

Committee on Standards in Public Life

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***Standards in
Public Life***

Chair: *Sir Christopher Kelly KCB*

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16 September 2009

May I begin by apologising for the delay in dealing with your inquiry.

Thank you for your e-mail of 13 August requesting:

"a) The annual total budget for the Committee on Standards in Public Life for each year since its founding in 1994.

b) The annual total actual costs of the Committee on Standards in Public Life for each year since its founding in 1994.

c) If possible, a breakdown of the above figures into broad categories (e.g., "Salaries"/"Computer-related" etc).

I understand the cost needs of the Committee might well have changed year-to-year depending on circumstance, and the information could usefully include brief explanatory notes detailing such changes (e.g., if particular events led to an increase or decrease in workload)."

I am dealing with it under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Under section 21 of the Act, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you. The information on costs you requested is available on the Cabinet Office web site at <http://archive.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/standards/publications.html>. For ease of reference I have attached a hard copy of the relevant web page.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request or wish to request an internal review, you should write to the Secretary, if you are still dissatisfied then :

The Chair, Committee on Standards in Public Life, 35 Great Smith Street,
London SW1P 3BQ

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Cabinet Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

This information was previously at <http://www.public-standards.gov.uk> and is being maintained for archive/historical purposes only.

It will not be updated. Contact <http://www.public-standards.org.uk> If you have any problems with this archive.

Committee on Standards in Public Life

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Financial Information 1994 to 1998

As an advisory Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB), the Committee receives its delegated budget from the Cabinet Office. Although the Cabinet Office Accounting Officer has a personal responsibility for the regularity and propriety of the Cabinet Office, the responsibility for certain levels of authorisation, methods of control and day to day mechanisms have been delegated downwards, effectively to the Secretary to the Committee. He is free to manage the allocation as he thinks best to deliver the activities and targets agreed in the Cabinet Office Departmental Plan (Cmnd 3920, The Government's Expenditure Plans 1998-99, Cabinet Office, Privy Council Office and Parliament).

Financial Information 1994 to 1998

Date	1994-95 ¹	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 ²	1999-00 ³	2000-01 ³	2001-02 ³
Total Allocation	433,760	557,534	503,410	485,000	617,000	535,000	535,000	535,000
Staff costs	108,902	300,493	285,424	270,656	300,000	288,000	288,000	288,000
Other running costs	125,051	172,342	194,675	242,759	310,400	247,000	247,000	247,000
Total running costs	233,953	472,835	480,099	513,415	610,400	535,000	535,000	535,000
Capital	35,496	654	4,585	7,664	6,600	0	0	0
Total Gross Expenditure	269,449	473,489	484,684	521,079	617,000	535,000	535,000	535,000
Other costs	409	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Net Expenditure	269,858	473,489	484,684	521,079	617,000	535,000	535,000	535,000
Outturn +/-	-163,902	-64,045	-18,726	36,080				

¹October 1994 to March 1995

²Estimated expenditure (includes additional allocation of 71,000)

³Allocation for future years

As well as recording the Committee's budget in a conventional way, to be helpful and in line with

Financial Review

Budgetary Information

As an advisory Non-Departmental Public Body, the Committee receives its delegated budget from the Cabinet Office. Although the Cabinet Office

Accounting Officer has a personal responsibility for the regularity and propriety of the Cabinet Office's vote, the responsibility for certain levels of authorisation, methods of control and day to day

mechanisms have been delegated downwards

effectively to the Secretary to the Committee.

She is free to manage the allocation as she thinks best to deliver the activities and targets published

in the Cabinet Office Departmental Report (Command 422). The Government's Expenditure Plans 1999-

00 to 2001-02. Cabinet Office. Privy Council

Office and Parliament.

Table 1: Expenditure and Cash Plans 1998-99 to 2002-03

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01 ¹	2001-02 ²	2002-03 ³
Total Allocation	675,300	535,000	535,000	535,000	535,000
Staff costs	410,745	249,905	310,000	310,000	310,000
Other running costs	177,364	208,133	241,700	241,700	241,700
Total running costs	588,039	458,238	551,700	551,700	551,700
Capital	6,297	0	0	0	0
Total Gross Expenditure	594,336	458,238	551,700	551,700	551,700
Receipts	18,038	11,004	16,700	16,700	16,700
Total Net Expenditure	676,358	447,232	535,000	535,000	535,000
Outturn +/-	1,058	87,768 ⁴	0	0	0

¹Actual allocation

²Proposed allocation for current year

³Forecast outturn (subject to change)

