the possibility of a payment is remote.

A contingent asset is a possible asset that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Trust. A contingent asset is disclosed where an inflow of economic benefits is probable.

Where the time value of money is material, contingencies are disclosed at their present value.

1.21 Employee Benefits

Short-term Employee Benefits

Under the requirements of IAS 19 Employee Benefits, staff costs must be recorded as an expense as soon as the organisation is obligated to pay them. This includes the cost of any untaken leave that has been earned at the year end. This cost has been estimated using average staff numbers and costs applied to the average untaken leave balance determined from the results of a representative sample to ascertain leave balances as at 31 March 2012. It is not anticipated that the level of untaken leave will vary significantly from year to year.

Retirement Benefit Costs

The Trust participates in the HSC Superannuation Scheme. Under this multi-employer defined benefit scheme both the Trust and employees pay specified percentages of pay into the scheme and the liability to pay benefit falls to the DHSSPS. The Trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities in the scheme on a consistent and reliable basis. Further information regarding the HSC Superannuation Scheme can be found in the HSC Superannuation Scheme Statement in the Departmental Resource Account for the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.

The costs of early retirements are met by the Trust and charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure at the time the Trust commits itself to the retirement.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As per the requirements of IAS 19, full actuarial valuations by a professionally qualified actuary are required at intervals not exceeding four years. The actuary reviews the most recent actuarial valuation at the Statement of Financial Position date and updates it to reflect current conditions. The 31 March 2008 valuation will be used in the 2011/12 accounts.

1.22 Reserves

Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure Reserve

Accumulated surpluses are accounted for in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure Reserve. This reserve was previously known as the General Fund.

Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve reflects the unrealised balance of the cumulative indexation and revaluation adjustments to assets.

1.23 Value Added Tax

Where output VAT is charged or input VAT is recoverable, the amounts are stated net of VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is charged to the relevant expenditure category or included in the capitalised purchase cost of fixed assets.

1.24 Third Party Assets

Assets belonging to third parties (such as money held on behalf of patients) are not recognised in the accounts since the Trust has no beneficial interest in them. Details of third party assets are given in Note 23 to the accounts.

1.25 Government Grants

Government assistance for capital projects whether from UK, or Europe, were treated as a government grant even where there were no conditions specifically relating to the operating activities of the entity other than the requirement to operate in certain regions or industry sectors. Such grants (does not include grant-in-aid) were previously credited to a Government Grant Reserve and were released to income over the useful life of the asset.

DFP has issued new guidance effective from 1 April 2011. Government Grant Reserves are no longer permitted. Income is generally recognised when it is received. In exceptional cases where there are conditions attached to the use of the grant, which, if not met, would mean the grant is repayable, the income should be deferred and released when obligations are met.

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust did not have a Government Grant Reserve.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.26 Losses and Special Payments

Losses and special payments are items that the Northern Ireland Assembly would not have contemplated when it agreed funds for the health service or passed legislation. By their nature they are items that ideally should not arise. They are therefore subject to special control procedures compared with the generality of payments. They are divided into different categories, which govern the way that individual cases are handled.

Losses and special payments are charged to the relevant functional headings in expenditure on an accruals basis, including losses which would have been made good through insurance cover had HSC Trusts not been bearing their own risks (with insurance premiums then being included as normal revenue expenditure). However, Note 25 on losses and special payments is compiled directly from the losses and compensations register which reports amounts on an accruals basis with the exception of provisions for future losses.

1.27 Accounting Standards that have been Issued but have not yet been Adopted

Under IAS 8 there is a requirement to disclose those standards which have been issued but not yet adopted.

Management has reviewed the new accounting policies that have been issued but are not yet effective, nor adopted early for these accounts. Management consider that these are unlikely to have a significant impact on the accounts in the period of the initial application.

1.28 Prior Year Restatement

There was one prior year restatement during the year. Prior year income was reclassified between income from activities and other operating income in relation to income generated from the sale of fuel to other HSC organisations. Income from activities should only include contracted services for patient care as detailed by guidance issued from the DHSSPS.

The table below shows the effect of the prior year restatement:

2010/11	£'000
Income from Activities	
HSC Trusts	(163)
Other Operating Income	
Other income from non-patient services	163

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 2 SEGMENTAL ANALYSIS

2.1 Analysis of Net Expenditure by Segment

For operational purposes, the services provided by the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service are broadly divided into emergency and non-emergency services. As the Trust Board of the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service in its capacity as the 'Chief Operating Decision Maker' receives financial information for the Trust as a whole and makes decisions based on the provision of an ambulance service for the whole of Northern Ireland, it is appropriate that the Trust reports on a one operational segment basis.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 3 STAFF NUMBERS AND RELATED COSTS

3.1 Staff Costs

Staff costs comprise:	2012			2011
	Total £000s	Permanently employed staff £000s	Others £000s	Total £000s
Wages and salaries	40,629	40,231	398	33,523
Social security costs	3,119	3,119	0	2,926
Other pension costs	4,191	4,191	0	4,108
Sub-Total	47,939	47,541	398	40,557
Capitalised staff costs	0	0	0	0
Total Staff Costs Reported in Statement of Comprehensive Expenditure	47,939	47,541	398	40,557
Less recoveries in respect of outward secondments	0			0
Total Net Costs	47,939			40,557

Staff costs exclude £nil charged to capital projects during the year (2011 £nil).

The Trust participates in the HSC Superannuation Scheme. Under this multi-employer defined benefit scheme both the Trust and employees pay specified percentages of pay into the scheme and the liability to pay benefit falls to the DHSSPS. The Trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities in the scheme on a consistent and reliable basis.

