

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL

Account of the sum expended, in the year ended 31 December 2007, compared with the sum granted and of the sum which may be applied as appropriations-in-aid in addition thereto, for the salaries and expenses of the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Service	Estimate Provision €000	Outturn €000	Closing Accrual €000
ADMINISTRATION			
A.1. SALARIES, WAGES AND ALLOWANCES	10,789	9,896	20
A.2. TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE	950	756	9
A.3. INCIDENTAL EXPENSES	441	328	6
A.4. POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES	197	213	(19)
A.5. OFFICE MACHINERY AND OTHER OFFICE SUPPLIES AND RELATED SERVICES	524	641	(70)
A.6. OFFICE PREMISES EXPENSES	313	240	5
A.7. CONSULTANCY AND LEGAL FEES	<u>733</u>	<u>213</u>	-
Gross Total	13,947	12,287	(49)
<i>Deduct :-</i>			
A.8. APPROPRIATIONS-IN-AID	<u>4,200</u>	<u>5,584</u>	<u>1,013</u>
Net Total	<u>9,747</u>	<u>6,703</u>	<u>(1,062)</u>
SURPLUS TO BE SURRENDERED	€3,043,822		

The Statement of Accounting Policies and Principles and Notes 1 to 12 form part of this Account.

NOTES

1 OPERATING COST STATEMENT FOR 2007

	€000	€000	€000
Net Outturn			6,703
Changes in Capital Assets			
Purchases Cash	(229)		
Disposals Cash	5		
Depreciation	296		
Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets	<u>5</u>	77	
Assets under Development			
Cash Payments (Note 4)		(100)	
Changes in Net Current Assets			
Increase in Closing Accruals	241		
Decrease in Stock	<u>6</u>	<u>247</u>	<u>224</u>
Direct Expenditure			6,927
Movement in Work-in-Progress¹			16
Expenditure Borne Elsewhere			
Net Allied Services Expenditure		1,684	
Notional Rents		<u>335</u>	<u>2,019</u>
Operating Cost			<u>8,962</u>

¹Work-in-progress represents the estimated recoverable value of work completed in the case of accounts where audit opinions had not yet been reported.

2 STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

	€000	€000	€000
Capital Assets (Note 3)			746
Assets under Development (Note 4)			<u>100</u> 846
Work-in-Progress			652
Current Assets			
Stocks (Note 11)		18	
Accrued Income		1,013	
Prepaid Expenses		102	
Net Liability of the Exchequer (Note 5)		381	
Other Debit Balances		<u>155</u>	
Total Current Assets		<u>1,669</u>	
Less Current Liabilities			
Accrued Expenses		53	
Other Credit Balances:			
Due to State (Note 12)		246	
Creditor Balance		22	
PMG Balance and Cash	119		
Plus Orders Outstanding	<u>149</u>	<u>268</u>	
Total Current Liabilities		<u>589</u>	
Net Current Assets			<u>1,080</u>
Net Assets			<u>2,578</u>

3 STATEMENT OF CAPITAL ASSETS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

	Equipment €000	Furniture and Fittings €000	Totals €000
Cost or Valuation at 1 January 2007	2,100	626	2,726
Additions	199	36	235
Disposals	<u>(189)</u>	-	<u>(189)</u>
Gross Assets at 31 December 2007	<u>2,110</u>	<u>662</u>	<u>2,772</u>
Accumulated Depreciation:			
Opening Balance at 1 January 2007	1,495	407	1,902
Depreciation for the year	257	39	296
Depreciation on Disposals	<u>(172)</u>	-	<u>(172)</u>
Cumulative Depreciation at 31 December 2007	<u>1,580</u>	<u>446</u>	<u>2,026</u>
Net Assets at 31 December 2007	<u>530</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>746</u>

4 STATEMENT OF CAPITAL ASSETS UNDER DEVELOPMENT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

	Telecommunications Network €000
Amounts brought forward at 1 January 2007	-
Cash Payments for the year	100
Transferred to Asset Register	=
Amounts carried forward at 31 December 2007	<u>100</u>

5 NET LIABILITY TO THE EXCHEQUER

Reconciliation of Surplus to be Surrendered at year end to Debtor and Creditor Balances held at 31 December 2007

	€000	€000
Surplus to be surrendered		3,044
Exchequer Grant Undrawn		<u>(3,425)</u>
Net Liability to the Exchequer		<u>(381)</u>
Represented by:		
Debtors		
Debit Balances: Suspense		155
Creditors		
Credit Balances	(22)	
Net PMG position and cash	(268)	
Due to State	<u>(246)</u>	<u>(536)</u>
		<u>(381)</u>

6 EXPLANATION OF THE CAUSES OF VARIATION BETWEEN OUTTURN AND ESTIMATE PROVISION

Sub-head	Less/(More) Than Provided €000	Explanation
A.1.	893	Saving arose due to recruitment delays and an inability to replace outflows under the decentralisation programme.
A.2.	194	Costs associated with official travel were lower than anticipated due to a delay in filling staff vacancies.
A.3.	113	Refunds of exam/course fees, translation and incidental expenses were lower than anticipated.
A.4.	(16)	The excess was due to expenditure incurred on upgrading telecommunications facilities.
A.5.	(117)	The excess was due to the necessity to carry out work on enhancing archiving systems and upgrading computer infrastructure.
A.6.	73	Maintenance and utility costs were lower than expected.
A.7.	520	Savings arose due to consultancy input being less than estimated and due to the timing of that input.

