


northern
ireland social care council



Northern Ireland Social Care Council

Making a Difference through Regulation and Training

The Annual Report and Accounts of the
Northern Ireland Social Care Council
April 2010 – March 2011

Our Mission

We will protect the public by promoting confidence, competence and credibility in the social care workforce

- Confidence**
 - Registrants are safe and competent to practise
 - Systems of regulation are effective to protect the public from any risk
- Competence**
 - Training is fit for purpose
 - Training is evidence-based
 - Knowledge and skills are continually improved through lifelong learning
- Credibility**
 - Council operates in such a way that it protects the public effectively, while recognising the rights of registrants to be treated fairly
 - Social care workers make a valuable contribution to society
 - Social care is a worthwhile and rewarding career

This report is available from the NISCC website **www.niscc.info** or via email at **info@nisocialcarecouncil.org.uk** Copies can be made available in a range of different formats on request by contacting the NISCC Communications Officer at the address below.

We welcome your feedback on this report. Please contact the NISCC Communications Officer with your comments or queries.

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29 June 2011

**The Northern Ireland Social Care Council Annual Report and Accounts
For the Year ended 31 March 2011**

The Accounting Officer authorised these financial statements for issue on

29 June 2011

Laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly
Under Paragraph 12(4) of Schedule 1 to the Health and Personal Social Services Act
(Northern Ireland) 2001

By the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety and Auditor General

On

15 August 2011

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Contents

A View from the Chair	1
Chief Executive's Report	2
Management Commentary	3
Our Aim	4
Our Principles	4
NISCC Strategic Objectives 2010/11	5
Our Achievements for 2010/11	6
Maintaining Accountability	17
Council Membership and Committees	19
Personal Public Involvement (PPI) Report	22
Audit Committee Report	24
Financial Information in relation to the Annual Accounts 2010/11	26
Remuneration Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2011	28
Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2011	32
Statement of the Accounting Officer's Responsibilities	33
Certificate of Chair and Chief Executive	34
Statement on Internal Control	35
Certificate and Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the Northern Ireland Assembly	42
Appendix I – Organisational Chart	91
Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations	92

A View from the Chair

This Annual Report explains the work delivered by the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC) during the period April 2010 to March 2011 – its ninth year since its establishment in 2001.

I am delighted to be joining the NISCC at such an important time in its development with the further roll-out of compulsory registration over the next 18 months to include groups such as social care managers of residential, day care and domiciliary care. The NISCC continues to build progress, year on year, against its overarching strategic aim to protect the public by ensuring that those who deliver social care services are fit to do so.

The NISCC continues to be a leading example of how social care services can be regulated, and has made strident steps to continually review and appraise how the social care workforce is supported and trained by working together with employers and others to ensure that social workers are of the highest calibre and demonstrate standards in which we can all be proud.

This Annual Report explains how the NISCC has continued to deliver its support services and, at the same time, review and modernise the way in which it delivers those services. The NISCC does not stand alone – it plays a pivotal role in partnership with others to improve public confidence in the social care system which supports those in Northern Ireland who avail of such services, including those who need the support of the social care system on a short term basis.

The NISCC continues to recognise that in order to be the best at what it does it needs to continually seek the engagement of others and be open to new ways of working and finding innovative solutions in what, for all of us, are difficult economic times. The NISCC Participation Group and the Registrants'

Committee are but a few of the ways in which the NISCC demonstrates its commitment to listening and responding to its service users – the people who use social care services, carers, registrants, and their employers.

The importance of engendering public confidence in the social care workforce is something upon which our Minister, Michael McGimpsey, commented on a recent visit to the NISCC when he met with Council Members and staff, and stated that "My aim is to ensure that the social care workforce commands public confidence and that we have a competent, confident workforce, one in which every worker is trusted and respected by service users and their families."

The NISCC is the cornerstone in realising this aim and 2010/11 has been another remarkable year of achievement for NISCC which has required the commitment and dedication of its workforce who together turn business objectives into a reality that makes a real and visible improvement to the social care workforce and those who avail of those services.



It is therefore with my sincere pleasure that I commend this report to you.

Lily Kerr, NISCC Chair

Chief Executive's Report

This has been another successful year in which the NISCC has met all of its business objectives and has dealt proactively and enthusiastically with a range of challenges. We have delivered our statutory remit to a high level of quality within a strong and effective system of governance. We have dealt proactively with changes in the regulatory landscape throughout the United Kingdom. We continue to play an active role in the debate about best practice in professional regulation and ensure that the NISCC processes and procedures continue to reflect best practice.

In 2010/2011, the NISCC has delivered on a number of high-level achievements which are detailed in this Annual Report.

In addition we welcome and look forward to working with our new Chair, Lily Kerr, who took office in December 2010 following the retirement of our outgoing Chair, Dr Jeremy Harbison. It is important to acknowledge the contribution of Dr Harbison who has provided sterling leadership to the NISCC since its foundation in 2001 and has established it as a strong and credible authority in the field of social care. I should also like to thank our interim Chair, Jim Perry, who held office until Lily Kerr's appointment in December 2010.

Registration of the social care workforce has grown by 7% since last year and there are now over 14,000 registrants included on the register, the majority of those opting to do so on a voluntary basis. The Minister for Health, Michael McGimpsey, has extended compulsory registration to further designated groups and this will increase the number of those registered to c.20,000 by December 2012. I have no doubt, based on the NISCC's previous performance, that it will deliver this ministerial priority on time and within the resources available to it.

We have continued to improve the way in which we operate our registration function by finding new and innovative ways through which our registrants access and use our services, by developing our

online facilities with the provision of online payment services and interactive registration forms for students.

It is also important that we continue to promote our extensive range of services and develop user-friendly guidance and support materials, and to this end we have continued to ensure our guidance is up to date and reflects best practice. We have reviewed and updated our guidance for those undertaking a Degree in Social Work, Post Registration Training and Learning guidance for social workers, and a guide to the Qualifications and Credit Framework.

Our regulation and conduct activities continue to show a steady increase, with 99 allegations of misconduct by a registrant being referred to the NISCC during 2010/11. Our robust regulation and conduct functions ensure that all those on the register have been assessed as fit to be registered – something which provides assurance to those who avail of social care services.

The many achievements outlined in this Annual Report would not have been possible without the hard work, support and commitment of Council Members, the NISCC staff and our partner organisations, and I would like to take this opportunity to record my appreciation to all those involved in continuing to make the NISCC a successful organisation which makes a difference to the lives of many people in Northern Ireland. I also look forward to working with each of them in the year ahead.



Brendan Johnston, NISCC Chief Executive

Management Commentary

The Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC) is a Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB) sponsored by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety. The NISCC is helping to raise standards in social care through the registration of the social care workforce and setting standards for their conduct, training and practice. In doing so, the NISCC engages with a variety of stakeholders including service users, carers, the social care workforce, employers, training providers and government agencies. The NISCC also works collaboratively with its counterparts in England, Scotland and Wales.

The NISCC is a partner in Skills for Care and Development (SfCD), a Sector Skills Council responsible for social care and children's services throughout the UK. Sector Skills Councils are independent, UK wide organisations licensed by the Department for Education and Skills to support employers in the training and development of the workforce.

The NISCC is led by a Council which comprises a Chair and 12 non-executive Members¹ who have responsibility for ensuring the Council's strategic direction and its policies and actions are in support of the wider strategic policies of its Minister. Details of the Council structure and its membership are detailed at page 19 of this Annual Report.

The NISCC's organisational structure is headed by a Chief Executive who is also the designated Accounting Officer. During the period April to September 2010, he was supported by three Directors covering the functions of – Corporate Services, Registration, and Education and Training. However, following an organisational restructure, this was consolidated into a two Directorate model of 'Corporate Services and Registration' and 'Regulation and Professional Training'. To underpin this new structure a number of other functions were streamlined to help the NISCC to continually improve its customer service delivery and to ensure the NISCC continues to be an efficient and modern public service.

The NISCC's organisational structure can be found at Appendix I.

¹ There are currently 10 Members in post. The remaining two vacancies have recently been advertised by the DHSSPS

Our Aim

To protect the public through improving safeguards for vulnerable people, raising the standards of social care practice and strengthening the professionalism of the workforce.

To achieve this we will:

- **Set standards of practice** for social care workers and their employers to promote a safe, reliable and competent service
- **Register the social care workforce** to assure the public that a social care worker registered with the NISCC will be viewed as safe and competent to practise
- **Regulate social work training** to ensure it prepares staff to do the job expected of them
- **Promote education and training** for all social care staff

Our Principles

- **Service User and Carer Involvement:** Ensuring service users and carers can influence, challenge and advise the work of the NISCC.
- **Enable, Support and Value:** Supporting Council Members, staff, service users and carers to maximise their contribution to the work of the NISCC.
- **Inclusive Leadership:** Working with the social care workforce, service users, carers and other stakeholders in a spirit of constructive partnership.
- **Equity and Fairness:** Supporting equality of opportunity and valuing diversity.
- **Committed to Excellence:** Continually seeking to improve what we do and how we do it

NISCC Strategic Objectives 2010/11

The NISCC Business Plan sets out what we plan to achieve during each financial year. We set six Strategic Objectives for 2010/11.

Strategic Objective 1

To strengthen public protection through registration of the social care workforce

Strategic Objective 2

To strengthen public protection by regulating the conduct and practice of the social care workforce

Strategic Objective 3

To improve the quality of social care through the development, promotion and regulation of education and training

Strategic Objective 4

To strengthen and support the professionalism of the social care workforce

Strategic Objective 5

To discharge its responsibilities informed by the views of users of social care services, carers, registrants and other key stakeholders

Strategic Objective 6

To maximise the contribution of our human and financial resources by investing in our people and delivering value for money in all our activities, whilst ensuring the highest levels of governance in Council

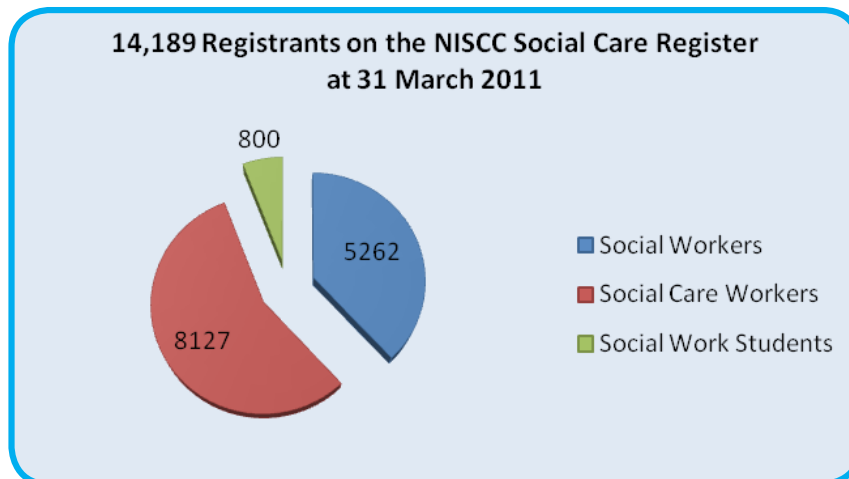
Our Achievements for 2010/11

Strategic Objective 1 - achievements for 2010/11

to strengthen public protection through registration of the social care workforce

During 2010/11 we –

- Established a wide range of Key Performance Indicators to support the management of the Register. At the end of March 2011 14,189 registrants were registered on the NISCC register – an increase of 7% on 2009/10. 2,616 new applications for registration and 1,903 applications to renew registrations were processed during the year.