As per the requirements of IAS 19, full actuarial valuations by a professionally qualified actuary are required at intervals not exceeding four years. The actuary reviews the most recent actuarial valuation at the Statement of Financial Position date and updates it to reflect current conditions. A full valuation as at 31 March 2008 was completed in 2010-11.

3.2 Average Number of Persons Employed

The average number of whole time equivalent persons employed during the year was as follows;

	2012			2011
	Total No.	Permanently employed staff No.	Others No.	Total No.
Medical and dental	2	2	0	2
Nursing and midwifery	0	0	0	0
Professions allied to medicine	0	0	0	0
Ancillaries	0	0	0	0
Administrative & clerical	90	76	14	93
Ambulance staff	1,047	1,042	5	1,039
Works	3	2	1	3
Other professional and technical	0	0	0	0
Social services	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Average Number of Persons Employed	1,142	1,122	20	1,137
Less average staff number relating to capitalised staff costs	0	0		0
Less average staff number in respect of outward secondments	0	0		0
Total Net Average Number of Persons Employed	1,142	1,122	20	1,137

There are no staff engaged on capital projects.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 3 STAFF NUMBERS AND RELATED COSTS

3.3 Senior Employees' Remuneration

The salary, pension entitlements and the value of any taxable benefits in kind of the most senior members of the Trust were as follows:

Name	2011-12			2010-11			Real increase in pension and related lump sum at age 60 £000s	2011-12		Real increase in CETV £000s	
	Salary £000s	Bonus / Performance pay £000	Benefits in Kind (Rounded to nearest £100)	Salary £000s	Bonus / Performance pay £000	Benefits in Kind (Rounded to nearest £100)		Total accrued pension at age 60 and related lump sum £000s	CETV at 31/03/11 £000s		CETV at 31/03/12 £000s
Non-Executive Members											
P Archer	20 - 25	-	-	20-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	
M Hanratty	5 - 10	-	-	5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	
F Hughes (until 30 Nov 2010)	-	-	-	0 - 5 (5-10*)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
S Mullan (until 21 Jul 2010)	-	-	-	0 - 5 (5-10*)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
N McKinley	5 - 10	-	-	5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	
S Shields	5 - 10	-	-	5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	
A Paisley (appointed 01 Dec 2010)	5 - 10	-	-	0 - 5 (5-10*)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
S McKeever (appointed 01 Dec 2010 until 21 Nov 2011)	0 - 5 (5-10*)	-	-	0 - 5 (5-10*)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Executive Members											
L McIvor	75 - 80	0 - 5	-	75 - 80	0 - 5	-	0 - 2.5 + lump sum of 0 - 2.5	20 - 25 + lump sum of 65 - 70	348	400	52
S McCue	60 - 65	0 - 5	-	60 - 65	0 - 5	-	0 - 2.5 + lump sum of 0 - 2.5	5 - 10 + lump sum of 20 - 25	137	160	23
R O'Hara	60 - 65	0 - 5	-	60 - 65	0 - 5	-	0 - 2.5 + lump sum of 0 - 2.5	15 - 20 + lump sum of 50 - 55	246	294	48
D McManus	100 - 105	-	-	100 - 105	-	-	0 - 2.5 + lump sum of 5 - 7.5	50 - 55 + lump sum of 150 - 155	870	1,005	135
B McNeill	60 - 65	0 - 5	-	55 - 60	0 - 5	-	0 - 2.5 + lump sum of 0 - 2.5	20 - 25 + lump sum of 60 - 65	340	383	43

* denotes full-year salary

This year (2011-12) is the second year of the two year public sector pay freeze for HSC Senior Executive Staff. Throughout the period of the pay freeze however, HSC employers are still required to meet contractual liabilities for all staff. The Departments legal advice is that Senior Executive Staff on contracts entered into before 23 December 2008 continue to have a contractual entitlement to pay progression, based on performance, for the duration of the pay freeze. Bonuses are based on performance levels attained and are made as part of the appraisal process. Bonuses relate to the performance in the year in which they become payable to the individual. The bonuses reported in 2011-12 relate to performance in 2010-11 and the comparative bonuses reported for 2010-11 relate to the performance in 2009-10.

As Non-Executive members do not receive pensionable remuneration, there will be no entries in respect of pensions for Non-Executive members.

A Cash Equivalent Transfer Value (CETV) is the actuarially assessed capital value of the pension scheme benefits accrued by a member at a particular point in time. The benefits valued are the member's accrued benefits and any contingent spouse's pension payable from the scheme. A CETV is a payment made by a pension scheme, or arrangement to secure pension benefits in another pension scheme or arrangement when the member leaves a scheme and chooses to transfer the benefits accrued in their former scheme. The pension figures shown relate to the benefits that the individual has accrued as a consequence of their total membership of the pension scheme, not just their service in a senior capacity to which the disclosure applies. The CETV figures and the other pension details, include the value of any pension benefits in another scheme or arrangement which the individual has transferred to the HPSS pension scheme. They also include any additional pension benefit accrued to the member as a result of their purchasing additional years of pension service in the scheme at their own cost.

CETVs are calculated within the guidelines prescribed by the institute and Faculty of Actuaries.

