

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ACT 1965

Account, prepared pursuant to Section 2(2) of the Science and Technology Act 1965, of the Research Councils' Pension Schemes for the year ended 31 March 2003, together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. (In continuation of House of Commons Paper No. 1127 of 2001-2002.)

Presented pursuant to Science and Technology Act 1965, c.4, S.2(2)

Research Councils' Pension Scheme Account 2002-2003

ORDERED BY THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TO BE PRINTED 3 JULY 2003

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Foreword

Statutory background

- 1 These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Accounts Direction dated 30 May 2002 and issued by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, pursuant to Section 2(2) of the Science and Technology Act 1965.

History

- 2 Following a review of the Research Councils' superannuation arrangements, the Research Councils' Pension Scheme (the New Scheme) was established from

1 April 1994, to provide a single pension scheme for members of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the Economic and Social Research Council, the Natural Environment Research Council and the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council. Since 1 April 1995 the New Scheme has also included members of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils, formerly part of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.

- 3 The New Scheme replaced the former schemes (the Old Schemes) of the Agricultural and Food Research Council (now the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council), the Economic and Social Research Council, the Natural Environment Research Council and the Science and Engineering Research Council. The Science and Engineering Research Council was dissolved on 31 March 1994 and replaced by two new Research Councils: the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council and the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council. The Old Schemes became closed to new members on 31 March 1994 and current members were transferred to the New Scheme.
- 4 On 1 October 2002, the superannuation arrangements for the Research Councils that were put in place from 1 April 1994 were replaced in order to keep in step with those of the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (PCSPS) whose arrangements also changed from that date. Under the new arrangements, current members had the choice of
 - i staying in their current scheme (re-named the Classic Scheme);
 - ii joining a new scheme with their existing pension entitlement converted into new scheme benefits (the Premium Scheme); or
 - iii joining a new scheme for future service only with their existing pension entitlement used to provide eventual retirement benefits on a similar basis to those that existed prior to 1 October 2002 (the Classic Plus Scheme).

The main elements of the new Premium Scheme are the provision of a pension based on 1/60th of salary (versus 1/80th in the Classic Scheme) but without an automatic lump sum, a partner's pension (versus solely a widow(er)'s pension) and a member contribution rate of 3.5% (versus 1.5%).

In addition, the alternative of a Partnership Pension Account was also made available to new staff, based on the portable Stakeholder Pension introduced by the Government in 2001. This is a defined contributions scheme.

The Classic and Classic Plus Schemes became closed to new members from 30 September 2002.

- 5 For the sake of brevity, all Schemes existing from 1 April 1994 are described as New Schemes in these Accounts.

Principal activities

- 6 These accounts cover payments made under both the Old and New Schemes. The pension schemes' benefits* are by analogy to the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (PCSPS), except that in the case of the New Scheme redundancy and injury benefits are outside the scope of the scheme and are provided under separate staff agreements funded and accounted for by the respective employing Council. The pension schemes provide retirement and related benefits to all eligible employees based on individual final emoluments.

- 7 The schemes* are operated on a pay-as-you-go basis and principally funded by employers' contributions from member Research Councils. Costs of operating the Schemes are also partially funded by grant-in-aid from Request for Resources 2 (RfR2) received through the Research Councils' sponsoring body, the Department of Trade and Industry. Other income results mainly from members' contributions.

* With the exception of the Partnership Pension Account.

- 8 The Chief Executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council has been appointed Accounting Officer for the Research Councils' Pension Schemes Account, with responsibility for administering the schemes' finances. Scheme administration is carried out by the Research Councils' Joint Superannuation Service.

Results for the year

- 9 Income for the year totalled £58.8 million. Funding from employers' contributions amounted to £20.3 million and grant-in-aid from the Office of Science and Technology amounted to £28.5 million. Income from members' contributions was £4.8 million and other income totalled £5.2 million. Expenditure for the year totalled £58.7 million. The Income and Expenditure Accounts records a surplus of £0.1 million for the year which was transferred to reserves.