- Developed online payment facilities to give registrants a wider choice in the way in which they pay their fees.
- Took forward a promotions programme to encourage registrants to use the new online facilities to not only pay their fees but also update any relevant changes in their circumstances. The new services are about giving our customers more choice and more access in the way in which they use our services.

A recent survey of those who use NISCC registration services showed that 98% of users found the NISCC helpful in dealing with their query

- Rolled-out an interactive registration form for students to enable them to complete their applications online and control how and when they complete the form.
- Introduced new standards for the Assessed Year in Employment for newly qualified social workers from 1 July 2010. In light of this, we also produced revised guidance for Employers and AYE Registrants.
- Commenced a review of our ICT registration and regulation system 'OSCAR' (Online Social CARE Register) with a view to putting in place a new ICT system to support registration and regulation which will meet customer needs and deliver value for money.



- Following a public consultation on compulsory registration during 2009, the Minister for Health and Social Services, Michael McGimpsey MLA, announced, in December 2010, that compulsory registration would be rolled-out as follows –

Groups in the first stage of the Roll-out	Completion Date
Social Care Managers of Residential, Day Care & Domiciliary Care	September 2011
Social Care Workers in Residential Child Care	September 2011
Social Care Workers in Adult Residential/Nursing Home Settings	December 2012

Work has commenced in preparation for the further roll-out of compulsory registration as agreed by the Minister in December 2010 and will be progressed during the next business year, 2011/12.

Strategic Objective 2 - achievements for 2010/11

to strengthen public protection by regulating the conduct and practice of the social care workforce

During 2010/11 we -

- **Facilitated the Registration Committee which considered 32 social care workers' registration applications to assess their suitability to work in social care services. 28 applications were approved and 4 were refused.**

We continued to deliver our conduct function during 2010/11. 99 complaints of alleged misconduct by a NISCC registrant were referred to the NISCC. The risk to the public in each case was assessed. 6 registrants were subject to an Interim Suspension Order to prevent them from practising in social care pending the outcome of the cases.

Conduct hearings were held in respect of 11 registrants and the outcomes were as follows –

- **4 registrants were admonished;**
- **1 registrant was suspended from the Register; and**
- **6 registrants were removed from the Register.**

By 31 March 2011, Preliminary Proceedings Committees had referred 4 cases of alleged misconduct to be considered at Conduct hearings in 2011/12. We also produced an annual report on Conduct work.

- **Agreed a Memorandum of Understanding for 2010/11 with the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) to include protocols for the sharing of information and cooperation in matters relevant to both RQIA and the NISCC.**

- **Promoted the Codes of Practice for Social Care Workers and their employers, through a series of roadshows, to improve understanding and awareness of the Standards that are expected from the social care workforce at all times.**



Debating Codes of Practice with registrants at the NISCC roadshow – September 2010

- **Took forward the action plan arising from the review of the Conduct function against the CHRE Standards for Regulatory Practice.**
- **Consulted on guidance on 'Indicative Sanctions and use of Interim Suspension Orders' to assist Conduct Committees in their deliberations when considering whether an Interim Suspension Order should be imposed.**



- **Produced a detailed report on regulation activity between 2003 and 2010.**

Strategic Objective 3 - achievements for 2010/11

To improve the quality of social care through the development, promotion and regulation of education and training

During 2010/11 we –

- Completed annual monitoring of the Honours Degree in Social Work, including Course Providers and Designated Practice Learning Providers.
- Awarded a total of 167 Post Qualifying Awards at our Award Ceremony in June 2010 which was attended by around 300 social workers, employers, family and friends.

Social Work Qualifications Awarded 2010/11	
Honours Degree	259
Post Qualifying Award	93
Specialist Award	31
Specific Award	13
Advanced Award (UK Framework)	4
Total	426



- Completed annual monitoring of programmes approved in NI PQ Framework.
- Monitored the uptake of students to the first intake (September 2010) of the part-time route in social work.
- Produced an annual report on the social work degree and post qualifying provision.
- Developed an implementation plan to deliver the Regional Strategy for Practice Learning, 2010-2015.
- Completed integration of PQ Partnership into the NISCC and agreed new structures for the delivery of the NI PQ Framework.

In addition, we continually reviewed our guidance and reference materials to ensure they are up to date, reflect best practice and meet the expectations of our stakeholders.

To this end we –

- Produced guidance on the relevant experience required to undertake a Degree in Social Work
- Updated the guidance for those considering a career in social work
- Worked with the DHSSPS to update the 'Incentive to Study Scheme'
- Produced Guidance on Individual Practice Development Days for the Practice Learning Requirements for the Degree in Social Work
- Produced a guidance leaflet for Service Users and Carers on giving consent for involvement in post qualifying assessment.

Strategic Objective 4 - achievements for 2010/11

to strengthen and support the professionalism of the social care workforce

During 2010/11 we –

- Engaged with key stakeholders on the development of qualifications and implementation of a Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF) for social care workers. This included employers from the independent, voluntary and statutory sectors, government departments, awarding organisations and other Sector Skills Councils with whom there is a shared interest. The QCF qualifications which are relevant for Northern Ireland are branded 'Wales and Northern Ireland'.
- Produced a guide to the Qualifications and Credit Framework in Northern Ireland.
- Developed a Competence to Practice Framework for social care workers.
- Conducted an audit of compliance with the PSS Development and Training Strategy targets with Trusts.
- Reviewed and implemented the Sector Qualification Strategy action plan.
- Worked with SfC&D to produce an annual Sector Skills Assessment to UKCES which included a Labour Market Information and Intelligence Report.

The Labour Market Information and Intelligence Report will help inform the work of the Workforce Development Committee as it takes forward its agenda during 2011/12.

- Produced a Labour Market Intelligence Report on adult residential and nursing care providers in the private and voluntary sector which involved direct employer engagement.
- Produced Post Registration Training and Learning guidance for social workers which provides advice on the processes to evidence training and learning.
- Launched the complete set of qualifications for which a Guide to the Qualifications and Credit Framework in Northern Ireland was developed and published. The QCF qualifications went live from 1 January 2011 and the NISCC, employers and training providers have worked together to align job roles to relevant units of qualification.

QCF Launch November 2010



Strategic Objective 5 - achievements for 2010/11

to discharge its responsibilities informed by the views of users of social care services, carers, registrants and other key stakeholders

During 2010/11 we –

- Continued to provide quality support to our key stakeholder groups – the User Participation Group, the Registrants' Committee and the Workforce Development Committee.
- Made significant progress in promoting the services which the NISCC provides in line with our Communication Strategy Action Plan – we are continually listening to the views of our customers and responding proactively and positively to their needs and expectations.
- Implemented all of the actions arising from the Communications Strategy in relation to the reform of vocational qualifications including the development and introduction of the Qualifications and Credit Framework.
- The Communications function assumed responsibility for managing enquiries for all of the NISCC in January 2011 as part of the organisational restructuring. This included establishing a generic Enquiries Team and routing calls through an options system which allows callers to be better directed depending on the type of enquiry.
- The NISCC managed a total of 17,066 enquiries during 2010/11. 5% of these were specific enquiries about careers and training opportunities. 60% of the queries related to applying for and/or maintaining registration. Queries were also received about the Assessed Year in Employment, NISCC Events, and PRTL changes.



- Reviewed the Information Service for careers and training opportunities for social work, social care and children and young people's workforces to ensure it remains fit for purpose and meets the needs of its users.
- Developed and supported a network of careers and training advisors in Northern Ireland to promote careers and training opportunities for the sector.
- Promoted careers in social care, children's and young people's services by supporting 24 events throughout Northern Ireland.



- Continued to develop our online services by ensuring our website provides the information which our customers want. This has resulted in an increasing demand for our online services and information - website traffic (visitors) was 40% more than the volume of 2009/10 activity with 3,914,250 hits, 313,906 visits and 522,362 page views.
- We invested significant support to ensure the Regional Social Work Awards for 2011, which aim to promote and celebrate excellence in social work, were an unreserved success for all participants.



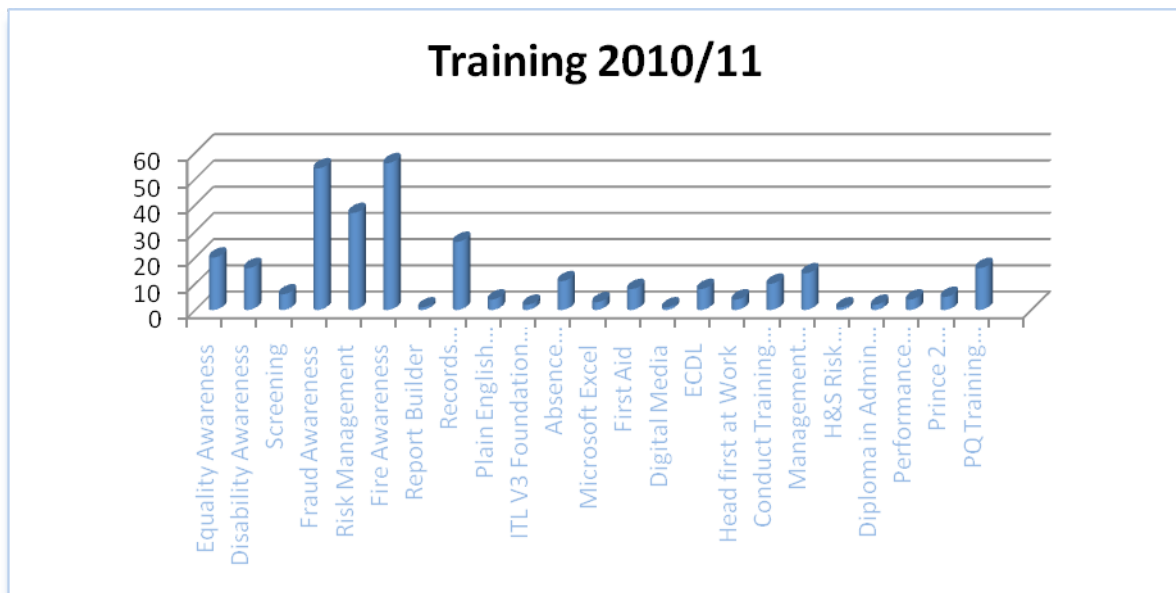
- The NISCC, in partnership with the five Health & Social Care Trusts, the voluntary sector and criminal justice hosted the Social Work at its Best 2010 Conference for over 200 social workers from across Northern Ireland, focusing on the key challenges facing newly qualified social workers and new social work managers.

Strategic Objective 6 - achievements for 2010/11

To maximise the contribution of our human and financial resources by investing in our people and delivering value for money in all our activities, whilst ensuring the highest levels of governance in Council

During 2010/11 we –

- Delivered our 2010/11 Business Plan by effectively and appropriately aligning our resources against our business priorities. Details on our budget can be found in our statement of accounts from page 37 of this Report.
- Complied with all of our governance arrangements and framework, including the development of the Assurance Framework, and the continual review and monitoring of our Risk Register. We also put arrangements in place to ensure all NISCC staff are trained on risk management.
- Continued to demonstrate our commitment to being an liP employer. Staff are involved in the development of the NISCC's Corporate and Business Plans, and learning and development needs are agreed with managers during annual appraisals. We also carried out a training needs analysis to ensure that our staff have the right skills and knowledge to help them to do their job well. All new staff received an induction programme on joining the NISCC and participated in mandatory training such as health and safety, equality and diversity, and risk management.