Real Increase in CETV - This reflects the increase in CETV effectively funded by the employer. It takes account of the increase in accrued pension due to inflation, contributions paid by the employee (including the value of any benefits transferred from another pension scheme or arrangement) and uses common market valuation factors for the start and end of the period.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 3 STAFF NUMBERS AND RELATED COSTS

3.4 Reporting of Early Retirement and Other Compensation Scheme - Exit Packages

Exit package Cost Band	Number of Compulsory Redundancies		Number of Other Departures Agreed		Total Number of Exit Packages by Cost Band	
	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011
<£10,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
£10,000 - £25,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
£25,000 - £50,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
£50,000 - £100,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
£100,000- £150,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
£150,000- £200,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
> £200,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Exit Packages by Type	0	0	0	0	0	0
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Total Resource Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

Redundancy and other departure costs have been paid in accordance with the provisions of the HSC Pension Scheme Regulations and the Compensation for Premature Retirement Regulations, statutory provisions made under the Superannuation Act 1972. Exit costs are accounted for in full in the year in which the exit package is approved and agreed and are included as operating expenses at note 4. Where early retirements have been agreed, the additional costs are met by the employing authority and not by the HSC pension scheme. Ill-health retirement costs are met by the pension scheme and are not included in the table.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 3 STAFF NUMBERS AND RELATED COSTS

3.5 Staff Benefits

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust paid staff benefits in 2012 £nil (2011 £nil).

3.6 Trust Management Costs

	2012 £000s	2011 £000s
Trust Management Costs	3,792	3,766
Income:		
RRL	60,659	52,978
Income per Note 5	1,708	1,657
Non cash RRL for movement in clinical negligence provision	(11)	(480)
Less interest receivable	0	0
	<hr/> 62,356	<hr/> 54,155
Less adjustments as detailed in HSS (THR) 2/99	(175)	(283)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income	62,181	53,872
% of total income	6.10%	6.99%

The above information is based on the Audit Commission's definition "M2" Trust management costs, as detailed in HSS (THR) 2/99. The adjustments detailed above are exceptional items which may distort the management costs, ie income generation from fuel recharges to other Trusts and non recurrent funding for projects undertaken.

A one off reduction in the Revenue Resource Limit decreased total income and as income is the denominator in the calculation of management costs the headline management cost as a percentage of total income increased. Prior to this change the headline management cost figure for 2010/11 as a percentage of total income was 6.34%.

3.7 Retirements Due to Ill-health

During 2011-12 there were 3 early retirements from the Trust, agreed on the grounds of ill-health (2011: 5). The estimated additional pension liabilities of these ill-health retirements will be £11k (2011: £12k). These costs are borne by the HSC Pension Scheme.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 4 OPERATING EXPENSES

4.1 Operating Expenses are as follows:

	2012 £000s	2011 £000s
Purchase of care from non-HSC bodies	0	0
Revenue grants to voluntary organisations	0	0
Capital grants to voluntary organisations	0	0
Personal social services	0	0
Recharges from other HSC organisations	771	735
Supplies and services - clinical	1,125	803
Supplies and services - general	495	227
Establishment	1,246	1,164
Transport	4,910	4,747
Premises	1,517	1,463
Bad debts	0	0
Rentals under operating leases	216	218
Rentals under finance leases	0	0
Finance cost of finance leases	0	0
Interest charges	0	0
PFI and other service concession arrangements service charges	0	0
Research & development expenditure	0	0
Clinical negligence - other expenditure	0	0
BSO services	69	53
Clinical training and other training	83	263
Professional fees	17	31
Costs of exit packages not provided for	0	0
Miscellaneous expenditure	136	177
Non Cash Items		
Depreciation	3,511	3,535
Amortisation	22	23
Impairments	16	59
(Profit) on disposal of property, plant & equipment (excluding profit on land)	(24)	(67)
(Profit) on disposal of intangibles	0	0
Loss on disposal of property, plant & equipment (including land)	0	0
Loss on disposal of intangibles	0	0
Provisions provided for in year	141	535
Cost of borrowing of provisions (unwinding of discount on provisions)	78	79
Auditors remuneration	22	22
Total	14,351	14,067

During the year the Trust purchased no non-audit services from its external auditor, the Northern Ireland Audit Office.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 5 INCOME

5.1 Income from Activities

	2012	Restated
	£000s	2011
		£000s
GB / Republic of Ireland Health Authorities	0	0
HSC Trusts	1,159	1,127
Non-HSC: private patients	0	0
Non-HSC: other	417	313
Clients contributions	0	0
Total	1,576	1,440

5.2 Other Operating Income

	2012	Restated
	£000s	2011
		£000s
Other income from non-patient services	132	217
Seconded staff	0	0
Charitable and other contributions to expenditure	0	0
Donations / Government grant / Lottery funding for non current assets	0	0
Profit on disposal of land	0	0
Interest receivable	0	0
Total	132	217

5.3 Deferred Income

	2012	Restated
	£000s	2011
		£000s
Income released from conditional grants	0	0
Total	0	0
TOTAL INCOME	1,708	1,657

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 6 PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

6.1 Property, Plant & Equipment - Year Ended 31 March 2012

Land £000s	Buildings (excluding dwellings) £000s	Assets under Construction £000s	Plant and Machinery (Equipment) £000s	Transport Equipment £000s	Information Technology (IT) £000s	Furniture & Fittings £000s	Total £000s
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Cost or Valuation

At 1 April 2011	1,267	7,592	2,776	6,317	20,564	1,094	235	39,845
Indexation	0	277	0	567	0	0	0	844
Additions	0	0	947	0	2,220	267	0	3,434
Donations / Government grant / Lottery funding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	(2,776)	41	2,776	0	0	41
Transfers	0	0	0	0	(2,113)	0	0	(2,113)
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	(64)	0	0	0	0	(15)	0	(79)
Reversal of impairments (indexation)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	(1,145)	(1,411)	(171)	0	(2,727)
At 31 March 2012	1,203	7,869	947	5,780	22,036	1,175	235	39,245