Pension Scheme membership

10

	31 March 2003 No.	31 March 2002 No.
New schemes		
Current members in service	8,308	8,393
Pensions in payment	1,870	1,623
Early retirements	446	450
Preserved pensions	3,609	3,280
Total	14,233	13,746
Old schemes		
Pensions in payment	5,552	5,512
Annual compensation payments	141	198
Preserved pensions	2,888	3,009
Total	8,581	8,719
Grand total	22,814	22,465
Members in Service at 1 April		
	8,393	8,160
Adjustment resulting from changes notified in current year	(22)	106
Adjusted figure for 1 April	8,371	8266
New Members in year	772	978
Leavers and Retirements in year	(835)	(851)
Members in Service at 31 March	8,308	8,393

The Membership in Service at 31 March 2003 was made up of 6,691 members of the Classic Scheme, 513 members of the Classic Plus Scheme and 1,104 members of the Premium Scheme. There were additionally 53 employees holding Partnership Pension Accounts at 31 March 2003.

Transfers at cash equivalent

- 11 Transfer Values into and out of the Scheme during the year were £3,780,000 and £3,294,000 respectively. No discretionary benefits were included in the calculation of transfer values.

Financial development of the Scheme

- 12 There have been no changes to the Scheme during the year.

Events since the end of the financial year

- 13 There have been no events since 31 March 2003 that affect these accounts.

Actuaries

- 14 The Government Actuary's Department are the appointed actuaries for the Research Councils' Pension Schemes.

Banks

- 15 Banking services for the Pension Schemes are provided by Paymaster, HM Paymaster General's Office and Barclays Bank plc.

Auditors

- 16 The accounts of the Research Councils' Pension Schemes are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General in accordance with paragraph 3(3) of Schedule 1 to the Science and Technology Act 1965.

Enquiries

- 17 Any enquiries concerning the operation of the Research Councils' Pension Schemes should be addressed to the Research Councils' Joint Superannuation Service, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, SN2 1UY.

Professor Julia M Goodfellow
Chief Executive BBSRC
Accounting Officer

25 June 2003

Statement of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and Chief Executive's responsibilities

Under paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 to the Science and Technology Act 1965, the Research Councils are required to prepare statements of accounts in the form and on the basis determined by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, with the consent of the Treasury. The accounts of the Research Councils' Pension Schemes are prepared on an accruals basis and must show a true and fair view of the net assets of the Schemes at the year end and of their financial transactions during the financial year. The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council have been directed to prepare the accounts of the Research Councils' Pension Schemes.

In preparing the accounts the Council are required to

- observe the accounts direction issued by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, including the 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 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 the Pension Schemes will continue in operation.

The Accounting Officer for the Department of Trade and Industry has designated the Chief Executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council as the Accounting Officer for the Research Councils' Pension Schemes. Her relevant responsibilities as Accounting Officer, including her responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances and for the keeping of proper records, are set out in the Non-Departmental Public Bodies' Accounting Officers' Memorandum, issued by the Treasury and published in 'Government Accounting'.

Statement by Chief Executive on Internal Control

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for maintaining a sound system of internal control that supports the achievement of Council's policies, aims and objectives whilst safeguarding the public funds and Council assets for which I am personally responsible, in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to me in the Combined Management Statement and Financial Memorandum agreed with OST.

This system of internal control is designed to manage rather than eliminate the 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 the principal risks to the achievement of this Council's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the nature and extent of those risks and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. By extension, this process will include the principal risks that may apply to the Research Councils' Pension Schemes. I expect to have procedures fully in place for the year ended 31 March 2004 necessary to implement Treasury guidance. This takes account of the time needed to fully embed the processes which the Council has agreed should be established and improve their robustness.

Risk management and internal control will be considered on a regular basis during the year by the Research Councils' Pensions Schemes Management Board which is comprised of representatives of all research councils participating in the Schemes. A risk inventory for the Research Councils' Pension Scheme has been prepared and considered by the Management Board during the year. Appropriate controls and actions have been taken in respect of these risks.