- Following the incorporation of the PQ Partnership into the NISCC, we carried-out a review of our office accommodation needs over the next 10 years to ensure it was fit for purpose and provided value for money. We have submitted proposals on the NISCC's office accommodation needs to the DHSSPS for consideration.
- Routinely reviewed corporate and HR policies through our Policy Review Group to ensure in-house policies are current and reflect best practice and most recent legislation. This included a review of the following policies -

Policies Reviewed & Developed During 2010/11

Fire Safety Policy	Zero Tolerance Policy
Health and Safety Policy	Data Protection Policy
Manual Handling Policy	New Screening Policy
Adverse Incident Policy	Records Management Policy
No Smoking Policy	ICT Policy

- Took forward a fundamental review of our health and safety procedures and developed policies that support our staff and ensure their safety and wellbeing at work. We also trained all our staff on health and safety issues including fire safety.
- Developed and consulted on an Inequalities Audit and an Equality Scheme. All of our policies are equality screened and the outcome of the screening is now published on our website.
- Developed a draft Savings Delivery Plan to support the ways in which we will produce year on year savings and efficiencies.

Maintaining Accountability

The senior management team is responsible for ensuring all NISCC business areas meet corporate and legislative requirements for public accountability and value for money.

NISCC Senior Management Team



Chief Executive
Brendan Johnston



**Director of
Corporate
Services**
Mark Bradley



**Director of
Education and
Training**
Lorraine Simmons



**Director of
Registration**
Patricia Higgins

In September 2010, the NISCC Senior Management Team carried out a review of its operational structure following Lorraine Simmons secondment to the South Eastern Trust –

- **Mark Bradley** (Director of Corporate Services) assumed responsibility for registration from September 2010; and
- **Patricia Higgins** (Director of Registration) assumed responsibility for Professional Training from September 2010.

The new organisational structure is attached at **Appendix I** of this Report.

Complaints

The NISCC Complaints Policy allows for the majority of complaints to be investigated and responded to by the designated Complaints Officer (stage 1). If a complainant is unsatisfied with the response they receive, then they may complain under stage 2 to the Director of Corporate Services. If the complainant feels that their complaint has still not been resolved to their satisfaction, then they are advised that they may complain to the Northern Ireland Ombudsman.

During 2010/11, the NISCC received 6 complaints – 5 of which were handled and resolved at stage 1 and one complaint was dealt with at stage 2.

The majority of complaints received concerned the renewal of registration fees. The NISCC makes every effort to contact registrants in advance of renewal to ensure registrants are given every opportunity to renew their registration fee before their registration lapses.

Sickness Absence Data

A major issue within the HSC relates to the need to manage staff absence. In 2010/11, the average sickness rate within the NISCC was 3.78% which is 1.42% below the Priorities for Action Target of 5.2%. The NISCC operates a robust absence management policy that includes return to work interviews and the support of the Occupational Health Service.

Freedom of Information

The NISCC received 7 Freedom of Information requests during 2010/11 which included requests for information in relation to conduct and registration matters. All requests for information were provided on time and within the FOI guidance. The NISCC continues to adhere to its Publication Scheme which is available on its website.

Personal Data Related Incidents

There were no instances of data security breaches during 2010/11. Mandatory training on Data Protection Awareness, Data Security and Confidentiality of Information for all staff (including new staff) is in place. Policies have also been developed which are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure they remain compliant and reflect best practice and current legislative provisions.

Council Membership and Committees

Council Membership reflects three broad interest groups:

- **Lay People** (including service users, carers, independents and professionals)
- **Registrants**
- **Stakeholders** (including employers, unions and education providers)

Changes to Council Chair and Membership During 2010/11

The Chair of the Council changed during 2010/11 following the retirement of Dr Jeremy Harbison CB in September 2010. The Council and NISCC recorded its appreciation to Dr Harbison for his sterling leadership and commitment demonstrated over his nine years in office.

As an interim arrangement, Jim Perry agreed to act as Interim Chair, during the period September to December 2010. The NISCC would wish to record its thanks to Mr Perry for carrying-out this function during this period.

In December 2010, the Minister for Health, Michael McGimpsey MLA, announced the appointment of a new Chair, Mrs Elizabeth (Lily) Kerr. Mrs Kerr has extensive knowledge of the health and social care system in Northern Ireland, and has championed regulation across the entire social care workforce sector since the establishment of the NISCC in 2001.

Separately, the DHSSPS advertised to fill the two vacant member positions on the Council during February 2010, and it is expected that the new Council Members will take up post during 2011/12.

Committees

The Council carries out some of its functions through a number of Committees. Each Committee is chaired by a Council Member, except for the Registrants' Committee which is chaired by a registrant. During 2010/11, the following Committee Structure was in place:

Committee Structure for 2010/11

Audit Committee
Business Management Committee
Education and Training Committee
Participation Group
PQ Partnership Committee
Registration & Regulation of the Workforce Committee
Registrants' Committee
Remuneration Committee
Workforce Development Committee

The Council reviewed its operating arrangements and structures during February 2011 to ensure its model for oversight and governance was fit for purpose and allowed Council to give the strategic direction required to enable NISCC to drive forward and contribute to a number of high-level strategic commitments during its next Corporate Planning cycle.

The new structures which have been agreed will be operable from 2011/12 onwards.

The NISCC Council Membership for 2010/11 is illustrated overleaf.



Mrs Lily Kerr

NISCC Chair



Mr Joe Blake



Mrs Geraldine Campbell



Mrs Julie Erskine



Ms Miriam Karp



Mrs Ruth Lavery



Mrs Gillian McGaughey



Mrs Maire McMahon



Mr James Perry



Dr Trevor Spratt



Mrs Eleanor Taggart

Council Members

Personal Public Involvement (PPI) Report 2010/11

The NISCC is committed to working closely with stakeholders to ensure they are supported to contribute their views and experiences effectively to NISCC business. The input of service users and carers is valued and is an integral part of planning, implementation and review across all work areas and projects. Over the past year, there has been significant partnership working with service users and carers, most notably the continuing work of the NISCC Participation Group.

The NISCC Participation Group provides an opportunity for NISCC Staff and Council Members to work collaboratively with service users and carers. This continues to be an evolving group and members represent a diverse range of backgrounds and service user experiences. The role of the group is to advise, challenge and support the work of the NISCC to ensure that service user and carer participation is meaningful and effective. Some of the work undertaken by group members during the last year includes:

- Providing oral reports to NISCC Council meetings to update them on work undertaken by the group
- Writing updates for the Users and Carers section within the NISCC website
- Producing articles for the NISCC newsletter (September 2010 and March 2011)
- Planning and hosting the Joint Annual Service User and Carer Conference to share good practice in user carer participation and empowerment (March 2011)
- Developing Principles of Participation and associated Quality Standards
- Hosting working groups for staff and Council to contribute to the development of principles of participation
- Distributing NISCC Codes of Practice promotional materials to their networks and constituent groups



- Presenting a 'Service Users' view on 'good social work practice' at the Social Work at its Best conference (September 2010)
- Contributing to focus groups for the DHSSPS consultation on a 10 Year Strategy for Social Work and drafting a response on behalf of Service Users and Carers
- Reviewing and recommending amendments to application forms and guidance materials for social care registration to simplify the processes

- Participating in working groups to reform vocational qualifications and to develop the new Qualifications and Credit Framework
- Contributing to the NISCC development of revised standards of Post Registration Training and Learning for Social Workers in NI
- Facilitating a meeting with Queens University of Belfast and University of Ulster to discuss Service User input in undergraduate teaching
- Representing the NISCC Participation Group at meetings to provide a User/Carer perspective e.g. the UK Joint Social Education and Social Work Research Conference in July 2010
- Advising the NISCC Post Qualifying Social Work team on the development of a leaflet to inform service users on giving consent to work with students
- Assessing entries for the 2011 Health and Social Care Regional Social Work Awards and taking part in judging panels to assess Award winners (February 2011).
- Participating in meetings of the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) Partners' Council



The Director of Corporate Services represents the NISCC in the NI Regional Personal Public Involvement forum. This forum meets quarterly and provides an environment for sharing best practice in engaging with service users and carers. He also represents the NISCC at the UK Health and Social Care Regulators Forum.

In addressing the broader participation agenda, the Chair of the NISCC Participation Group and the Director of Corporate Services continued to work with NISCC staff and Council Members to support effective participation. They also furthered the User/Carer agenda by sharing their knowledge and experiences of participation to other organisations. They made a presentation to the UK Health and Social Care Regulators Forum on the NISCC Model of Participation and as a result they have been invited to make this presentation to executive meetings of some of the Councils who are members of the Regulators Forum.

The NISCC recognises that there are many groups of service users and carers who are not yet represented by the Participation Group or by other networks and forums. During the year, the NISCC secured funding from the Public Health Agency to establish a database to support contact with 'hard to reach' groups. This will be completed during summer 2011 and will be shared with partner agencies in health and social care to support service user and carer participation.

Audit Committee Report

The NISCC Audit Committee is made up of Council Members. The Committee met on the following dates during 2010/11:

- 12 May 2010
- 23 June 2010
- 29 June 2010
- 20 October 2010
- 19 January 2011

During 2010/11 financial year, membership was as follows –

April 2010 to June 2010	Attendance at Audit Committee Meetings (%)
Mr James Perry, Chair	100%
Mrs Julie Erskine	100%
Ms Miriam Karp	100%
Mrs Ruth Lavery	80%
Mrs Maire McMahon	100%
Mrs Gillian McGaughey	0%
October 2010 to January 2011	
Mr James Perry, Chair	As above
Mrs Julie Erskine	As above
Ms Miriam Karp	As above
Mrs Ruth Lavery	As above
Mrs Maire McMahon	As above
Mrs Gillian McGaughey	As above
Mrs Eleanor Taggart	100%

From February 2011, the Audit Committee structure changed, and its Members now comprise - Mr James Perry, Mrs Julie Erskine, Mrs Ruth Lavery and Mrs Maire McMahon. The Audit Committee did not sit in this new form during February or March 2011.

Internal Audit, External Audit and representatives from the Business Services Organisation (BSO) attend the Audit Committee. The Director of Corporate Services is the Executive Officer responsible for servicing the Audit Committee.

Membership is consistent with the NISCC Standing Orders.

During the 2010/11 financial year, the Audit Committee undertook the following tasks –

- Agreed an Internal Audit Plan;
- Considered an External Audit Strategy;
- Reviewed the NISCC risk management processes and Assurance Framework;
- Ensured the production of final Accounts in accordance with relevant statutory regulations;
- Advised on matters of materiality.

As part of its remit, the Audit Committee can confirm that, on reviewing the processes and related documents in relation to finance, risk, risk registers, governance and audit reports, that it is able to provide assurances to Council and to the Accounting Officer in relation to all statutory and accountability obligations.

Furthermore, the Audit Committee can provide assurance to Council and the Accounting Officer on all issues relating to the Statement of Internal Control. This is based on the information provided to Committee from Internal Audit, External Audit and from the Executive team. The Audit Committee endorses the Assurance Framework which captures all risks, controls, gaps in controls and mitigating actions and this is presented to Council by the Chair of the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee can further confirm that Internal and External Audit work to agreed standards and adhere to the agreed Audit Plan. In doing so, the Chair of the Audit Committee presents the Final Accounts to Council and the Accounting Officer for endorsement.

The Audit Committee, facilitated by the Head of Internal Audit, completed the NAO Audit Committee Checklist. The action plan emanating from this exercise will be taken forward in the new financial year. The Audit Committee will review progress against the action plan at each meeting.

Financial Information in relation to the Annual Accounts 2010/2011

Statutory Background

The Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC) was established under Part I, Section 1 of the Health and Personal Social Services Act (Northern Ireland) 2001 (the Act).