Depreciation

At 1 April 2011	0	303	0	3,523	11,074	383	33	15,316
Indexation	0	11	0	316	0	0	0	327
Reclassifications	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Transfers	0	0	0	0	(2,113)	0	0	(2,113)
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	(2)	0	(2)
Reversal of impairments (indexation)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	(1,145)	(1,410)	(171)	0	(2,726)
Provided during the year	0	214	0	771	2,332	180	14	3,511
At 31 March 2012	0	528	0	3,468	9,883	390	47	14,316

Carrying Amount

At 31 March 2012	1,203	7,341	947	2,312	12,153	785	188	24,929
At 31 March 2011	1,267	7,289	2,776	2,794	9,490	711	202	24,529

Asset Financing

Owned	1,203	7,341	947	2,312	12,153	785	188	24,929
Finance leased	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
On B/S PFI and other service concession arrangements contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2012	1,203	7,341	947	2,312	12,153	785	188	24,929

The total amount of depreciation charged in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure Account in respect of assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts is £nil (2011 £nil and 2010 £nil).

During the year the Trust had no assets funded from donations, government grants or lottery funding.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 6 PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

6.2 Property, Plant & Equipment - Year Ended 31 March 2011

Land £000s	Buildings (excluding dwellings) £000s	Assets under Construction £000s	Plant and Machinery (Equipment) £000s	Transport Equipment £000s	Information Technology (IT) £000s	Furniture & Fittings £000s	Total £000s
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Cost or Valuation

At 1 April 2010	1,385	7,251	257	6,434	23,076	726	125	39,254
Indexation	0	273	0	159	0	14	110	556
Additions	0	68	2,776	0	1,392	388	0	4,624
Donations / Government grant / Lottery funding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	(257)	0	257	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	(848)	0	0	(848)
Revaluation	105	0	0	0	0	0	0	105
(Impairments)	(223)	0	0	0	(549)	0	0	(772)
Reversal of impairments (indexation)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	(276)	(2,764)	(34)	0	(3,074)
At 31 March 2011	1,267	7,592	2,776	6,317	20,564	1,094	235	39,845

Depreciation

At 1 April 2010	0	96	0	3,012	12,742	290	10	16,150
Indexation	0	4	0	74	0	0	12	90
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	(848)	0	0	(848)
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	(547)	0	0	(547)
Reversal of impairments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	(276)	(2,752)	(36)	0	(3,064)
Provided during the year	0	203	0	713	2,479	129	11	3,535
At 31 March 2011	0	303	0	3,523	11,074	383	33	15,316

Carrying Amount

At 31 March 2011	1,267	7,289	2,776	2,794	9,490	711	202	24,529
At 01 April 2010	1,385	7,155	257	3,422	10,334	436	115	23,104

Asset Financing

Owned	1,267	7,289	2,776	2,794	9,490	711	202	24,529
Finance Leased	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
On B/S PFI and other service concession arrangements contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2011	1,267	7,289	2,776	2,794	9,490	711	202	24,529

Asset Financing

Owned	1,385	7,155	257	3,422	10,334	436	115	23,104
Finance Leased	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
On B/S PFI and other service concession arrangements contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2010	1,385	7,155	257	3,422	10,334	436	115	23,104

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 7 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

7.1 Intangible Assets - Year Ended 31 March 2012

Software Licenses £000s	Information Technology (IT) £000s	Websites £000s	Development Expenditure £000s	Payments on Account & Assets under Construction £000s	Total £000s
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Cost or Valuation

At 1 April 2011	85	0	30	0	0	115
Indexation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Donations / Government grant / Lottery funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2012	85	0	30	0	0	115

Amortisation

At 1 April 2011	49	0	0	0	0	49
Indexation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provided during the year	17	0	5	0	0	22
At 31 March 2012	66	0	5	0	0	71

Carrying Amount

At 31 March 2012	19	0	25	0	0	44
At 31 March 2011	36	0	30	0	0	66

Asset Financing

Owned	19	0	25	0	0	44
Finance Leased	0	0	0	0	0	0
On B/S PFI and other service concession arrangements contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2012	19	0	25	0	0	44

During the year the Trust had no assets funded from donations, government grants or lottery funding.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 7 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

7.2 Intangible Assets - Year Ended 31 March 2011

Software Licenses £000s	Information Technology (IT) £000s	Websites £000s	Development Expenditure £000s	Payments on Account & Assets under Construction £000s	Total £000s
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Cost or Valuation

At 1 April 2010	85	0	0	0	30	115
Indexation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Donations / Government grant / Lottery funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	30	0	(30)	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2011	85	0	30	0	0	115

Amortisation

At 1 April 2010	26	0	0	0	0	26
Indexation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provided during the year	23	0	0	0	0	23
At 31 March 2011	49	0	0	0	0	49

Carrying Amount

At 31 March 2011	36	0	30	0	0	66
At 01 April 2010	59	0	0	0	30	89

Asset Financing

Owned	36	0	30	0	0	66
Finance Leased	0	0	0	0	0	0
On B/S PFI and other service concession arrangements contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2011	36	0	30	0	0	66

Asset Financing

Owned	59	0	0	0	30	89
Finance Leased	0	0	0	0	0	0
On B/S PFI and other service concession arrangements contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2010	59	0	0	0	30	89

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 8 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

8.1 Financial Instruments

As the cash requirements of the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust are met through Grant-in-Aid provided by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, financial instruments play a more limited role in creating and managing risk than would apply to a non-public sector body. The majority of the Trusts financial instruments relate to contracts to buy non-financial items in line with the Trusts expected purchase and usage requirements and the Trust is therefore exposed to little credit, liquidity or market risk.