Audit Committee regularly reviews the risk management framework and receives reports on the business critical projects within BBSRC and reports to Council on any issues of concern.

The Council uses the Research Councils' Internal Audit Service, which operates to standards defined in the Government Internal Audit Manual. They submit regular reports which include the Head of Internal Audit's independent opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's system of internal control together with recommendations for improvement.

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 Research Councils' Pension Scheme and the Councils who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the risk management framework, and comments made by the external auditors in their management letter and other reports.

Professor Julia M Goodfellow
Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of BBSRC

The Certificate and Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the Houses of Parliament

I certify that I have audited the financial statements on pages 9 to 13 under the Science and Technology Act 1965. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 12.

Respective responsibilities of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, the Chief Executive and Auditor.

As described on page 5 the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and Chief Executive are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for ensuring the regularity of financial transactions. The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and Chief Executive are also responsible for the preparation of the Foreword. My responsibilities, as independent auditor, are established by statute and guided by the Auditing Practices Board and the auditing professions' ethical guidance.

I report my opinions as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Science and Technology Act 1965 and directions made thereunder by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and whether in all material respects the expenditure and income have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them and on whether the contributions payable to the Research Councils' Pension Schemes have been paid in accordance with the Schemes' rules or with the contracts under which they are payable. I also report if, in my opinion, the Foreword is not consistent with the financial statements, if the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council has not kept proper accounting records, or if I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

I review whether the statement on page 6 reflects the Biotechnology and Biological Science Research Council's compliance with Treasury's guidance 'Corporate governance: statement on internal control'. I report if it does not meet the requirements specified by Treasury, or if the statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information I am aware of from my audit of the financial statements.

Basis of opinions

I conducted my audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts, disclosures and regularity of financial transactions included in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and Chief Executive in the preparation of the financial statements, and whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Research Councils' Pension Schemes' circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by error, or by fraud or other irregularity and that, in all material respects, the expenditure and income have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them. In forming my opinion I have also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinions

In my opinion

- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the net assets of the Research Councils' Pension Schemes as at 31 March 2003 and of their financial transactions for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Science and Technology Act 1965 and with directions made thereunder by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry; and

in all material respects

- the expenditure and income have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them; and
- the contributions payable to the Schemes during the year ended 31 March 2003 have been paid in accordance with Schemes' rules or with the contracts under which they are payable.

I have no observations to make on these financial statements.

John Bourn
Comptroller and Auditor General

30 June 2003

National Audit Office
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Victoria
London SW1W 9SP

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2003

	Notes	2002-2003		2001-2002
		£000	£000	£000
Income				
Grant-in-Aid	2	28,450		26,970
Employers' contributions	3	20,321		19,049
Members' contributions		4,814		4,410
Transfer values in		3,780		3,960
Early retirement lump sum recoveries		1,305		3,314
Other receipts		140		194
Total			58,810	57,897
Expenditure				
<i>New schemes</i>				
Pensions		13,802		11,578
Retirement lump sums		7,503		8,385
Death benefits		316		555
Refunds of contributions		171		189
State scheme premiums		124		68
Transfer values out		3294		3,893
Other payments		5		-
		25,215		24,668
<i>Old schemes</i>				
Pensions and annual compensation payments		32,001		31,945
Retirement lump sums		427		377
Death benefits		43		18
Refunds of contributions		22		23
State scheme premiums		-		-
Transfer values out		394		149
Other payments		11		-
		32,898		32,512
Administration costs	4	562		530
Amounts payable to the Office of Science and Technology		34		50
Total			(58,709)	(57,760)
Operating surplus for the year				
Retained surplus brought forward			101	137
Retained surplus carried forward			774	637
			875	774

There are no gains and losses other than those recognised in the Income and Expenditure Account. All activities are regarded as continuing.