This is the 10th statement of accounts of the NISCC. It has 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.

Results

The NISCC is funded substantially by grants from the DHSSPS and also receives income from registration fees, Skills for Care and Development and in respect of student placements within the criminal justice sector (funded by the Department of Justice).

Review of the Activities of the NISCC

A full review of the objectives and activities is contained within this Annual Report. In accordance with Schedule 1, paragraph 13 (1) of the Act, the Report is to be submitted to the DHSSPS and will then be available on the NISCC's website **www.niscc.info**.

Research and Development

The NISCC has not carried out any Research and Development work.

Post Balance Sheet Events

There were no post Balance Sheet events.

Charitable Donations

The NISCC did not make any charitable donations.

Fixed Assets

The movement in fixed assets during the year is set out at Notes 7 and 8 to the financial statements. The revised guidance contained in the Capital Accounting Manual issued by the DHSSPS has been followed in compiling the Accounts.

Statement of Council Members' Responsibilities

Council Members have the following responsibilities:

- They should ensure that high standards of corporate governance are observed at all times;
- They should establish the overall strategic direction of the NISCC within the policy and resources framework agreed with the DHSSPS;
- They should ensure that the NISCC operates within the limits of its statutory authority and any delegated authority agreed with the DHSSPS and in accordance with any other conditions relating to the use of public funds;
- They should ensure that the NISCC has taken into account guidance issued by the DHSSPS in reaching decisions.

Members are accountable to the Minister through the Chair of the NISCC. There is a Register of Interests available for inspection during office hours. There are no significant interests held by Council Members which may conflict with their strategic management responsibilities.

Employee Involvement

The NISCC continues to invest in staff as evidenced by the re-accreditation of 'Investor in People' status in June 2008. This reflects the level to which the NISCC values its staff and the significant contribution which all staff make to the effective running of the NISCC.

Disabled Employees

The NISCC is an Equal Opportunities employer.

Prompt Payment Policy

The NISCC is committed to the prompt payment of bills for goods and services received in accordance with the Confederation of British Industry's Prompt Payers Code. Unless otherwise stated in the contract, payment is due within 30 days of the receipt of goods or services, or presentation of a valid invoice or similar demand, whichever is the later.

Regular reviews conducted to measure how promptly the NISCC paid its bills found that 95.82% of bills were paid within this standard. The Late Payment of Commercial Debts Regulations 2002 provides small businesses with a statutory right to claim interest on the late payment of commercial debt. During the year, the NISCC incurred no interest payments.

Audit

The accounts and supporting notes relating to the NISCC's activities for the year ended 31 March 2011 have been audited by the Northern Ireland Audit Office. The report of the Comptroller and Auditor General is included on Page 42. So far as the Chief Executive is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the NISCC's auditors are unaware. The Chief Executive has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the entity's auditors are aware of that information.

The external audit fee for the year 2010/11 was £8,376. The Northern Ireland Audit Office did not undertake any non-audit services during 2010/11.

Chief Executive:



Date: 29 June 2011

Chair:



Date: 29 June 2011

Remuneration Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

Scope of the Report

The Remuneration Report summarises the remuneration policy of the NISCC, and particularly its application in connection with Senior Managers. The Report also describes how the NISCC applies the principles of good corporate governance in relation to senior executives' remuneration in accordance with HSS (SM) 3/2001 and subsequent supplements issued by the DHSSPS.

Remuneration Committee

The Council, as set out in its Standing Orders, has delegated certain functions to the Remuneration Committee. The Remuneration Committee is chaired by the Chair of the Council (from April 2010 to September 2010 this was Dr Jeremy Harbison CB, and from December 2010 to March 2011 this was Lily Kerr. The Remuneration Committee did not sit in the intervening months). The Remuneration Committee also comprised Julie Erskine, Miriam Karp, Ruth Lavery and Jim Perry.

Remuneration Policy

The NISCC applies the remuneration policy as directed by circular HSS (SM) 3/2001 and subsequent supplements issued by the DHSSPS in respect of Senior Managers. Senior Managers are subject to the NHS Individual Performance Review system. Within the system, each participant agrees objectives with his/her Senior Manager. At the end of each year, performance is assessed and a performance pay award is given on the basis of that performance. This award is approved by the Remuneration Committee on behalf of Council. There are no elements of Senior Managers' remuneration that are not subject to performance conditions.

Contracts

HSC appointments are made on the basis of the merit principle in fair and open competition and in accordance with all relevant legislation and circular HSS (SM) 3/2001. Unless otherwise stated, the employee/s covered by this Report are appointed on a permanent basis, subject to satisfactory performance.

Brendan Johnston was appointed as Chief Executive on 10 September 2001.

Notice Periods

Three months' notice is to be provided by either party except in the event of summary dismissal. There is nothing to prevent either party waiving the right to notice or from accepting payment in lieu of notice.

Retirement Age

Currently, employees are required to retire at age 65 years and occupational pensions are normally effective from age 60 years. With effect from 1 October 2006, with the introduction of the Equality (Age) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, employees are able to request to work beyond age 65 years.

Compensation for Premature Retirement

In accordance with Circular HSS (S) 11/83 and subsequent supplements, there is provision within the HSC Superannuation Scheme for premature retirement with immediate payment of superannuation benefits and compensation for eligible employees on the grounds of:

- efficiency of the service
- redundancy
- organisational change

Employers who retire staff early on any of the above grounds must pay the following:

- the basic pension plus increases up to normal retirement age
- the enhancement element of the pension plus increases for as long as this remains in payment
- the enhancement element of the lump sum
- the actuarial charge for payment of the basic lump sum before normal retirement age

There is also provision within the Scheme for early retirement with benefits on health grounds subject to confirmation of permanent incapacity by HSC Medical Advisers.

Reporting of Compensation and Exit Packages for all Staff 2010/2011 (Audited)

Exit Package Cost Band	Number of Compulsory Redundancies	Number of Other Departures Agreed	Total Number of Exit Packages by Cost Band
<£10,000			
£10,000 - £25,000		1	1
£25,000 - £50,000			
£50,000 - £100,000			
£100,000 - £150,000			
£150,000 - £200,000			
Total Number of Exit Packages		1	1
Total Resource Cost/£		£19,184	£19,184

Salary and Pension Entitlements (Audited)

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

		2010/11			2009/10	
Name	Salary £'000	Performance related pay £'000	Benefits in kind nearest £100	Salary £'000	Performance related pay £'000	Benefits in kind nearest £100
Brendan Johnston	75 - 80	0 - 5	-	70 - 75	0 - 5	-
Mark Bradley	55 - 60	-	-	55 - 60	-	-
Patricia Higgins	65 - 70	-	-	65 - 70	-	-
Lorraine Simmons	40 - 45	-	-	55 - 60	-	-

Name	Real increase in pension and related lump sum at age 60	Total accrued pension at age 60 and related lump	Cash equivalent transfer value (CETV) at 31 March 2011	Cash equivalent transfer value (CETV) at 31 March 2010	Real increase in CETV after adjustment for inflation and changes to market investment factors
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Brendan Johnston	-2	142	775	803	-28
Mark Bradley	2	38	136	128	-8
Patricia Higgins	3	32	140	137	3
Lorraine Simmons	5	80	448	430	18

HSC Superannuation Scheme

Pension benefits are provided through the HSC Superannuation scheme. The HSC Superannuation scheme is a 'final salary' defined benefit scheme. The scheme is unfunded with the cost of benefits met by monies voted by Parliament each year. Pensions that are payable are increased annually in line with changes in the Retail Prices Index.

Contribution rates are as follows:

- 5.0% for employees earning up to £20,709
- 6.5% for employees earning between £20,710 and £68,392
- 7.5% for employees earning between £68,393 and £107,846
- 8.5% for employees earning over £107,847

Further details about the Health Service pension arrangements can be found at the website www.dhssps.gov.uk

With effect from 1 April 2009 the rate of employer contributions to both the 1995 Section and the 1998 Section of the HSC Pension Scheme has been reduced from 15.7% to 13.3%.

Cash Equivalent Transfer Values

A Cash Equivalent Transfer Value (CETV) is the actuarially assessed capitalised 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 the 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 HSC 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 and framework 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.

Other

- There are no elements of the remuneration package which are not cash
- There is no compensation payable to former senior managers
- There are no amounts included above which are payable to third parties for services of a senior manager

There have been no awards made to past senior managers.

Chief Executive:



Date: 29 June 2011

Northern Ireland Social Care Council

Accounts for the Year Ended 31 MARCH 2011

Foreword

These accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011 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 Social Care Council

Accounts for the Year Ended 31 MARCH 2011

Statement of Accounting Officer's Responsibilities

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public safety has directed the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC) 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 the accruals basis and must provide a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Northern Ireland social Care Council, 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 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 council will continue in operation;
- keep proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the council; and
- pursue and demonstrate value for money in the services the council 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 B Johnston, the Chief Executive of the council, as the Accounting Officer for the council. 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 council's assets, are set out in the Accountable Officer's Memorandum issued by the Department of Health Social Services & Public Safety.

Northern Ireland Social Care Council

Accounts for the Year Ended 31 MARCH 2011

Certificate of the Chair and Chief Executive

I certify that the Annual Accounts set out in the financial statements and notes to the accounts (pages 44 to 90) which I am required to prepare on behalf of the Northern Ireland Social Care Council, have been compiled from and are in accordance with the accounts and financial records maintained by the Northern Ireland Social Care Council and with the accounting standards and policies for the HSC bodies approved by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.



Chief Executive

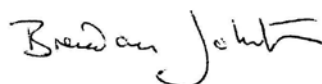
Date 29 June 2011

I certify that the annual accounts set out in the financial statements and the notes to the accounts (pages 44 to 90) as prepared in accordance with the above requirements have been submitted to and duly approved by the Board.



Chair

Date 29 June 2011



Chief Executive

Date 29 June 2011

Northern Ireland Social Care Council

Accounts for the Year Ended 31 MARCH 2011

Statement on Internal Control

Scope of Responsibility

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

- The NISCC delivers its statutory functions and Business Plan by working in partnership with a range of statutory, voluntary and community organisations throughout Northern Ireland and, on a four country basis, throughout the United Kingdom;
- The NISCC executes its responsibilities within the confines of its Management Statement and Financial Memorandum as agreed with its sponsor, the Office of Social Services (DHSSPS).

Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness.

The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to:

- identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the organisation's policies, aims and objectives; and
- evaluate the likelihood of these 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 NISCC for the year ended 31 March 2011 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and Accounts and accords with the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS). A mid year Assurance Statement was submitted in October 2010 to the DHSSPS to inform on the effectiveness of controls at that time. It also reported on implemented actions emanating from weaknesses identified by Internal Audit.

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

- a schedule of matters reserved for Council decisions;
- a scheme of delegation, which delegates decision making authority within set parameters to the Chief Executive and other officers;
- standing orders and standing financial instructions; and
- the establishment of and the oversight by the Audit Committee.

The system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular financial information, supported by robust 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 Council;
- regular reviews by the Council of periodic annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against the forecast;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performances; and
- as appropriate, formal budget management disciplines.

The NISCC has an internal audit function which operates to defined standards and whose work is informed by an analysis of risk to which the body is exposed and whose annual audit plans are based on this analysis. In 2010/2011, Internal Audit reviewed the following systems:

- Financial Review
- Conduct Review
- Personal and Public Involvement (PPI)
- Health and Safety Review
- Human Resources Review
- Risk Management Review
- HPSS Controls Assurance Standards
 - Risk Management
 - Governance
 - Financial Management
 - Human Resources
 - Health and Safety

No limited assurances were found in any of the reports.