8.2 Financial Guarantees, Indemnities and Letters of Comfort

The Trust has not entered into any of the following: quantifiable guarantees, indemnities or provided letters of comfort. None of these are a contingent liability under the meaning of IAS37, since the likelihood of a transfer of economic benefit in settlement is too remote. They therefore fail to be measured following the requirements of IAS39. Managing public money requires that the full potential costs of such contracts be reported.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 9 ASSETS CLASSIFIED AS HELD FOR SALE

9.1 Assets Classified as Held for Sale

	2012 £000s	Transport 2011 £000s	2010 £000s
Cost			
At 1 April	848	368	0
Transfers from non current assets	2,113	848	368
(Disposals)	(510)	(368)	0
Impairment	0	0	0
At 31 March	2,451	848	368
Depreciation			
At 1 April	848	366	0
Transfers from non current assets	2,113	848	366
(Disposals)	(510)	(366)	0
Impairment	0	0	0
At 31 March	2,451	848	366
Carrying Amount at 31 March	0	0	2

Non current assets held for sale comprise non current assets that are held for resale rather than for continuing use within the business.

At 31 March 2012 non current assets held for resale comprise A&E Ambulances and other support vehicles.

Due to the specification of ambulance vehicles, their age and high mileage, the resale market is uncertain and most vehicles are sold through auction houses or a contract with the Ministry of Defence.

During the year ended 31 March 2012, vehicles with a fair value (less costs to sell) of £1,632 (2011: £13,942 and 2010: £13,521) and general equipment with a fair value (less costs to sell) of £nil (2011: £nil and 2010: £nil) and IT equipment with a fair value (less costs to sell) of £nil (2011: £nil and 2010: £3,055) were sold.

The assets are valued at the lower of their carrying value (representing net book value) and fair value (less costs to sell).

There is a net decrease to net expenditure of £nil for the year ended 31 March 2012 (2011: £nil).

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 10 IMPAIRMENTS

10.1 Impairments

	2012		
	Property, Plant & Equipment £000s	Intangibles £000s	Total £000s
Total value of impairments for the period	77	0	77
Impairments which Revaluation Reserve covers (shown in Other Comprehensive Expenditure Statement)	(61)	0	(61)
Impairments charged / (credited) to Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure	16	0	16
	2011		
	Property, Plant & Equipment £000s	Intangibles £000s	Total £000s
Total value of impairments for the period	225	0	225
Impairments which Revaluation Reserve covers (shown in Other Comprehensive Expenditure Statement)	(166)	0	(166)
Impairments charged / (credited) to Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure	59	0	59
	2010		
	Property, Plant & Equipment £000s	Intangibles £000s	Total £000s
Total value of impairments for the period	2,815	0	2,815
Impairments which Revaluation Reserve covers (shown in Other Comprehensive Expenditure Statement)	(1,847)	0	(1,847)
Impairments charged / (credited) to Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure	968	0	968

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 11 INVENTORIES

11.1 Inventories

	2012 £000s	2011 £000s	2010 £000s
Pharmacy supplies	0	0	0
Theatre equipment	0	0	0
Building & engineering supplies	0	0	0
Fuel	16	11	16
Community care appliances	0	0	0
Laboratory materials	0	0	0
Stationery	8	6	7
Laundry	0	0	0
X-Ray	0	0	0
Stock held for resale	0	0	0
Orthopaedic equipment	0	0	0
Heat, light and power	0	0	0
Medical & surgical equipment	38	22	26
Other	15	9	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	77	48	54
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 12 TRADE RECEIVABLES AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

12.1 Trade Receivables and Other Current Assets

	2012 £000s	2011 £000s	2010 £000s
Amounts Falling Due Within One Year			
Trade receivables	52	32	1,387
Deposits and advances	0	0	0
VAT receivable	295	336	399
Other receivables - not relating to fixed assets	0	0	0
Other receivables - relating to property plant and equipment	0	0	0
Other receivables - relating to intangibles	0	0	0
Other receivables	42	32	55
Trade and Other Receivables	389	400	1,841
Prepayments and accrued income	94	201	97
Current part of PFI and other service concession arrangements prepayment	0	0	0
Other Current Assets	94	201	97
Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year			
Trade receivables	0	0	0
Deposits and advances	0	0	0
Other receivables	0	0	0
Trade and Other Receivables	0	0	0
Prepayments and accrued income	0	0	0
Other Current Assets Falling Due After More Than One Year	0	0	0
TOTAL TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	389	400	1,841
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	94	201	97
TOTAL RECEIVABLES AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	483	601	1,938

The balances are net of a provision for bad debts of £nil (2011 £nil and 2010 £nil).