The Notes at Pages 12 to 13 form part of these accounts

Statement of Net Assets at 31 March 2003

	Notes	2002-2003 £000	2001-2002 £000
Current assets and liabilities			
Debtors	5	441	424
Cash at bank and in hand		4,485	4,106
		4,926	4,530
Less: Creditors falling due within one year	6	(4,051)	(3,756)
Net current assets		875	774
Financed by			
Accumulated Income and Expenditure Account		875	774
Reconciliation of movement in			
Net assets			
Net assets at 1 April		774	637
Surplus for the year		101	137
Net assets at 31 March		875	774

Professor Julia M Goodfellow
Chief Executive BBSRC
Accounting Officer

26 June 2003

The Notes at Pages 12 to 13 form part of these accounts

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2003

	2002-2003 £000	2001-2002 £000
Reconciliation of operating surplus to net cash inflow from operating activities		
Operating surplus for the year	101	137
Movements in net current assets		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(17)	794
Increase in creditors	295	66
Net cash inflow/from operating activities	379	997
Cash Flow Statement		
Net cash inflow from operating activities	379	997
Increase in cash	379	997

The Notes at Pages 12 to 13 form part of these accounts

Notes to the Accounts

1 Accounting policies

a Basis of Accounting

The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis and notwithstanding the fact that the Research Councils' Pension Schemes are unfunded and operate on a pay-as-you-go basis, they follow the format prescribed by the Statement of Recommended Practice, Financial Reports of Pension Schemes, in so far as it is applicable to the Research Councils' Pension Schemes.

The accounts summarise the transactions and net assets of the Research Councils' Pension Schemes. They do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the Schemes' year end. The actuarial position of the Schemes, which does take account of such obligations, is dealt with in the statement by the Government Actuary on page 16 of these accounts.

b Early retirement lump sums

Early retirement lump sums are recovered from the respective employing Research Council at the time of payment to the leaver. The non-enhanced preserved portion of the lump sum is repaid by the Pension Schemes' account to the respective Council when the recipient reaches Scheme retirement age.

2 Grant-in-Aid

Grant-in-Aid is provided from Department of Trade and Industry Request for Resources 2 to the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council as the Council with responsibility for administering the schemes' finances. The allocation for 2002-2003 was £28,450,000 all of which was drawn down by the Research Councils' Pension Schemes.

3 Employers' contributions

	2002-2003	2001-2002
	£000	£000
Total contributions	20,321	19,049

Employers' contributions were paid by each participating Council at the rate of 10.1% from 1 April 1999 on the advice of the Government Actuary's Department.

4 Administration costs

	2002-2003	2001-2002
	£000	£000
Total running costs	606	529
Less offsetting receipts	(176)	(124)
Net running costs	430	405
Pensioner payroll agency fees	107	104
Auditors' remuneration	24	20
Other	1	1
	562	530

Administration costs include £101,000 (£17,000) incurred in the implementation of the replacement pension schemes as described in the Foreword.

5 Debtors

	2002-2003	2001-2002
	£000	£000
Total	441	424

Debtors consist mainly of Employers' and Members' contributions, which are receivable by the Scheme in the normal course of operation. These include £88,000 paid to the Scheme in April 2002.

6 Creditors

	2002-2003	2001-2002
	£000	£000
Total	(4,051)	(3,756)

Creditors consist of Inland Revenue and payroll creditors and accruals payable by the Scheme in the normal course of operation. Payroll creditors of £3,853,000 were paid by the Scheme in April 2003.

7 Related party transactions

The Research Councils are Non-Departmental Public Bodies sponsored by the Office of Science and Technology (OST) within the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

The OST/DTI are regarded as related parties. During the period 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003 the Research Councils' Pension Schemes had various material transactions with the OST/DTI and with other entities for which the OST/DTI is regarded as the parent Department. (These were the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the Economic and Social Research Council, the Natural Environment Research Council, the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council and the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils.)

During the year none of the senior and other key management staff, or other related parties, has undertaken any material transactions with the Research Councils' Pension Schemes.