In her annual report, the Internal Auditor reported that the Northern Ireland Social Care Council system of internal financial control was satisfactory, stating that there were no priority I findings. Some weaknesses in control were, however, identified and recommendations to address these control weaknesses have been or are being implemented.

With regard to the wider control environment, the NISCC 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 NISCC are pursued in accordance with the recognised and accepted standards of public administration.

Recruitment and selection policies are based on the principle of equality of opportunity and controls are in place to ensure decisions are in accordance with legislation.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The Audit Committee is responsible for providing assurance to Council on the robustness of risk management processes within the Council. Executive responsibility for risk management resides with the Chief Executive who delegates day-to-day responsibility to the Director of Corporate Services.

In providing assurance to the Audit Committee, the following is in place:

- An approved Risk Management Strategy;
- Risk Management Training provided to all staff during 2010/2011;
- Risk Register, Corporate and Operational, produced;
- Systems to report risk; and
- Quarterly reporting of risk.

The Risk and Control Framework

This NISCC has an Executive Risk Management Committee in place which oversees the risk management process, to include:

- Quarterly review of the Risk Register
- Monitoring of risks against proposed actions
- Reporting and escalating identified risks

As part of this process, risk management coordinators have been identified within each of the directorates. The role of the coordinator is to ensure that risk is discussed at all team meetings to ensure that all staff are aware of their responsibilities in relation to risk management. All identified risks are discussed by the Risk Committee and a determination is made to either escalate the risk to the Corporate Risk Register or to manage it at Directorate level.

The Audit Committee, which reports to the Council, has oversight for the initiatives taken by officers of the organisation to promote risk management. To this end, the Audit Committee reviews the minutes of the Risk Management Committee, along with the Corporate Risk Register.

The Chair of the Audit Committee confirms that he is satisfied with the process and reports his findings to Council.

The Assurance Framework, which details risks, controls and gaps in control, is the overarching governance document in relation to risk management and is presented to the Audit Committee for endorsement prior to presentation at Council. This is then forwarded to the DHSSPS.

Information Governance

The NISCC can confirm that policies and procedures are in place for the management of risk associated with information held by the NISCC which is detailed in its ICT Policy. Risks identified through the risk management processes within the NISCC (in the Directorate and Corporate Risk Registers) include those concerning information security where this is deemed necessary. All staff, including new entrants are trained on information security. The management of this risk is paramount, given the sensitive nature of

the work undertaken by the NISCC, particularly in relation to registration and conduct processes. In the forthcoming year, the NISCC will continue to review and develop the effectiveness of its current systems for managing risk, including information governance. As part of this process, training will continue to play a central role.

With regard to legal services, NISCC uses the Directorate of Legal Services in the Business Services Organisation. Should NISCC use independent legal advisors, then the Council would comply with extant DHSSPS guidance, in particular, HSS(F) 67/2006 – Payments in Respect of Litigation and Legal Services.

Compliance with Controls Assurance Standards 2010/11

From April 2009, the NISCC, as an NDPB, was required to ensure that it obtained substantive compliance with the three core controls assurance standards plus Records Management and ICT. In addition, the NISCC undertook Controls Assurance Audits of Health and Safety and Human Resources. The table below illustrates the compliance levels, both self assessment and independent review by Internal Audit.

Controls Assurance Standard	DHSSPS Expected Level of Assurance	NISCC Level of Compliance	Reviewed by Internal Audit
Risk Management (Core Standard)	70 - 99% Substantive	89% Substantive	Substantive
Governance (Core Standard)	70 - 99% Substantive	93% Substantive	Substantive
Financial Management (Core Standard)	70 – 99 % Substantive	92% Substantive	Substantive
Records Management	70 – 99 % Substantive	80% Substantive	Not assessed *
ICT	70 – 99 % Substantive	83% Substantive	Not assessed *
Health and Safety	70 – 99 % Substantive	85% Substantive	Substantive
Human Resources	70 – 99 % Substantive	82% Substantive	Substantive

* These were reviewed by Internal Audit during 2009/10

Review of Effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for the review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control. My review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal auditors and the executive managers within the NISCC who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework, and comments made by the external auditors in their report to those charged with governance 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 Council and the Audit Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement to the system is in place.

The Council give strategic oversight to the system of internal control with the Northern Ireland Social Care Council. They execute their oversight through the Audit Committee who ensure the effectiveness of the system of internal control is robust and meaningful and to this end interrogate reports received from internal audit and the executive team, including reports from the Risk Management Committee. The Audit Committee undertake a challenge function to test the validity of assumptions or conclusions made in reports presented before it. The Audit Committee also set the strategic direction for risk management by endorsing the audit plan for the forthcoming year. The minutes of the Audit Committee are presented on a quarterly basis to council to give further assurance of the programme of work within NISCC.

Significant Internal Control Issues

In her Annual Report, the Chief Internal Auditor has provided an overall level of satisfactory assurance for the NISCC. It should be noted that the review of Conduct processes and Risk Management processes both received substantive level of compliance.

Notwithstanding this assurance, an issue with student placement reconciliations has been identified and has required a prior year adjustment to the NISCC Accounts. In addressing this, a full and concise reconciliation has been undertaken, a review of the process has been completed and Internal Audit has agreed to review this process during the 2011/2012 final year.

There are a number of issues which, while they may not affect the system of internal control directly, nevertheless represent changes which may have an impact on the business of the NISCC. These include:

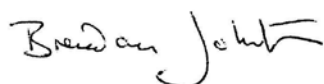
1. Changes in the regulatory framework in England;
2. The abolition of the General Social Care Council, with whom we share our IT based register, which is a central tool of our regulatory activity. Plans are in hand to develop a replacement; and
3. Changes in respect of the UK arrangements for Sector Skills Councils, as NISCC is a partner with the other UK Care Councils in the Sector Skills Council for social care, Skills for Care and Development.

Any risks arising from these issues, which are largely outside the control of the NISCC, are managed within our risk management structures.

No other significant control issues were identified in 2010 – 2011; nor were there any significant control issues in 2009 – 2010.

By order of the Council.

Chief Executive:



Date: 29 June 2011

**The Northern Ireland Social Care Council
Annual Accounts for the Year Ended
31 March 2011**

Northern Ireland Social Care Council

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 Social Care Council for the year ended 31 March 2011 under the Health and Personal Social Services Act (Northern Ireland) 2001, as amended. These comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows, the Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity 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 Act (Northern Ireland) 2001, 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 Social Care Council's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Northern Ireland Social Care Council and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition I read all 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 sufficient evidence 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 the Northern Ireland Social Care Council's affairs as at 31 March 2011 and of its net expenditure, cash flows and changes in taxpayers' equity for the year ended; and
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Health and Personal Social Services Act (Northern Ireland) 2001, 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 the Health and Personal Social Services Act (Northern Ireland) 2001 and Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety directions issued thereunder; and
- the information given in the Financial Information section 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 the Department of Finance and Personnel's guidance.

Report

The maintenance and integrity of the NISCC's website is the responsibility of the Accounting Officer. The work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes which may have occurred to the financial statements since they were originally presented on the website.

I have no observations to make on these financial statements.



Date: 15 August 2011

KJ Donnelly
Comptroller and Auditor General
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Northern Ireland Social Care Council

STATEMENT of COMPREHENSIVE NET EXPENDITURE for the year ended 31 March 2011

	NOTE	2011 £	Restated 2010 £
Expenditure			
Staff costs	3.1	(2,035,908)	(1,949,971)
Depreciation	4.0	(20,969)	(32,534)
Other expenditure	4.0	(1,792,654)	(1,677,962)
		<u>(3,849,531)</u>	<u>(3,660,467)</u>
Income			
Income from activities	5.1	0	0
Other income	5.2	700,498	573,667
Transfers from reserves for donated assets	5.3	0	0
		<u>700,498</u>	<u>573,667</u>
Net Expenditure		<u>(3,149,033)</u>	<u>(3,086,800)</u>
Revenue Resource Limit (RRL)	25.1	3,147,775	3,172,363
(Deficit)/surplus against RRL		<u>(1,258)</u>	<u>85,563</u>
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE EXPENDITURE			
	NOTE	2011 £	Restated 2010 £
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation of Property, Plant & Equipment	6.1/10/6.2/10	0	(783)
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation of Intangibles	7.1/10/7.2/10	0	0
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011		<u>(3,149,033)</u>	<u>(3,087,583)</u>

The notes on pages 44 to 90 form part of these accounts
All Income and Expenditure is derived from continuing activities

Northern Ireland Social Care Council

STATEMENT of FINANCIAL POSITION as at 31 March 2011

		2011		Restated 2010	
	NOTE	£	£	£	£
Non Current Assets					
Property, Plant and Equipment	6.0/6.2/6.4	48,125		49,464	
Intangible assets	7.0/7.2/7.4	1,060		3,239	
Financial assets	8.0	0		0	
Total Non Current Assets			49,185		52,703
CURRENT ASSETS					
Assets classified as held for sale	9.0	0		0	
Inventories	11.0	0		0	
Trade and other receivables	12.0	321,580		35,000	
Other current assets	12.0	456		55,793	
Cash and cash equivalents	13.0	337,336		1,577,591	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS			659,372		1,668,384
Total Assets			708,557		1,721,087
Current Liabilities					
Trade and other payables	14.0	(666,202)		(1,589,326)	
Other payables		0		0	
Total current liabilities			(666,202)		(1,589,326)
Non Current Assets plus/less Net Current Assets/Liabilities			42,355		131,761
Non Current liabilities					
Provisions	16.0	0		0	
Other payables > 1 yr	14.0	0		0	
Financial liabilities	8.0	0		0	
Total Non Current Liabilities			0		0
ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES			42,355		131,761
TAXPAYERS EQUITY					
Donated asset reserve		0		0	
Revaluation reserve		0		0	
General reserve		42,355		131,761	
			42,355		131,761

The financial statements on pages 44 to 90 were approved by the Council on (date) and were signed on its behalf by:

Signed
(Chair)



Date 29 June 2011

Signed
(Chief Executive)



Date 29 June 2011

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN TAXPAYERS' EQUITY for the year ended 31 March 2011

	Note	General Reserve £	Revaluation Reserve £	Donation Reserve £	Total £
Balance at 31 March 2009		159,614	601	0	160,215
Change in accounting policy		0	0	0	0
Restated balance at 1 April 2010		159,614	601	0	160,215
Changes in taxpayers equity 2009-10					
Grant from DHSSPS		3,044,130	0	0	3,044,130
Impairment		0	182	0	182
Comprehensive expenditure for the year		(3,086,800)	(783)	0	(3,087,583)
Donated asset receipts		0	0	0	0
Donated asset reserve – transfer to net expend for depreciation		0	0	0	0
Non cash charges - auditors remuneration	4	14,817	0	0	14,817
Balance at 31 March 2010		131,761	0	0	131,761
Changes in taxpayers' equity 2010-11					
Grant from DHSSPS		3,051,251	0	0	3,051,251
Transfers between reserves					
(Comprehensive expenditure for the year)		(3,149,033)	0	0	3,149,033
Donated asset receipts		0	0	0	0
Donated asset reserve – transfer to net expend for depreciation		0	0	0	0
Non cash charges - auditors remuneration	4	8,376	0	0	8,376
Balance at 31 March 2011		42,355	0	0	42,355

The notes at pages 44 to 90 form part of these Accounts.