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 12 TRADE RECEIVABLES AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

12.2 Trade Receivables and Other Current Assets: Intra-Government Balances

	Amounts falling due within 1 year 2012 £000s	Amounts falling due within 1 year 2011 £000s	Amounts falling due within 1 year 2010 £000s	Amounts falling due after more than 1 year 2012 £000s	Amounts falling due after more than 1 year 2011 £000s	Amounts falling due after more than 1 year 2010 £000s
Balances with:						
Other central government bodies	348	337	1,123	0	0	0
Local authorities	4	3	5	0	0	0
NHS / HSC Trusts	15	32	666	0	0	0
Public corporations and trading funds	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intra - Government Balances	367	372	1,794	0	0	0
Bodies external to government	116	229	144	0	0	0
Total Receivables and Other Current Assets at 31 March	483	601	1,938	0	0	0

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 13 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

13.1 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2012 £000s	2011 £000s	2010 £000s
Balance at 1st April	98	96	101
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(3)	2	(5)
Balance at 31st March	95	98	96

The following balances at 31 March were held at

	2012 £000s	2011 £000s	2010 £000s
Commercial banks and cash in hand	95	98	96
Balance at 31st March	95	98	96

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 14 TRADE PAYABLES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

14.1 Trade Payables and Other Current Liabilities

	2012 £000s	2011 £000s	2010 £000s
Amounts Falling Due Within One Year			
Other taxation and social security	1,025	1,000	950
VAT payable	0	0	0
Bank overdraft	0	0	0
Trade capital payables - property, plant & equipment	15	15	46
Trade capital payables - intangibles	0	0	0
Trade revenue payables	1,003	1,239	1,181
Payroll payables	2,981	1,576	6,858
RPA payables	0	0	0
BSO payables	98	111	119
Other capital payables - property, plant & equipment	2,646	4,088	1,614
Other capital payables - intangibles	260	41	26
Other payables	1,443	765	1,594
Accruals and deferred income	432	671	111
Accruals and deferred income - relating to property, plant & equipment	0	0	0
Accruals and deferred income - relating to intangibles	0	0	0
	9,903	9,506	12,499
Trade and Other Payables			
Current part of finance leases	0	0	0
Current part of long term loans	0	0	0
Current part of imputed finance lease element of on balance sheet (SoFP)	0	0	0
PFI and other service concession arrangements contracts	0	0	0
	0	0	0
Other Current Liabilities			
	9,903	9,506	12,499
Total Payables Falling Due Within One Year			
Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year			
Other payables, accruals and deferred income	0	0	0
Trade and other payables	0	0	0
Clinical negligence payables	0	0	0
Finance leases	0	0	0
Imputed finance lease element of on balance sheet (SoFP) PFI and other service concession arrangements contracts	0	0	0
Long term loans	2,261	2,261	2,261
	2,261	2,261	2,261
Total Non Current Other Payables			
	12,164	11,767	14,760
TOTAL TRADE PAYABLES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES			
	12,164	11,767	14,760

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 14 TRADE PAYABLES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

14.2 Trade Payables and Other Current Liabilities: Intra-Government Balances

	Amounts falling due within 1 year 2012 £000s	Amounts falling due within 1 year 2011 £000s	Amounts falling due within 1 year 2010 £000s	Amounts falling due after more than 1 year 2012 £000s	Amounts falling due after more than 1 year 2011 £000s	Amounts falling due after more than 1 year 2010 £000s
Balances with:						
Other central government bodies	1,786	1,672	1,757	2,261	2,261	2,261
Local authorities	1	6	3	0	0	0
NHS / HSC Trusts	626	718	587	0	0	0
Public corporations and trading funds	1	3	1	0	0	0
Intra-Government Balances	2,414	2,399	2,348	2,261	2,261	2,261
Bodies external to government	7,489	7,107	10,151	0	0	0
Total Payables and other liabilities at 31 March	9,903	9,506	12,499	2,261	2,261	2,261

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 14 TRADE PAYABLES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

14.3 Loans

	Government Loans		
	2012	2011	2010
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Amounts Falling Due:			
In one year or less	0	0	0
Between one and two years	0	0	0
Between two and five years	2,261	2,261	2,261
In five years or more	0	0	0
Total	2,261	2,261	2,261
	2012	2011	2010
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Wholly repayable within five years	2,261	2,261	2,261
Wholly repayable after five years, not by instalments	0	0	0
Wholly or partially repayable after five years by instalments	0	0	0
Total	2,261	2,261	2,261
Total Repayable after five years by instalments	0	0	0
Loans wholly or partially repayable after five years:	0	0	0
Terms of Payment	Interest Rate		
Originating Capital Debt	8.75%		

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 15 PROMPT PAYMENT POLICY

15.1 Public Sector Payment Policy - Measure of Compliance

The Department requires that Trusts pay their non HSC trade creditors in accordance with the Better Payments Practice Code and Government Accounting Rules. The Trust's payment policy is consistent with the Better Payments Practice Code and Government Accounting rules and its measure of compliance is:

	2012		2011	
	Number	Value £000s	Number	Value £000s
Total bills paid	15,081	16,640	15,137	13,128
Total bills paid within 30 day target or under agreed payment terms	14,700	16,285	14,764	12,838
% of bills paid within 30 day target or under agreed payment terms	97.5%	97.9%	97.5%	97.8%

15.2 The Late Payment of Commercial Debts Regulations 2002

	£
Amount of Compensation paid for payment(s) being late	0
Amount of Interest paid for payment(s) being late	0
Total	0

This is also reflected as a fruitless payment in Note 25.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 16 PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

16.1 Provisions for Liabilities and Charges - 2012

	Pensions relating to former directors £000s	Pensions relating to other staff £000s	Clinical Negligence £000s	Other £000s	2012 £000s
Balance at 1 April 2011	0	0	526	2,997	3,523
Provided in year	0	0	20	225	245
(Provisions not required written back)	0	0	(31)	(73)	(104)
(Provisions utilised in the year)	0	0	0	(599)	(599)
Cost of borrowing (unwinding of discount)	0	0	22	56	78
At 31 March 2012	0	0	537	2,606	3,143

Provisions have been made for 3 types of potential liability: Clinical Negligence, Employer's and Occupier's Liability, Injury Benefit. The provision for Injury Benefit relates to the future liabilities for the Trust based on information provided by the HSC Superannuation Branch. For Clinical Negligence, Employer's and Occupier's claims the Trust has estimated an appropriate level of provision based on professional legal advice.