7 APPROPRIATIONS-IN-AID

	Estimated €	Realised €
1. Receipt of Audit Fees	<u>4,200,000</u>	<u>5,583,936</u>

Explanation of Variation

The surplus is due to the timing of the completion of the Office's programme of audits.

8 COMMITMENTS

Commitments likely to materialise in future years amount to €492,633. €424,028 of this amount arises out of a contractual obligation the Office has entered into with firms of accountants to provide audit services, €12,825 is in respect of consultancy services for value for money examinations and €55,780 is in respect of telecommunications system under development.

9 DETAILS OF EXTRA REMUNERATION

	Amount Paid €	Number of Recipients	Recipients of €6,350 or more	Max. Individual Payment of €6,350 or more €
Higher, special or additional duties	59,181	12	3	11,999
Overtime and extra attendance	<u>3,818</u>	4	-	
Total extra remuneration	<u>62,999</u>			

In addition to the remuneration reported above, as part of their pay structure, Trainee Auditors received additional remuneration totalling €31,814, following their qualification as accountants and their assumption of the responsibilities attaching to the Auditor grade.

10 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

As agreed with the Department of Finance under the delegated administrative budget scheme, a carryover of €558,000 from the Vote for 2007 was included in the Estimates for 2008.

Ex-gratia payments amounting to €40,291 were made to Directors under the scheme for Performance Related Awards for posts at the levels of Deputy Secretary and Assistant Secretary.

Audit Committee costs amounted to €6,030 in the year.

In October 2007 the Office held an annual conference upon which costs of €27,090 were incurred.

11 STOCKS

Stocks at 31 December 2007 comprised:	€000
Stationery	8
Consumables etc.	<u>10</u>
	<u>18</u>

12 DUE TO THE STATE

The amount due to the State at 31 December 2007 consisted of:

	€000
PAYE	137
PRSI	71
Withholding Tax	22
Value Added Tax	<u>16</u>
	<u>246</u>

JOHN BUCKLEY

Accounting Officer

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL

28 March 2008

**OPINION TO THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL
IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 13 OF THE COMPTROLLER AND
AUDITOR GENERAL (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1993**

As the auditor appointed under Section 13 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993, I have audited the Appropriation Account of the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General for the year ended 31 December 2007.

This report is made solely to the Comptroller and Auditor General, in accordance with Section 13 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993. My audit work has been undertaken so that I can state to the Comptroller and Auditor General those matters I am required to state to him in my opinion and for no other purposes. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Comptroller and Auditor General, for the audit work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective Responsibilities of the Accounting Officer and the Auditor

Under Section 22 of the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act 1866, the Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Appropriation Account. He is also responsible, inter alia, for the safeguarding of public funds and for the regularity and propriety of all transactions in the Appropriation Account.

It is my responsibility to audit the Appropriation Account in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

I report to you my opinion as to whether the Appropriation Account gives a true and fair view. I also report to you whether in my opinion proper books of account have been kept by the Office. In addition, I state whether I have obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purpose of my audit and whether the Office's Appropriation Account is in agreement with the books of account.

Basis of Opinion

I conducted my audit of the Appropriation Account in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the Appropriation Account, of whether the transactions recorded in the account conform with the authority under which they purport to have been carried out, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Office's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed. I conducted my audit of the Appropriation Account of the Vote of the Comptroller and Auditor General in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board and Section 3 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993. An audit includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the Accounting Officer in the preparation of the Appropriation Account and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Office's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations that I considered necessary to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In my opinion the Appropriation Account of the Vote for the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General properly presents the receipts and expenditure of the Vote for the year ended 31 December 2007 and there are no matters on which I need to report, pursuant to Section 3(10) of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993.

I have obtained all the information and explanations which I considered necessary for the purposes of my audit. In my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General. The Appropriation Account is in agreement with the books of account.

Kevin Sheehan
For and on behalf of Deloitte & Touche
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
29 Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2
10 July 2008

CERTIFICATE OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL

The Appropriation Account of the Vote for the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General for 2007 has been audited on my behalf by Kevin Sheehan of Deloitte and Touche, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors. On the basis of his audit and report, it is my opinion that the account properly presents the receipts and expenditure of the Vote for the year ended 31 December 2007.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Buckley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

JOHN BUCKLEY
Comptroller and Auditor General
19 September 2008