Northern Ireland Social Care Council

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS
for the year ended 31 March 2011

	Note	2011 £	Restated 2010 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net expenditure after interest		(3,149,033)	(3,086,800)
Adjustments for non cash costs		31,525	49,545
Reclassification of items from cash to non-cash			
(Increase)/decrease in trade & other receivables	12	(231,243)	159,144
less movements in receivables relating to items not passing through the net expenditure account - list:			
movements in receivables relating to capital		0	0
movements in receivables relating to PFI contracts		0	0
(Increase)/decrease in inventories		0	0
Increase/(decrease) in trade payables	14	(923,125)	129,988
less movements in payables relating to items not passing through the net expenditure account:			
movements in payables relating to capital		0	0
movements in payables relating to PFI contracts		0	0
movements in payables relating to finance leases		0	0
Use of provisions	16	0	0
Net cash outflow from operating activities		(4,271,876)	(2,748,123)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant & equipment	6	(19,630)	(2,450)
Purchase of intangible assets	7		
Proceeds of disposal of property, plant & equipment		0	0
Proceeds on disposal of intangibles		0	0
Proceeds on disposal of assets held for resale		0	0
Interest Received		0	0
Net Cash inflow/(Outflow) from investing activities		(19,630)	(2,450)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Grant in aid		3,051,251	3,044,130
Cap element of payments iro finance leases and on balance sheet PFIs		0	0
Net financing		3,051,251	3,044,130
Net (decrease)/increase in cash & cash equivalents in the period		(1,240,255)	293,557
Cash & cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	13	1,577,591	1,284,034
Cash & cash equivalents at the end of the period	13	337,336	1,577,591

The notes on pages 44 to 90 form part of these accounts

Northern Ireland Social Care Council

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

I. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

I. 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 (FRM) 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 the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (Council). 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 Council for the purpose of giving a true and fair view has been selected. The Council's accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items considered material in relation to the accounts.

I.1 Accounting convention

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

I.2 Currency

These accounts are presented in UK Pounds sterling.

I.3 Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment assets comprise Land, Buildings, 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 Council;
- 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 cost of at least £5,000; or

- 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, ward or unit, 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 council’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
- 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 non current 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.

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.

Fixtures and Equipment

Until 31 March 2008, fixtures and equipment were carried at replacement cost, as assessed by indexation. From 1 April 2008 HSC entities had the option to elect to cease indexing all short life assets (other than IT). Short life IT assets are not indexed. Short life is defined as a useful life of up to and including 5 years. The carrying value of existing assets at that date were written off over their remaining useful lives and new fixtures and equipment are carried at depreciated historic cost as this is not considered to be materially different from fair value. 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.

1.4 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 Council 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. The following asset lives have been used.

Asset Type	Asset Life
Freehold Buildings	25 – 60 years
Leasehold property	Remaining period of lease
IT Assets	3 – 10 years
Intangible assets	3 – 10 years
Other Equipment	3 – 15 years

1.5 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. If the impairment is due to the consumption of economic benefits the full amount of the impairment is charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Expenditure account and an amount up to the value of the impairment in the revaluation reserve is transferred to the General fund. 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 to expenditure to the extent of the decrease previously charged there and thereafter to the revaluation reserve.

1.6 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 Council'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.

1.7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets comprise software and licences. 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. 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 council'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 council; 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.

1.8 Donated assets

Donated non-current assets are capitalised at their fair value on receipt, with a matching credit to the donated asset reserve. They are valued, depreciated and impaired as described above for purchased assets. Gains and losses on revaluations and impairments are taken to the donated asset reserve and, each year, an amount equal to the depreciation charge on the asset is released from the donated asset reserve to offset the expenditure. On sale of donated assets, the net book value is transferred from the donated asset reserve to the General Fund.

1.9 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 (profit) / loss from sale of land or 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 general 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. The remaining surplus or deficit in the donated asset or government grant reserve is then transferred to General Reserve.

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.

1.10 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.

1.11 Income

Operating Income relates directly to the operating activities of the Council 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 reserves.

1.12 Investments

The Council does not have any investments.

1.13 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.

1.14 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.

1.15 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.

NISCC 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 Council'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.

NISCC as lessor

Amounts due from lessees under finance leases are recorded as receivables at the amount of the Council'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 Council'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.

1.16 Private Finance Initiatives (PFI) transactions

The Council has had no PFI transactions during the year.

1.17 Financial instruments

- Financial assets

Financial assets are recognised on the statement of financial position when the Council 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 statement of financial position when the Council 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 HSC Bodies in creating risk than would apply to a non public sector body of a similar size, therefore HSC Bodies are not exposed to the degree of financial risk faced by business entities. HSC Bodies 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 HSC Bodies in undertaking activities. Therefore the HSC is exposed to little credit, liquidity or market risk.

- Currency risk

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

- Interest rate risk

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

- Credit risk

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

- Liquidity risk

Since the Council 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.

1.18 Provisions

In accordance with IAS 37, provisions are recognised when the Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Council 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 Council 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 Council 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.

A restructuring provision is recognised when the Council 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.

1.19 Contingencies

Under IAS 37, the Council 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 Council, 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 council. 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.

I.20 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 council 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 survey to ascertain leave balances as at 31 March 2008. It is not anticipated that the level of untaken leave will vary significantly from year to year. Untaken flexi leave is estimated to be immaterial to the council and has not been included.

Retirement benefit costs

The Council participates in the HSC Superannuation Scheme. Under this multi-employer defined benefit scheme both the Council and employees pay specified percentages of pay into the scheme and the liability to pay benefit falls to the DHSSPS. The Council 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 Council and charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure at the time the Council commits itself to the retirement.

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.

I.21 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.

I.22 Third party assets

Assets belonging to third parties (such as money held on behalf of patients) are not recognised in the accounts since the council has no beneficial interest in them. Details of third party assets are given in Note 24 to the accounts.

I.23 Government Grants

Government assistance for capital projects whether from UK, or Europe, is treated as a Government grant even where there are 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) are credited to a government grant reserve and are released to income over the useful life of the asset. The note to the financial statements distinguishes between grants from UK government entities and grants from European Union.

I.24 Losses and Special Payments

Losses and special payments are items that the 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 bodies not been bearing their own risks (with insurance premiums then being included as normal revenue expenditure). However, the note 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.

I.25 Change in Accounting policy / Prior Year Restatement

There were two changes in Accounting policy during the year applicable to the Council. In addition there was an accounting error in relation to Student Placements. The prior year figures have been changed in the accounts (where material) to reflect the change in accounting policy and the prior year accounting error.

(i) Capital charges

One of the impacts of the HM Treasury alignment project to closer align budgets, estimates and accounts has resulted in the removal of cost of capital. Therefore from 2010-11 onwards the Council is no longer required to reflect a notional cost of capital within its accounts. Expenditure, reserves and non cash RRL have been restated in the comparative years to reflect this.

(ii) Impairment

Previously all impairments were charged to the Revaluation Reserve if one existed before the remaining amount was charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure. Treasury/DFP guidance for 2010-11 and future periods is that economic impairments should be charged in full to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure with a corresponding transfer being made from the Revaluation Reserve to the General Reserve. This is considered to be more transparent than the IFRS approach to impairments. There is no change in policy in respect of price impairments. This change did not have a significant impact on the accounts and a prior year restatement was not required.

(iii) Student Placements

The creditor for student placements at 31 March 2010 was overstated by £86,600. The error related to 2009/10 only, therefore, only the 2009/10 balance has been restated.

The table below shows the effect of all prior year adjustments

2009-10	Cost of Capital	Student Placements
Income		
Expenditure	(3,161)	(86,600)
Receivables		
Payables		
Reserves		86,600
RRL	3,161	

I.26 Accounting Standards that have been issued but have not yet been adopted

Under IAS 8 there is a requirement to disclose those standards 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.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

2. ANALYSIS OF NET EXPENDITURE BY SEGMENT

The core business and strategic direction of the Northern Ireland Social Care Council is to protect the public through the registration and regulation of the social care workforce and to regulate the training for social workers.

The Council Board acts as the Chief Operating Decision Maker and receives financial information on the Council as a whole and makes decisions on this basis. Hence, it is appropriate that the Council reports on a single operational segment basis

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

3. STAFF NUMBERS AND RELATED COSTS

3.1 Staff Costs

Staff costs comprise

	Total	2011 Permanently employed staff	Others	2010 Total
	£	£	£	£
Wages & Salaries	1,770,815	1,577,586	193,229	1,692,599
Social security costs	98,536	98,536	0	103,770
Other pension costs	166,557	166,557	0	153,602
Total staff costs reported in	2,035,908	1,842,679	193,229	1,949,971
Comprehensive Statement of Net Expenditure				
Less recoveries in respect of outward secondments	(54,181)			(90,860)
Total net costs	1,981,727			1,859,111

During the financial year ended 31 March 2011 there were no staff costs capitalised (2010:£nil).

The Council participates in the HSC Superannuation Scheme. Under this multi-employer defined benefit scheme both the HSC and employees pay specified percentages of pay into the scheme and the liability to pay benefit falls to the DHSSPS. The Council 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.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

3.2 Average number of persons employed

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

	Total	2011 Permanently employed staff	Others	2010 Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Medical and dental	0	0	0	0
Nursing and Midwifery	0	0	0	0
Professions Allied to medicine	0	0	0	0
Ancillaries	0	0	0	0
Administrative and clerical	45	39	6	34
Professional & technical	16	5	11	12
Works				
Other Professional and technical	1	0	1	5
Social Services				
Other	0	0	0	17
Total average number of persons employed	62	44	18	68
Less: Capital	0	0	0	0
Less: Secondments Out	(1)	(1)	0	(2)
	61	43	18	66

3.3 Senior Employees Remuneration

Refer to Remuneration Report contained within the Annual Report Section on page 30.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

3.4 Reporting of early retirement and other compensation scheme – exit packages

During 2010/11 the Council had no staff benefits.

3.5 Reporting of early retirement and other compensation schemes

	No. of compulsory redundancies	No. of other departures
Exit package cost band		
< £10,000	0	0
£10,000 - £25,000	0	1
£25,000 - £50,000	0	0
£50,000 - £100,000	0	0
£100,000 - £150,000	0	0
£150,000 - £200,000	0	0
Total Number of packages	0	1

Redundancy and other departures costs have been paid in accordance with the provisions of the HSC Pension Scheme Regulations and the Compensation for Premature 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.

3.6 Retirements due to ill-health

During 2010/11 there were no early retirements from the Council agreed on the grounds of ill-health.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

4. OPERATING EXPENSES

4.0 Operating Expenses are as follows:

	2011	Restated 2010
	£	£
Purchase of care from non-HPSS bodies	0	0
Revenue grants to voluntary organisations	573,233	491,364
Capital grants to voluntary organisations	0	0
Personal social services	0	0
Recharges from other HPSS organisations	149,071	104,461
Supplies and services – clinical	0	0
Supplies and services – general	44,908	19,835
Establishment	471,721	483,293
Transport	0	0
Premises	526,080	561,935
Bad Debts	0	0
Rentals under operating leases	0	0
Interest charges	0	0
NI Degree in social Work Partnership	0	0
Research and development expenditure	0	0
CN Other	0	0
Miscellaneous	17,086	63
BSO services	0	0
Training	0	0
Professional Fees	0	0
Patients Travelling Expenses	0	0
Costs of exit packages not provided for	0	0
Elective Care	0	0
Miscellaneous expenditure	0	0
Non cash items		
Depreciation	20,969	32,534
Amortisation	2,179	2,012
Impairments	0	182
(Profit) on disposal of assets (excluding profit on land)	0	0
Loss on disposal of assets (including land)	0	0
Cost of Capital charges	0	0
Provisions provided for in year	0	0
Unwinding of discount on Provisions	0	0
Auditors remuneration	8,376	14,817
Total	1,813,623	1,710,496

During the year the Council purchased no non audit services from its auditor (NIAO).