The Trust has no provisions relating to either the Review of Public Administration or the Comprehensive Spending Review.

16.2 Comprehensive Net Expenditure Account Charges

	2012 £000s	2011 £'000
Arising during the year	245	697
Reversed unused	(104)	(162)
Cost of borrowing (unwinding of discount)	78	79
Total Charge within Operating Expenses	219	614

16.3 Analysis of Expected Timing of Discounted Flows - 2012

	Pensions relating to former directors £000s	Pensions relating to other staff £000s	Clinical Negligence £000s	Other £000s	2012 £000s
Not later than one year	0	0	23	270	293
Later than one year and not later than five years	0	0	514	387	901
Later than five years	0	0	0	1,949	1,949
At 31 March 2012	0	0	537	2,606	3,143

The provision in respect of other liabilities and charges comprises £178k for Employer's and Occupier's Liability and £2,428k for Injury Benefit.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 16 PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

16.4 Provisions for Liabilities and Charges - 2011

	Pensions relating to former directors £000s	Pensions relating to other staff £000s	Clinical Negligence £000s	Other £000s	2011 £000s
Balance at 1 April 2010	0	0	50	3,105	3,155
Provided in year	0	0	471	226	697
(Provisions not required written back)	0	0	(13)	(149)	(162)
(Provisions utilised in the year)	0	0	(4)	(242)	(246)
Cost of borrowing (unwinding of discount)	0	0	22	57	79
At 31 March 2011	0	0	526	2,997	3,523

Provisions have been made for 4 types of potential liability: Clinical Negligence, Employer's and Occupier's Liability, Injury Benefit and Accrued Leave. The provision for Injury Benefit relates to the future liabilities for the Trust based on information provided by the HSC Superannuation Branch. For Clinical Negligence, Employer's and Occupier's claims the Trust has estimated an appropriate level of provision based on professional legal advice. The provision for Accrued Leave will crystallise as individuals retire or leave the service at future dates and relates to a change in how annual leave was earned (from an arrears basis to current basis) with effect from April 1986.

The Trust has no provisions relating to either the Review of Public Administration or the Comprehensive Spending Review.

16.5 Analysis of Expected Timing of Discounted Flows - 2011

	Pensions relating to former directors £000s	Pensions relating to other staff £000s	Clinical Negligence £000s	Other £000s	2011 £000s
Not later than one year	0	0	19	306	325
Later than one year and not later than five years	0	0	507	568	1,075
Later than five years	0	0	0	2,123	2,123
At 31 March 2011	0	0	526	2,997	3,523

The provision in respect of other liabilities and charges comprises £361k for Accrued Leave, £192k for Employer's and Occupier's Liability and £2,444k for Injury Benefit.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 17 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

17.1 Contracted Capital Commitments at 31 March not otherwise included in these Financial Statements

	2012 £000s	2011 £000s	2010 £000s
Property, plant & equipment	0	115	0
Intangible assets	0	0	0
	0	115	0

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 18 COMMITMENTS UNDER LEASES

18.1 Operating Leases

Total future minimum lease payments under operating leases are given in the table below for each of the following periods:

Obligations under Operating Leases Comprise:	2012 £000s	2011 £000s	2010 £000s
Land			
Not later than 1 year	0	0	0
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	0	0	0
Later than 5 years	0	0	0
	0	0	0
Buildings			
Not later than 1 year	206	215	213
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	560	678	778
Later than 5 years	97	190	298
	863	1,083	1,289
Other			
Not later than 1 year	0	1	2
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	0	0	1
Later than 5 years	0	0	0
	0	1	3

Obligations under operating leases for Ambulance Stations are recorded fully under Buildings, as the leases do not split the lease cost between land and buildings.

18.2 Finance Leases

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust has not entered into any finance leases as at 31 March 2012.

18.3 Operating Leases - Lessor Agreements

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust has not entered into any lessor agreements as at 31 March 2012.

NOTE 19 COMMITMENTS UNDER PFI & OTHER SERVICE CONCESSION ARRANGEMENT CONTRACTS

19.1 PFI Contracts

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust has not entered into any PFI contracts as at 31 March 2012.

NOTE 20 OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

20.1 Other Financial Commitments

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust has not entered into any non cancellable contracts (which are not leases or PFI and other service concession arrangements contracts) as at 31 March 2012.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 21 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

21.1 Contingent Liabilities

Material contingent liabilities are noted in the table below, where there is a 50% or less probability that a payment will be required to settle any possible obligations. The amounts or timing of any outflow will depend on the merits of each case.

	2012 £000s	2011 £000s	2010 £000s
Clinical negligence	7	14	10
Public liability	0	0	0
Employers' liability	0	0	0
Accrued leave	0	0	0
Injury benefit	0	0	126
Other	0	0	0
Total	7	14	136

The contingent liability for injury benefit relates to employee applications to the DHSSPS outstanding as at the 31 March (none in 2012, none in 2011 and 1 in 2010). The estimated financial impact if approved would be an annual charge to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure (£nil in 2012, £nil in 2011 and £6k in 2010) and an increase in provisions (£nil in 2012, £nil in 2011 and £126k in 2010). Uncertainties relate to the DHSSPS application process, the pension figures approved and the remaining life of the applicants.