8 Additional voluntary contributions

Members in service are entitled to make additional voluntary contributions (AVC's) under contracts between the employee and Scottish Widows, Equitable Life Assurance Society and Standard Life to secure additional pension benefits on a money purchase basis. Participating members each receive an annual statement of their contributions and investments directly from their AVC provider. The AVC arrangements are by analogy to those of the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme. Employee contributions are paid directly by the participating Research Council and accordingly contributions and AVC investments are not included in these accounts.

Actuary's Report

During 1997-98 the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) carried out an assessment of the position of the pension schemes based on data at 31 March 1997 in order to provide a formal valuation and to advise the rates of employers' contributions that should apply from 1 April 1999. The estimated value of liabilities to pay members' benefits up to 1 April 1997, when allowance was made for anticipated future inflation and earnings' growth, was £842 million. The actuarial valuation of the fund of notional assets was assessed, as at 31 March 1997, at £979 million, resulting in a notional surplus of £137 million.

GAD recommended, accordingly, that the employers' standard rate of contributions should be reduced from 15.6 % to 10.1 % of pensionable pay with effect from 1 April 1999. The Research Councils agreed to implement this rate from this date.

GAD also recommended the effective date for their next review be no later than 31 March 2000 and that pending the results of that review, employers' contributions after 1 April 2000 should continue to be paid at 10.1 % of pensionable pay.

Following the change in the scheme arrangements from 1 October 2002, it has been agreed with GAD that the effective date for GAD's next review will be 1 April 2002 and their report issued by October 2003.

Additional Disclosures Required Under Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 17 Retirement Benefits

- 1 The scheme is a defined benefit scheme and provides retirement and related benefits based on final salary;
- 2 The most recent actuarial valuation described in the Actuary's Report above and on which the amounts in the financial statements are based was published on 17 September 1998. The next actuarial valuation is expected to be carried out in 2002-2003;
- 3 The contribution made in respect of the accounting period by employers, employees and Grant-in-Aid is described in the Income and Expenditure Account; the agreed contribution rate by employers for future years is as stated in the Actuary's Report above;
- 4 Information is not available to state whether for closed schemes (Old Schemes) and for active membership (Current Members in Service) in the New Schemes that the age profile is rising significantly and, if this were the case, that the projected unit method (of valuation) would mean the current service cost (the increase in the present value of the Schemes' liabilities expected to arise from employee service in the current period) will increase as the members of the Schemes approach retirement;
- 5 The present value of the Schemes' liabilities at 31 March 2002 is not available; the value of the Schemes' liabilities at 31 March 1997 is as described in the Actuary's report above and was made up of (i) Active Members £415M (ii) Deferred pensioners £88M and (iii) Pensioners £339M;
- 6 The main financial assumptions made by GAD in preparing the valuation at 31 March 1997 were : a rate of price inflation of 4.8 % per annum; a rate of earnings increases of 6.4 % per annum; a rate used to discount the scheme liabilities of 3.5 % per annum; a rate of increase for pensions in payment and deferred pensions in line with increases in Retail Price Index of 2.7 % per annum.

Appendix

Biotechnology and biological sciences research council research councils' pension schemes Accounts direction given by the secretary of state for trade and industry

The Secretary of State, with the approval of the Treasury, in pursuance of section 2(2) of the Science and Technology Act 1965, hereby gives the following Direction

- 1 The statement of accounts which it is the duty of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council ("the BBSRC") to prepare in respect of the Research Councils' Pension Schemes for the financial year ended 31 March 2002 and in respect of any subsequent financial year shall comprise
 - a a Foreword
 - b a Statement of Chief Executive's responsibilities
 - c a Statement on the System of Internal Control
 - d a revenue account for the year
 - e a statement of net assets at 31 March
 - f a statement of movement of net assets
 - g an actuary's report

including such notes as may be necessary for the purposes referred to in the following paragraphs.

