

Northern Ireland Estimates

Vote on Account 2020-2021

An estimate showing the
services for which the Vote
on Account is required for
the year ending 31 March
2021

Department of Finance
February 2020



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Introduction

Vote on Account 2020–2021

The Vote on Account provides finance to allow existing services to continue in the early months of 2020–2021 pending consideration of appropriate legislation to provide funds to meet the balance of estimated expenditure for that year. “Existing services” should be read as including not only services for which sums will have been appropriated before 31 March 2020, but also services in respect of which specific legislation has recently been passed, or in respect of which specific legislation is at present under consideration.

In accordance with the general principles of resource based estimates, the Vote on Account for 2020–2021 is presented on the basis of both resources and cash. Generally a department’s provision will be contained in a single estimate subdivided into one or more Requests for Resources.

The Vote on Account is normally calculated as a proportion (45 per cent) of the preceding year’s total voted provision. Generally this should be sufficient to ensure that the provision made for each service is not exhausted before the Main Estimates can be approved in the summer, but not so high as to prejudge the Northern Ireland Assembly’s consideration of the Main Estimates.

However, the Vote on Account may reflect a higher or lower amount than the standard proportion where the consumption of resources or expenditure of cash during the early months of the 2020–2021 financial year is expected to be significantly different from the 45 per cent standard.

The services covered by the Vote on Account are listed in Table 1 on the following pages.

Department of Finance

February 2020

1	2	3	4	5	6
		2019-20	2020-21	2019-20	2020-21
		Total net resources on which provision on account is based	Resources required on account	Total net cash requirement on which provision on account is based	Cash required on account
RfR	Service	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	330,153	148,569	300,551	135,248
A	Promote sustainable development of the agri-food industry and the countryside; stimulate the economic and social revitalisation of rural areas; protect and enhance the natural environment; promote sustainable development of the sea fishing and aquaculture industries; and manage, protect, develop and expand forests in a sustainable way.	330,153	148,569		
	Department for Communities	4,876,996	2,194,649	4,727,206	2,127,243
	Providing a fair system of financial help to those in need; tackling disadvantage; promoting social and economic equality; personal development; tackling poverty; social exclusion; promoting the financial responsibility parents have for their children; access to decent, affordable, sustainable homes and housing support services; improving the physical, economic, community and social environment of neighbourhoods, towns and cities; securing excellence and equality across culture, arts and leisure, and developing a confident, creative, informed and healthy society; helping people into employment; protecting, conserving and enhancing our diverse built heritage and supporting principles of sustainable development, so that it can be enjoyed by future generations; promoting and protecting the interests of children, older people, people with disabilities, and other socially excluded groups.	4,876,996	2,194,649		
	Department for the Economy	1,096,687	493,510	1,204,003	541,802
A	To promote a competitive, sustainable and inclusive economy through investment in skills, economic infrastructure, research and innovation, and business development.	1,096,687	493,510		
	Department of Education	2,443,730	1,099,679	2,467,181	1,110,232
A	Ensuring that all young people, through participation at school, reach the highest possible standards of educational achievement, that will give them a secure foundation for lifelong learning and employment; and develop the values and attitudes appropriate to citizenship in an inclusive society. Promoting, through the youth service and children's services, the personal and social development of children and young people and assisting them to gain knowledge, skills and experience to reach their full potential as valued individuals. Encouraging children and young people to develop mutual understanding and promote recognition of, and respect for cultural diversity, human rights, equality of opportunity and social inclusion.	2,443,730	1,099,679		

1	2	3	4	5	6
		2019-20	2020-21	2019-20	2020-21
		Total net resources on which provision on account is based	Resources required on account	Total net cash requirement on which provision on account is based	Cash required on account
RfR	Service	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Department of Education - Teachers' Superannuation	694,574	312,559	137,978	62,091
A	Providing a pension scheme for persons covered by the Teachers' Superannuation Scheme.	694,574	312,559		
	Department of Finance	230,401	103,681	231,996	104,399
A	To help the Executive secure the most appropriate and effective use of resources and services for the benefit of the community and deliver quality, cost effective and efficient public services and administration in the department's areas of executive responsibility.	230,401	103,681		
	Department of Finance - Superannuation and Other Allowances	645,000	290,250	90,000	40,500
A	Providing for payments to persons covered by the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS) Pension Arrangements, the Civil Service Compensation Scheme (NI), [CSCS(NI)] and the Civil Service Injury Benefit Scheme (NI), [CSIBS(NI)].	645,000	290,250		
	Department of Health	5,847,108	2,631,199	5,833,819	2,625,219
A	Providing high quality health, social care, firefighting, rescue and fire safety services and promoting good health and wellbeing.	5,847,108	2,631,199		
	Department of Health - Health and Social Care Pension Scheme	1,285,963	578,684	0	0
A	Providing a pension scheme for persons employed in health and social care.	1,285,963	578,684		
	Department for Infrastructure	830,579	453,309	953,903	508,805
A	Connecting people safely, supporting opportunities and creating sustainable living places	830,579	453,309		
	Department of Justice	1,973,156	645,345	1,343,461	604,558
A	To support, develop and administer an efficient, effective and responsive justice system; to uphold and sustain the rule of law; to prevent crime; to maintain a secure and humane prison service and reduce the risks of re-offending.	1,973,156	645,345		
	Department of Justice - Northern Ireland Judicial Pensions Scheme	1,000	450	500	225
A	Providing a pension scheme for persons covered by the Northern Ireland Judicial Pension Scheme.	1,000	450		
	The Executive Office	666,581	57,376	135,011	60,755
A	Driving investment and sustainable development; making people's lives better through support for equality, human rights and community relations; and the effective operation of the institutions of Government.	666,581	57,376		

1	2	3	4	5	6
		2019-20	2020-21	2019-20	2020-21
		Total net resources on which provision on account is based	Resources required on account	Total net cash requirement on which provision on account is based	Cash required on account
RfR	Service	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Food Standards Agency	10,467	4,711	10,323	4,646
A	Improving food safety and promoting healthy eating:	10,467	4,711		
	Northern Ireland Assembly Commission	41,968	18,886	32,917	14,813
A	Supporting the work of the Northern Ireland Assembly.	41,968	18,886		
	Northern Ireland Audit Office	6,824	3,071	7,184	3,233
A	Providing audit and other assurance services and promoting economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of public funds and resources	6,824	3,071		
	Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation	263	119	1,366	330
A	Regulating the electricity, gas, water and sewerage industries.	263	119		
	Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman	2,643	1,190	3,565	1,605
A	Investigating complaints of maladministration and investigating and adjudicating on local government ethical standards.	2,643	1,190		
	Public Prosecution Service for Northern Ireland	38,228	17,203	38,202	17,191
A	Increasing public confidence in the criminal justice system through independent, fair and effective	38,228	17,203		
	TOTAL	21,022,321	9,054,440	17,519,166	7,962,895

* Where the resource requirement in the Estimate is negative, a nil resource requirement is shown in the Budget Act and in this summary table.

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