Table 1. Expenditure and Cash Plans covering the period of this report

	2003-04	2004-05
Total Allocation	520,000	555,550
Start costs	259,072	267,440
Other running costs	232,077	409,270
Total running costs	501,149	705,710
Capital		
Income	10,522	160
Total Gross Expenditure	490,627	555,550
Receipts		
Total Net Expenditure	490,627	555,550
Deficit	159,674*	

Table 2. Prompt Payment Statistics Annual Performance

	Total number of invoices	Total not paid on time	Total number of invoices paid on time	% paid on time
2004-05	153	0	153	100%
2003-04	104	0	104	100%
2002-03	209	0	209	100%
2001-02	196	0	196	100%
2000-01	239	0	239	100%
1999-00	226	1	225	99.56%
1998-99	266	9	257	96.62%

* Income of £10,522 (to March 2004) has not been included in this report because it is a provision made for the year ending 31 March 2004.

The total number of invoices paid on time is 100% because the total number of invoices paid on time is 100% of the total number of invoices. As a result, the total number of invoices paid on time is 100% of the total number of invoices. The total number of invoices paid on time is 100% of the total number of invoices.

* Income of £10,522

The FPA is required to provide an assurance statement to the Accounting Officer stating that there is an effective system of internal control operating within the management unit during the whole or the relevant period. In the Cabinet Office, this requirement is to provide two statements each year.

Payment performance

The Committee is committed to complying with HM Treasury's guidance on measuring and improving performance in the paying of invoices. The Committee's policy is to pay full invoices in accordance with the terms of the relevant contract or within 30 days of receipt of a valid invoice. The 30 days are measured from the date at which the invoice was received into the office.

In 2005-06, the Committee settled 100 per cent of all suppliers' invoices within the specified time.

Table 1: Expenditure and Cash Plans covering the period of this report

	2004-05	2005-06
Total Allocation	555,550	573,500
Start costs	247,303	253,906
Other running costs	235,269	117,740
Total running costs	475,751	573,726
Capital	0	0
Income	(123)	(140)
Total Gross Expenditure	475,628	573,726
Receipts	0	0
Total Net Expenditure	475,628	573,726
Outturn 05	-79,927	-

Financial year ends 31 March 2006. These figures are therefore provisional for a budget in time to allow for the Committee's own estimates of the capital allocation. Total allocation of £573,500 covers the 2005-06 running costs, capital and start costs in the Committee. The start costs include all the start-up and administration costs to the units (a total of £1,000, which is set against the total savings of £8,000 and surplus achieved).

TABLE 1	2005-06	2006-07**
Total Allocation	573,566.00*	577,000.00
Staff Costs	330,995.00	330,980.00
Other running costs	188,750.00	243,020.00
Capital	0.00	0.00
Income	-42,000.00	0.00
Total Gross Expenditure	477,745.00	577,000.00
Receipts	0.00	0.00
Total Net Expenditure	477,745.00	577,000.00
Outturn +/-	95,821.00*	

* This figure includes 1107.000 for 2005-06 paid with an advance in the revised appraisal cost of 150,000 for this survey fall into the 2006-07 financial year.
 ** Financial year ends March 2007. These figures are therefore provisional but at this time we forecast the outturn to be within budget allocation subject to the survey costs not for the above costs.

TABLE 2	Total number of invoices	Total not paid on time	Number paid on time	% paid on time
2006-07	140*	6	134	96%
2005-06	81	0	81	100%
2004-05	175	0	175	100%
2003-04	104	0	104	100%
2002-03	209	0	209	100%
2001-02	196	0	196	100%
2000-01	239	0	239	100%
1999-00	226	1	225	99.56%
1998-99	266	9	257	96.62%

* From 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2006

TABLE 1	2006-2007	2007-2008*
Total Allocation	£577,000	£640,000
Staff Costs	£332,588	£362,524
Other Running Costs	£246,302	£240,472
Capital	£0	£0
Income	£0	£72,216**
Total Gross Expenditure	£578,890	£530,780
Receipts	£0	£0
Total Net Expenditure	£578,890	£530,780
Outturn +/-	£1,890	-£109,219***

* Figures as of publication of Annual Report are not audited

** This income is the recovery of salary for a member of staff on secondment

*** Underspend due to the 12th Inquiry not taking place during the financial year

TABLE 2	Total number of invoices	Total not paid on time	Number paid on time	% paid on time
2007-08	68	0	68	100%
2006-07	159	6	153	96.23%
2005-06	81	0	81	100%
2004-05	175	0	175	100%
2003-04	104	0	104	100%
2002-03	209	0	209	100%
2001-02	196	0	196	100%
2000-01	239	0	239	100%
1999-00	226	1	225	99.56%
1998-99	266	9	257	96.62%