The Trust continues with the agreed process in respect of Agenda for Change in partnership with Trade Unions. However, at this stage, there remain uncertainties over the outcome of the process and the Trust cannot establish the extent to which claims that could be made, nor can it make a reliable estimate of any potential claims under employment legislation that may arise. The Trust therefore, recognises this as a contingent liability under IAS 37.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 22 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

22.1 Related Party Transactions

The Trust is required to disclose details of transactions with individuals who are regarded as related parties consistent with the requirements of IAS24 - Related Party Transactions. This disclosure is recorded in the Trust's Register of Interests which is maintained by the Office of the Director of Finance and is available for inspection by members of the public.

During the year, none of the board members, members of the key management staff or other related parties has undertaken any material transactions with the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust.

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust is an arms length body of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety and as such the Department is a related party and the ultimate controlling parent with which the Trust has had various material transactions during the year. During the year the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust has had a number of material transactions with other entities for which the Department is regarded as the ultimate controlling parent. These entities include the Health and Social Care Board, the other five HSC Trusts and the Business Services Organisation.

NOTE 23 THIRD PARTY ASSETS

23.1 Third Party Assets

The Trust held £nil cash at bank and in hand at 31 March 2012 which relates to monies held by the Trust on behalf of patients. The Trust does not hold any monies on behalf of patients due to the nature of the service provided.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 24 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TARGETS

24.1 Revenue Resource Limit

The Trust is given a Revenue Resource Limit which it is not permitted to overspend

The Revenue Resource Limit (RRL) for the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust is calculated as follows:

	2012 Total £000s	2011 Total £000s
HSCB	57,391	49,038
PHA	47	0
SUMDE & NIMDTA	0	0
DHSSPS (excludes non cash)	54	0
Other Government Departments	0	0
Non cash RRL (from DHSSPS)	3,167	3,940
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Revenue Resource Limit to Statement Comprehensive Net Expenditure	60,659	52,978
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

24.2 Capital Resource Limit

The Trust is given a Capital Resource Limit (CRL) which it is not permitted to overspend.

	2012 Total £000s	2011 Total £000s
Gross capital expenditure	3,434	4,624
(Receipts from sales of fixed assets authorised to be used for capital expenditure)	0	(11)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net capital expenditure	3,434	4,613
Capital Resource Limit	3,435	4,613
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Overspend / (Underspend) against CRL	(1)	0
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 24 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TARGETS

24.3 Break Even Performance

The Trust is required to ensure that it breaks even on an annual basis by containing its net expenditure to within 0.25 % of RRL limits.

	2012 £000s	2011 £000s
Net Expenditure	(60,582)	(52,967)
RRL	<u>60,659</u>	<u>52,978</u>
Surplus / (Deficit) against RRL	77	11
Break Even cumulative position (opening)	<u>599</u>	<u>588</u>
Break Even Cumulative Position (closing)	<u><u>676</u></u>	<u><u>599</u></u>

Materiality Test:

	2012 %	2011 %
Break Even in year position as % of RRL	<u>0.13%</u>	<u>0.02%</u>
Break Even cumulative position as % of RRL	<u>1.11%</u>	<u>1.13%</u>

The Department recognises a material surplus or deficit as 0.25% of RRL. The in year break even position is therefore not considered material for any of the last 5 years. The cumulative position at 31 March 2012 is £676k (1.11% of total revenue), which is considered material. This amount is the cumulative effect of non material surpluses building each year since the inception of the Trust.

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE HSC TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

NOTE 25 LOSSES & SPECIAL PAYMENTS

25.1 Analysis of Losses & Special Payments

	TYPE OF LOSS	NO. OF CASES	VALUE £
1	Cash Losses - Theft, fraud etc.	0	0
2	Cash Losses - Overpayments of salaries, wages and allowances	0	0
3	Cash Losses - Other causes (including unvouched and incompletely vouched payments)	0	0
4	Nugatory and fruitless payments		
	i. Abandoned capital schemes	0	0
	ii. Late Payment of Commercial Debt	0	0
	iii. Other	3	1,088
5	Bad debts and claims abandoned	0	0
6	Stores and Inventory Losses - Theft, fraud, arson (whether proved or		
	i. Bedding and linen	0	0
	ii. Other equipment and property	0	0
7	Stores and Inventory Losses - Incidents of the service (result of fire, flood, etc)	0	0
8	Stores and Inventory Losses - Deterioration in store	0	0
9	Stores and Inventory Losses - Stocktaking discrepancies	0	0
10	Stores and Inventory Losses - Other causes		
	i. Bedding and linen	0	0
	ii. Other equipment and property	0	0
11	Compensation payments (legal obligation)		
	i. Clinical Negligence	0	0
	ii. Public Liability	0	0
	iii. Employers Liability	10	58,112
12	Ex-gratia payments - Compensation payments (including payments to patients and staff)	0	0
13	Ex-gratia payments - Other payments	5	1,595
14	Extra statutory payments	0	0
15	a. Losses sustained as a result of damage to buildings and fixtures arising from bomb explosions or civil commotion.	0	0
	b. Damage to vehicles	0	0
	TOTAL	18	60,795

25.2 Special Payments

The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust did not make any special payments or gifts during the year.

NOTE 26 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

26.1 Post Balance Sheet Events

There are no post balance sheet events which have a material effect on the accounts.

NOTE 27 DATE AUTHORISED FOR ISSUE

27.1 Date Authorised for Issue

The Accounting Officer authorised these financial statements for issue on 25 June 2012.

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