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

5. INCOME

5.1 Income from Activities

	2011 £	Restated 2010 £
GB/Republic of Ireland Health Authorities	0	0
HSC Trusts	0	0
Non-HSC:- Private patients	0	0
Sale of Goods	0	0
Clients contributions	0	0
Total	0	0

5.2 Other Operating Income

	2011 £	Restated 2010 £
Other income from non-patient services	646,317	482,807
Seconded staff	54,181	90,860
Charitable and other contributions to expenditure	0	0
Profit on disposal of land	0	0
Interest receivable	0	0
Total	700,498	573,667

5.3 Transfers from reserves for donated property, plant, equipment and intangibles

	2011 £	Restated 2010 £
Donated asset reserve transfer for impairment	0	0
Donated asset reserve transfer for depreciation & amortisation	0	0
Total	0	0

TOTAL INCOME

700,498	573,667
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During the year the Council purchased no non audit services from its auditor (NIAO).

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

6. PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Summary

	Purchased £	Donated £	2011 Total £
Net book value:			
Land	0	0	0
Buildings (excluding dwellings)	0	0	0
Dwellings	0	0	0
Assets under construction	0	0	0
Plant and machinery (Equipment)	8,949	0	8,949
Transport Equipment	0	0	0
Information Technology (IT)	39,176	0	39,176
Furniture & Fittings	0	0	0
Total PPE - 31 March 2011	48,125	0	48,125

	Purchased £	Donated £	2010 Total £
Net book value:			
Land	0	0	0
Buildings (excluding dwellings)	0	0	0
Dwellings	0	0	0
Assets under construction	0	0	0
Plant and machinery (Equipment)	14,643	0	14,643
Transport Equipment	0	0	0
Information Technology (IT)	34,821	0	34,821
Furniture & Fittings	0	0	0
Total PPE - 31 March 2010	49,464	0	49,464

Professional valuations of land and buildings are undertaken by Land and Property Services (LPS) at least once in every five year period and are revalued annually, between professional valuations, using indices provided by LPS. See Accounting Policy Note 1, Section 1.3 for more details of valuation of Property, Plant and Equipment.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

6.1. PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT - PURCHASED ASSETS - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

	Land £	Buildings (excluding dwellings) £	Dwellings £	Assets under Construction £	Plant and Machinery (Equipment) £	Transport Equipment £	Information Technology (IT) £	Furniture and Fittings £	Total £
Cost or Valuation									
At 1 April 2010	0	22,734	0	0	35,744	0	195,505	0	253,983
Indexation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additions	0	0	0	0	0	0	19,630	0	19,630
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2011	0	22,734	0	0	35,744	0	215,135	0	273,613
Depreciation									
At 1 April 2010	0	22,734	0	0	21,101	0	160,684	0	204,519
Indexation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provided during the year	0	0	0	0	5,694	0	15,275	0	20,969
At 31 March 2011	0	22,734	0	0	26,795	0	175,959	0	225,488

6 NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

6.1. (CONTINUED) PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT - PURCHASED ASSETS - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

	Land £	Buildings (excluding dwellings) £	Dwellings £	Assets under Construction £	Plant and Machinery (Equipment) £	Transport Equipment £	Information Technology (IT) £	Furniture and Fittings £	Total £
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2011	0	0	0	0	8,949	0	39,176	0	48,125
At 31 March 2010	0	0	0	0	14,643	0	34,821	0	49,464
Asset financing									
Owned	0	0	0	0	8,949	0	39,176	0	48,125
Finance Leased	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
On b/s PFI contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2011	0	0	0	0	8,949	0	39,176	0	48,125

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

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

6.2. PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT - PURCHASED ASSETS - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

	Land £	Buildings (excluding dwellings) £	Dwellings £	Assets under Construction £	Plant and Machinery (Equipment) £	Transport Equipment £	Information Technology (IT) £	Furniture and Fittings £	Total £
Cost or Valuation									
At 1 April 2009	0	26,505	0	0	35,744	0	193,056	0	255,304
Indexation	0	(3,771)	0	0	0	0	0	0	(3,771)
Additions	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,450	0	2,450
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2010	0	22,734	0	0	35,744	0	195,505	0	253,983
Depreciation									
At 1 April 2009	0	21,000	0	0	14,836	0	139,137	0	174,973
Indexation	0	(2,988)	0	0	0	0	0	0	(2,988)
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	4,722	0	0	6,265	0	21,547	0	32,534
Provided during the year									
At 31 March 2010		22,734	0	0	21,101	0	160,684	0	204,519

70 NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

6.2. (CONTINUED) PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT - PURCHASED ASSETS - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

	Land £	Buildings (excluding dwellings) £	Dwellings £	Assets under Construction £	Plant and Machinery (Equipment) £	Transport Equipment £	Information Technology (IT) £	Furniture and Fittings £	Total £
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2010	0	0	0	0	14,643	0	34,821	0	49,464
At 31 March 2009	0	5,505	0	0	20,908	0	53,918	0	80,331
Asset financing									
Owned	0	0	0	0	14,643	0	34,821	0	49,464
Finance Leased	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
On b/s PFI contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2010	0	0	0	0	14,643	0	34,821	0	49,464

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

6.3. PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT – DONATED ASSETS - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

	Land £	Buildings (excluding dwellings) £	Dwellings £	Assets under Construction £	Plant and Machinery (Equipment) £	Transport Equipment £	Information Technology (IT) £	Furniture and Fittings £	Total £
Cost or Valuation									
At 1 April 2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,668	0	14,668
Indexation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,668	0	14,668
Depreciation									
At 1 April 2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,668	0	14,668
Indexation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provided during the year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,668	0	14,668

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

6.3. (CONTINUED) PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT – DONATED ASSETS - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

	Land £	Buildings (excluding dwellings) £	Dwellings £	Assets under Construction £	Plant and Machinery (Equipment) £	Transport Equipment £	Information Technology (IT) £	Furniture and Fittings £	Total £
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asset financing									
Owned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finance Leased	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
On b/s PFI contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

6.4. PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT – DONATED ASSETS - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

Cost or Valuation		Land £	Buildings (excluding dwellings) £	Dwellings £	Assets under Construction £	Plant and Machinery (Equipment) £	Transport Equipment £	Information Technology (IT) £	Furniture and Fittings £	Total £
At 1 April 2009		0	0	0	0	0	0	14,668	0	14,668
Indexation		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additions		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2010		0	0	0	0	0	0	14,668	0	14,668

Depreciation

At 1 April 2009		0	0	0	0	0	0	14,668	0	14,668
Indexation		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Impairments)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Disposals)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provided during the year		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2010		0	0	0	0	0	0	14,668	0	14,668

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

6.4. (CONTINUED) PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT – DONATED ASSETS - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

	Land £	Buildings (excluding dwellings) £	Dwellings £	Assets under Construction £	Plant and Machinery (Equipment) £	Transport Equipment £	Information Technology (IT) £	Furniture and Fittings £	Total £
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asset financing									
Owned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finance Leased	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
On b/s PFI contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

7. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Summary

	Purchased	Donated	2011
	£	£	Total
			£
Net book value:			
Software	0	0	0
Software licenses	1,060	0	1,060
Total Intangible assets - 31 March 2011	1,060	0	1,060

	Purchased	Donated	2010
	£	£	Total
			£
Net book value:			
Software	0	0	0
Software licenses	3,239	0	3,239
Total Intangible assets - 31 March 2010	3,239	0	3,239

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

7.1. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (PURCHASED) - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

	Software licenses	Software	Total
Cost or Valuation	£	£	£
At 1 April 2010	10,398	0	10,398
Indexation	0	0	0
Additions	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0
Impairments	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0
At 31 March 2011	10,398	0	10,398
Amortisation			
At 1 April 2010	7,159	0	7,159
Indexation	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0
Impairments	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0
Provided during the year	2,179	0	2,179
At 31 March 2011	9,338	0	9,338
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2011	1,060	0	1,060
At 31 March 2010	3,239	0	3,239
Asset financing			
Owned	1,060	0	1,060
Finance Leased	0	0	0
On b/s PFI contracts	0	0	0
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2011	1,060	0	1,060

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

7.2. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (PURCHASED) - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

	Software licenses	Software	Total
Cost or Valuation	£	£	£
At 1 April 2009	10,398	0	10,398
Indexation	0	0	0
Additions	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0
Impairments	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0
At 31 March 2010	10,398	0	10,398
Amortisation			
At 1 April 2009	5,147	0	5,147
Indexation	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0
Transfers	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	0	0
Impairments	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0
Provided during the year	2,012	0	2,012
At 31 March 2010	7,159	0	7,159
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2010	3,239	0	3,239
At 31 March 2009	5,251	0	5,251
Asset financing			
Owned	3,239	0	3,239
Finance Leased	0	0	0
On b/s PFI contracts	0	0	0
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2010	3,239	0	3,239

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

7.3. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (DONATED) - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

The Council had no Donated Intangible Assets at 31 March 2011.

7.4. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (DONATED) - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

The Council had no Donated Intangible Assets at 31 March 2010.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

8. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Council had no financial instruments at either 31 March 2011 or at 31 March 2010.

9. ASSETS CLASSIFIED AS HELD FOR SALE

The Council did not hold any assets classified as held for sale in the year to 31 March 2011 or in the year 31 March 2012.

10. IMPAIRMENTS

	Property, Plant & Equipment		2011 Intangibles		Total
	£	£	£	£	
	Purchased	Donated	Purchased	Donated	
Total value of impairments for the period	0	0	0	0	0
Impairments taken through revaluation/donation reserve	0	0	0	0	0
Impairments charged to Net Expenditure Account	0	0	0	0	0

	Property, Plant & Equipment		2010 Intangibles		Total
	£	£	£	£	
	Purchased	Donated	Purchased	Donated	
Total value of impairments for the period	182	0	0	0	182
Impairments taken through revaluation/donation reserve	0	0	0	0	0
Impairments charged to Net Expenditure Account	182	0	0	0	182

11. INVENTORIES

The Council did not hold any inventories at 31 March 2011 or 31 March 2010.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

12. TRADE RECEIVABLES AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

	2011	Restated 2010
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade Receivables	301,529	15,229
Deposits and advances	0	0
Other receivables	0	19,771
Trade and other Receivables	301,529	35,000
Prepayments and accrued income	456	55,793
Current part of PFI prepayment	0	0
Other current assets	456	55,793
Amounts falling due after more than one year		
Trade Receivables	0	0
Deposits and advances	0	0
Clinical Negligence Receivable	0	0
Other receivables	0	0
Trade and other Receivables	0	0
Prepayments and accrued income	20,507	0
Other current assets falling due after more than one year	20,507	0
TOTAL TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	301,529	35,000
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	20,507	55,793
TOTAL RECEIVABLES AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	322,036	90,793

There were no bad debts provided for as at 31 March 2011 or 31 March 2010.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

