

14 July 2017

1. Branch Finances Overview.

As with all other BCS Member (Branches and Specialist) Groups, Belfast Branch continues to be financed primarily by an annual general allocation received at the start of each financial year. The BCS financial year runs from 1st September up until 31st August of the year following.

The general allocation to Belfast Branch every year funds the following Branch maintenance activities:

- four or more Branch events in the particular year;
- communications to Branch members;
- all general expenses and committee expenses relevant to the above.

As in other financial years, in 2015-2016, the Belfast Branch committee was expected to manage its programme within the budget set by the allocations received. Any forecast overspend would have had to be notified to the Branches Manager together with (a) the circumstances leading to this position and (b) a proposed action plan to resolve the situation. Any monies allocated to the Branch at the start of the 2015-2016 financial year remaining unspent at year end, would be repaid by BCS HQ before the start of the next financial year. Expenditures incurred or incomes realised by the Branch were required to be recorded in the financial year in which they occur, in accordance with general BCS accounting discipline.

2. 2015-2016 Belfast Branch Balance Sheet.

Total spending by Belfast Branch in the financial year 1st September 2013 to 31st August 2014 inclusive was follows:

Catering	£1348
Seminars/Conference	£720
Student Prizes & Membership	£300
Other Costs General	£112
	£2480

The Budget was set at £3630, which means that at the end of June we had a surplus of £1150, from which we still have three known items to be paid. It is anticipated that we will be under budget for the year.

3. 2015-2016 Conclusions.

As has become the norm the 2015-2016 financial year has been one in which the Branch has had to face continuing challenges and uncertainty.

Factors contributing to the 2015-2016 Branch spend include:

- A negotiated rate at the Ramada Hotel has kept our expenditure for meetings down, as had the occasional 'remote access meeting'. We continue to look for venues that reduce our costs and are accessible to all members.
- Expenditure for the Five-a-Side Football and Golf Tournaments are not currently included within the Branch Budget, due to historical precedence.
- The Branch has been fortunate to have developed excellent links with Brightwater Recruitment Specialists who sponsored the ITPOY, and with Diamond IT who sponsored the CV event.

Belfast Branch submitted a 2016-2017 general allocation budget proposal for approval on 30th March 2016. On 29th June 2016 the Branch was advised that the actual amount of 2016-2017 allocation that it would receive would be **£5,360.00** which includes £240.00 for student prizes

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