- 2 The BBSRC shall observe all relevant accounting and disclosure requirements given in 'Government Accounting' as amended or augmented from time to time.
- 3 The statement of accounts referred to above shall give a true and fair view of the financial transactions for the year and of the net assets of the schemes at the year end. The statement shall follow the recommendations of "Financial Reports of Pension Schemes: a Statement of Recommended Practice" (1996) and appropriate disclosure requirements set out in FRS 17 paragraph 94, notwithstanding the fact that the Research Councils' Pension Schemes are unfunded and operate on a pay-as you go basis.
- 4 Subject to the foregoing requirement, the statement of accounts shall also meet any disclosure and accounting requirements which the Treasury may issue from time to time in respect of accounts which are required to give a true and fair view insofar as they are appropriate to the Research Councils' Pension Schemes and are in force for the financial period for which the statement of accounts is to be prepared.

Schedule I of this Direction sets out how the Statement of Recommended Practice should be applied.

- 5 Additional and more detailed disclosure requirements are set out in Schedules I and II of this Direction.
- 6 The detailed layout of the accounts shall be agreed with the Office of Science and Technology.

Signed on behalf of the Secretary of State

S Speed

30 May 2002

Appendix Schedule I

The Foreword and net assets statement shall be signed and dated.

This Direction shall be reproduced as an appendix to the accounts.

Application of "Financial Reports of Pension Schemes: a Statement of Recommended Practice" (1996)

Note: this publication is hereafter referred to as 'the SORP'.

- 1 The Foreword shall replace the Trustees' Report referred to in the SORP. The coverage will be as for the Trustees' Report but without the requirement to report on investment policy and performance and will include
 - Management of the Scheme
 - Scheme advisers - actuary, auditors, administrator, bankers
 - Sponsoring employers the applicable Councils
 - Financial development of the scheme
 - Scheme membership
 - Transfers at cash equivalent
 - Contact for further information.
- 2 The investment report referred to in the SORP is not required.
- 3 Headings specified in the SORP format of accounts will only be used insofar as they are applicable to the accounts of the Research Councils' Pension Schemes.
- 4 The actuary's statement shall comment on
 - i The level of accrued liability to the schemes;
 - ii the suitability of the level of contributions, bearing in mind that such contributions are intended to cover the future liability of existing members and are not intended to take account of the liability in respect of past service of existing or past members.

If a full assessment by the actuary is not available for a particular year, the latest internal assessment should be used and noted as such. The note should also disclose the date of the last full actuarial assessment and the fact that such assessments are prepared on a triennial basis.

Application of FRS 17

From the Standard, the following should be disclosed

- the nature of the scheme (i.e. that it is a defined benefit scheme)
- the date of the most recent actuarial valuation on which amounts in the financial statements are based
- the contribution made in respect of the accounting period and any agreed contribution rates for future years
- the present value of the scheme liabilities at the year end based on the accounting assumptions (but without comparators for 2001-2002)
- the assumptions on inflation; the rate of increase in salaries
- the rate of increase for pensions in payment
- the rate used to discount the scheme liabilities.

Appendix Schedule II

Additional disclosure requirements

- 1 The Foreword shall include a brief history of the schemes and the way in which they operate, including information on the way in which pension benefits are determined and funded.
- 2 The Foreword shall state that the accounts are prepared in accordance with an accounts direction given by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 2(2) of the Science and Technology Act 1965.
- 3 Parliamentary grant in aid shall be shown as a distinct category of income in the revenue account. Furthermore, a note shall be provided in respect of such Parliamentary grant in aid received which shall give details of the class and vote from which grant in aid is received together with a reconciliation to the cash amounts received. Details of any virement applied in respect of sums voted by Parliament between subheads of the vote shall also be given.
- 4 The revenue account will analyse expenditure between that relating to
 - i the new scheme which came into effect from 1 April 1994; and
 - ii the aggregate of the closed schemes of the Agricultural and Food Research Council, the Economic and Social Research Council, the Natural Environment Research Council and the Science and Engineering Research Council

except that administrative and other overhead expenditure need not be so analysed.

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