12. TRADE RECEIVABLES AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

12.1 TRADE RECEIVABLES AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS: INTRA-GOVERNMENT BALANCES

Name	Amounts falling due within 1 year 2010/11		Restated Amounts falling due within 1 year 2009/10		Amounts falling due after more than 1 year 2010/11		Restated Amounts falling due after more than 1 year 2009/10	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balances with other central government bodies		226,514		0		0		0
Balances with local authorities		0		0		0		0
Balances with NHS /HSC Trusts		0		0		0		0
Balances with public corporations and trading funds		0		0		0		0
Intra-Government Balances		226,514		0		0		0
Balances with bodies external to government		95,522		90,793		0		0
Total Receivables & other current assets at 31 March		322,036		90,793		0		0

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

13. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2011 £	Restated 2010 £
Balance at 1st April	1,577,591	1,284,034
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(1,240,255)	293,557
Balance at 31st March	337,336	1,577,591

The following balances at 31 March were held at	2011 £	2010 £
Commercial Banks and cash in hand	337,336	1,577,591
Balance at 31 March 2011	337,336	1,577,591

BSO operate accounts on behalf of NISCC. Accounts are in the legal name of BSO.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

14. TRADE PAYABLES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

	2011 £	Restated 2010 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Other taxation and social security	0	0
Bank overdraft	0	0
Trade capital payables	0	0
Trade revenue payables	0	1,159,108
Payroll payables	0	0
Clinical Negligence payables	0	0
RPA payables	0	0
Other payables	666,202	430,218
Accruals and deferred income	0	0
Trade and other payables	666,202	1,589,326
Current part of finance leases	0	0
Current part of Long term loans	0	0
Current part of imputed finance lease element on Statement Of Financial Position PFI contracts	0	0
Other current liabilities	0	0
Total payables falling due within one year	666,202	1,589,326
Amounts falling due after more than one year		
Other Payables, accruals and deferred income	0	0
Trade and other payables	0	0
Clinical Negligence payables	0	0
Finance leases	0	0
Imputed finance lease element on Statement Of Financial Position/PFI contracts	0	0
Long term loans	0	0
Total non current other payables	0	0
TOTAL TRADE PAYABLES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES	666,202	1,589,326

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

14 TRADE PAYABLES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

14.1 TRADE PAYABLES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES - INTRA-GOVERNMENT BALANCES

Name	Amounts falling due within 1 year 2010/11 £	Restated Amounts falling due within 1 year 2009/10 £	Amounts falling due after more than 1 year 2010/11 £	Restated Amounts falling due after more than 1 year 2009/10 £
Balances with other central government bodies	0	1,159,108	0	0
Balances with local authorities	0	0	0	0
Balances with NHS /HSC Trusts	0	0	0	0
Balances with public corporations and trading funds	0	0	0	0
Intra-Government Balances	0	1,159,108	0	0
Balances with bodies external to government	666,202	430,218	0	0
Total Payables and other liabilities at 31 March	666,202	1,589,326	0	0

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011****14. TRADE PAYABLES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES****14.2. LOANS**

The Council had no loans payable at either 31 March 2011 or 31 March 2010.

15. PROMPT PAYMENT POLICY**15.1 PUBLIC SECTOR PAYMENT POLICY - MEASURE OF COMPLIANCE**

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

	2011 Number	2011 Value £'000	2010 Number	2010 Value £'000
Total bills paid	1,961	1,630,802	2,010	1,815,378
Total bills paid within 30 day target or under agreed payment terms	1,879	1,584,154	1,897	1,802,001
% of bills paid within 30 day target or under agreed payment terms	95.8%	97.1%	94.4%	99.3%

15.2 THE LATE PAYMENT OF COMMERCIAL DEBTS REGULATIONS 2002

The amount included within Interest Payable arising from claims made by small businesses under this legislation are as follows:

	£
Total	<u>0</u>

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

16. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

The Council had no provisions for liabilities and charges at 31 March 2011 or 31 March 2010.

17. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The Council had no capital commitments at either 31 March 2011 or 31 March 2010.

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	2011 £	2010 £
Land & Buildings		
Not later than 1 year	76,931	0
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	0	289,364
Later than 5 years	0	0
	76,931	289,364
Other		
Not later than 1 year	0	0
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	0	0
Later than 5 years	0	0
	0	0

18.2 FINANCE LEASES

The Council had no Finance Leases at 31 March 2011 or at 31 March 2010.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

19. COMMITMENTS UNDER PFI CONTRACTS

The Council had no commitments under PFI Schemes at either 31 March 2011 or 31 March 2010.

20. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

The Council did not have any financial commitments at either 31 March 2011 or 31 March 2010.

21. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Council did not have any financial instruments at either 31 March 2011 or 31 March 2010.

22. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Council did not have any contingent liabilities at either 31 March 2011 or 31 March 2010.

23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Council is an arms length body of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety and as such the Department is a related party with which the Council has had various material transactions during the year. In addition there are material transactions throughout the year with the Business Service Organisation who are a related party by virtue of being an arms length body with the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.

During the year, none of the Council Members, members of the key management staff or other related parties has undertaken any material transactions with the Council.

24. THIRD PARTY ASSETS

The Council held no third party assets at 31 March 2011 or at 31 March 2010.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

25. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TARGETS

25.1 REVENUE RESOURCE LIMIT

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

The RRL for the Council is calculated as follows:

	2011	Restated
	Total	2010
	£	Total
	£	£
HSCB	0	0
SUMDE & NIMDTA	0	0
DHSSPS (excluding non cash)	3,116,251	3,123,000
Other Government Department	0	0
Non cash RRL (from DHSSPS)	31,524	49,363
PYA for GIA	0	0
Adjustment for IFRIC 12 Project	0	0
Revenue Resource Limit	3,147,775	3,172,363

25.2 CAPITAL RESOURCE LIMIT

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

	2011	2010
	£	£
Gross Capital Expenditure	19,630	2,450
Receipts from sales of fixed assets	0	0
Net capital expenditure	19,630	2,450
Capital Resource Limit	19,344	3,000
Overspend/(Underspend) against CRL	286	(550)

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

25.3 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TARGETS

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

	2010/11 £	Restated 2009/10 £
Net Expenditure	(3,149,033)	(3,086,800)
RRL	3,147,775	3,172,363
(Deficit)/Surplus	(1,258)	85,563
Break Even cumulative position(opening)	85,563	0
Other Adjustments	0	0
Break Even Cumulative position (closing)	84,305	85,563

Materiality Test:

	2010/11 %	2009/10 %
Break Even in year position as % of RRL	-0.04%	2.70%
Break Even cumulative position as % of RRL	2.68%	2.70%

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

26. 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 ii. Late payment of Commercial Debt iii. Other		
5	Bad debts and claims abandoned	0	0
6	Stores and Inventory Losses - Theft, fraud, arson (whether proved or suspected) etc i. Bedding and linen 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 ii. Other equipment and property	0	0
11	Compensation payments (legal obligation) i. Clinical Negligence ii. Public Liability iii. Employers Liability	0	0
12	Ex-gratia payments - Compensation payments (including payments to patients and staff)	0	0
13	Ex-gratia payments - Other payments	0	0
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. b. Damage to vehicles	0	0
TOTAL		0	0

26.1 LOSSES & SPECIAL PAYMENTS

There were no special payments or gifts made during the financial year.

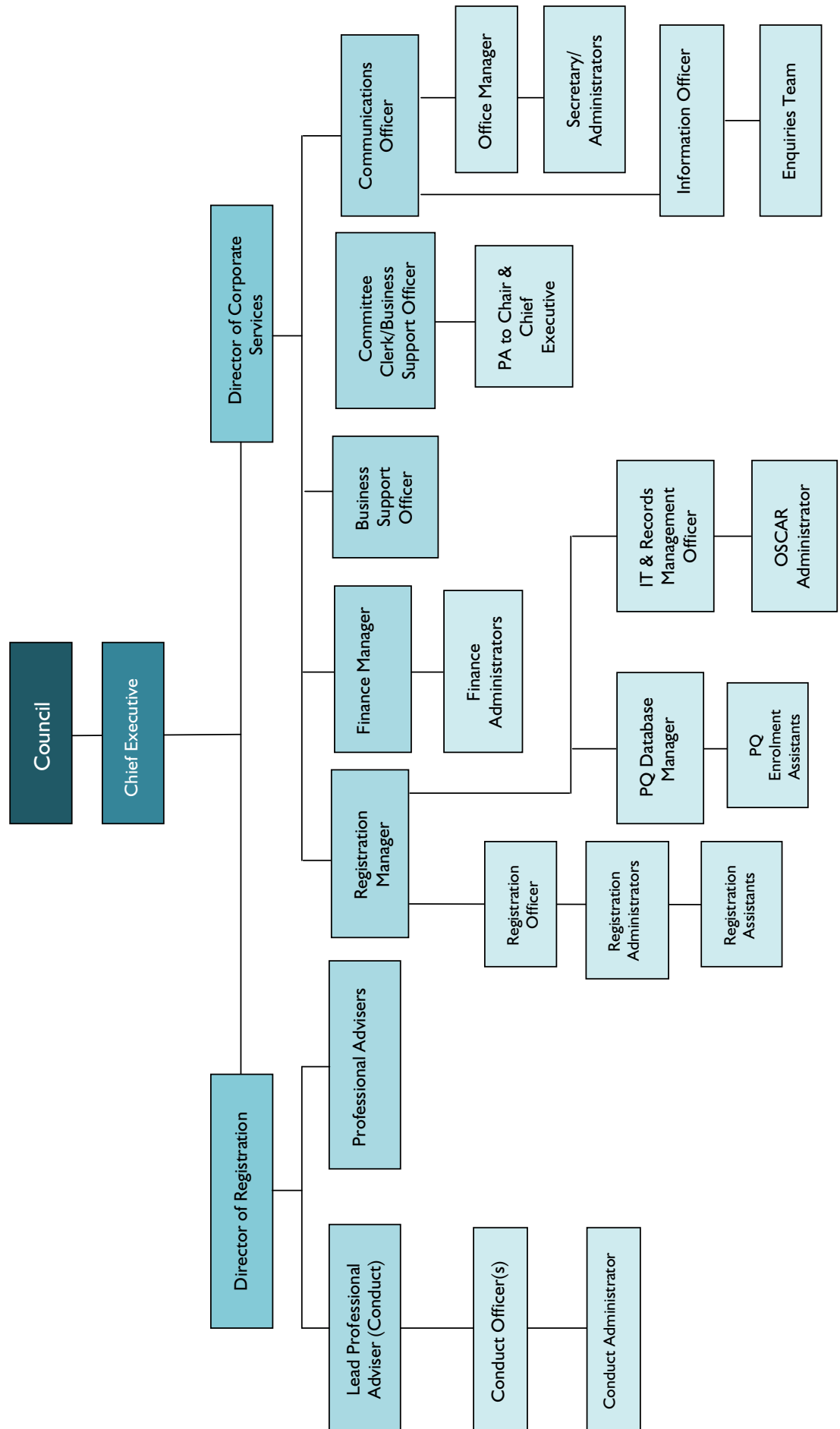
27. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There are no post balance events having a material effect on the accounts.

ORGANISATIONAL CHART

(From September 2010)

Appendix I



GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AYE	Assessed Year in Employment (for newly qualified social workers)
CETV	Cash Equivalent Transfer Values
DHSSPS (NI)	Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Northern Ireland)
HSC	Health and Social Care
liP	Investors in People
NDPB	Non-Departmental Public Body
NISCC	Northern Ireland Social Care Council
PQ	Post Qualifying (social work education and training)
PRTL	Post Registration Training and Learning
PSS	Personal Social Services
QCF	Qualification and Credit Framework
RQIA	Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority
SCIE	Social Care Institute for Excellence
SfCD	Skills for Care and Development
UKCES	UK Commission for Employment and Skill



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