



The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

Statement of Accounts

**For the Year Ended
31st December 2015**

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

Introduction

This statement of accounts provides a report on the political and financial activities of the Alliance Party of Northern Ireland. The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland's registered address is:

Alliance Party of Northern Ireland



Tel:



Fax: (028) 9033 3147

E-mail:



Web-site: www.allianceparty.org

For the purposes of the **Political Parties, Elections, and Referendums Act 2000**, the responsible officers currently are:

David Ford MLA	Leader and Nominating Officer
Judith Cochrane & Mervyn Jones	Jt Hon. Treasurer
Sharon Lowry	Campaigns Officer

The Party Officers are:

David Ford MLA	Party Leader
Naomi Long	Deputy Leader
Stewart Dickson MLA	Chief Whip
Cllr Andrew Muir	Party President
Cllr Neil Kelly	Party Chair
Duncan Morrow	Vice-Chair
Judith Cochrane	Hon. Treasurer
Mervyn Jones	Hon. Treasurer
Sharon Lowry	General Secretary

Administrative Information

Governance

The Party Council is the ruling body of the Alliance Party. It consists of the Party Officers, Executive, all publicly elected Alliance Party representatives, and up to 10 delegates from each affiliated Associations and from Alliance Youth. The Party Council meets at least four times each year, with the spring meeting being the Annual General Meeting. The Party Officers and Executive Committee are elected annually at the AGM. The day-to-day running of the Party is conducted by the Party Executive. The General Secretary is the chief executive officer of the party.

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

Committees

The party has the following committees and sub-committees in place:

Executive	Neil Kelly (Chair)
Administration & Finance	Andrew Muir (Convenor)
Policy	Duncan Morrow (Convenor)
Political Organisation	Stephen Farry (Convenor)

Government Ministers

The Alliance Party has two members of the Northern Ireland Executive:

David Ford	Minister of Justice (elected in April 2010)
Dr Stephen Farry	Minister for Employment & Learning (appointed May 2011)

Elected Representatives

The Alliance Party has eight members of the Northern Ireland Legislative Assembly (MLAs):

Stephen Farry	North Down
Trevor Lunn	Lagan Valley
David Ford	South Antrim
Anna Lo	Belfast South
Chris Lyttle	Belfast East
Judith Cochrane	Belfast East
Kieran McCarthy	Strangford
Stewart Dickson	East Antrim

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

As at 31st December 2015 the following sat as Alliance councillors in the following councils of local government districts:

Antrim

Neil Kelly

Ards

Deborah Girvan
Kellie Armstrong
Alan McDowell

Belfast

Michael Long
Mervyn Jones
Nuala McAllister
Emmet McDonough
Brown
David Armitage
Sian O'Neill
Carole Howard
Paula Bradshaw

Carrickfergus

Paul Sinclair
Robert Logan

Castlereagh East

Tim Morrow
Vasundhara Kamble
Geraldine Rice

Larne

Gerardine Mulvenna

Lisburn

Stephen Martin
Aaron McIntyre
Amanda Grehan
Owen Gawith

Newtownabbey

Tom Campbell
Billy Webb
John Blair

North Down

Andrew Muir
Stuart Anderson
Gavin Walker
Scott Wilson

Coleraine

Barney Fitzpatrick

South Down

Patrick Brown

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

Staffing at 31st December 2015

The key members of party staff are:

Mrs Sharon Lowry	Party Manager & General Secretary
Ms Debbie Spence	Office Manager
Mrs Lauren Mulvenny	Party Press Officer
Mr Sam Nelson	Campaigns Officer

The key members of Assembly Party Staff:

Mr Ben Lloyd	Head Policy
Mr Scott Jamison	Communications & Press Officer
Miss Nuala McAllister	Business & Administration Officer

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

Membership

New Members	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
	104	109	112	139	115	167	64	51

Accounting Units

The Party has 15 accounting units:

East Antrim	South Belfast	Foyle
North Antrim	North Down	Lagan Valley
South Antrim	South Down	Strangford
East Belfast	East Londonderry	Upper Bann
North Belfast	Alliance Assembly Party	West Tyrone

Other organisations within the Alliance Party are: Mid-Ulster, Newry & Armagh, West Belfast, West Tyrone, Fermanagh and South Tyrone, Alliance Youth and Queen's branches, members normally outside of Northern Ireland, the Association of Alliance Councillors & Campaigners, and the Alliance Women's Network.¹

Review of Financial Activities

Overview

The Alliance Party continues to be in reasonable financial shape. Finances are being managed to ensure cost savings and to allow for financial planning for the future.

Income and Expenditure

Income. Income for the year shows an increase from the previous year.

Expenditure. Regular party expenditure was in line with budgeted expectations. Despite being an election year there was a surplus £18,916.

Balance Sheet

The Party had no overdraft at the 31st December 2015.

¹ For the purpose of compliance with the PPERA, the financial affairs of these groups and organisations within the Party, as well as any newly established groups or organisations, are wholly controlled by the Party Treasurer.

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

Statement of the Treasurers' Responsibilities

The Treasurers of the party are required by the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the party and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Treasurers are required to: -

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the party will continue in business.

Section 41 of the Act requires that the Treasurers are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the party at that time and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Act. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the party and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Section 43 of the Act requires that the registered Treasurers are responsible for delivery of the statement of accounts to the Electoral Commission by the required deadline.

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

Report of the Independent Auditors

We have audited the financial statements of the Alliance Party of Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2015, set out on pages 10 to 24, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 21.

This report is made solely to the Treasurers of the Alliance Party of Northern Ireland in accordance with Section 43 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Treasurers those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Treasurers for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Treasurer and auditors

The responsibilities of the Treasurers for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Auditing Standards are set out in the Statement of Treasurers Responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

We report to you as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 21. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Report of the Party Officers is not consistent with the financial statements, if the Party has not kept proper accounting records, or if we have not yet received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We read the Report of the Party Officers and consider the implication for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information contained in the annual report.

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

Basis of audit opinion

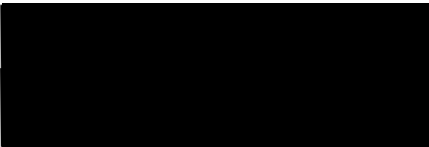
We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the registered treasurers in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the party's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us 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 our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements,

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the party's affairs as at 31 December 2015 and of its deficit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 21 and the requirements of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000.

Michael Hunter & Co



Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditor
Belfast

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

REVENUE ACCOUNT-YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 2015

2014	INCOME		2015
61,154	Levies	Schedule 1	57,244
67,045	Donations	Schedule 2	82,680
3,545	Central Fundraising		2,399
52,058	Election Income	Schedule 5	47,250
0	Development Fund Interest		0
37,950	Party Conference Income	Schedule 8	35,766
0	Interest Received		0
18,000	Notional Income		18,000
<hr/>			
239,752			<hr/> 243,339
 Deduct EXPENDITURE			
12,093	Cost of Political Organisation	Schedule 4	6,269
75,701	Election Expenses	Schedule 5	68,283
5,192	Alliance Paper	Schedule 6	3,002
114,519	Administration Expenses	Schedule 7	115,344
17,935	Party Conference Expenditure	Schedule 8	13,525
18,000	Notional Expenditure		18,000
<hr/>			
243,440			<hr/> 224,423
-3,688	Surplus/(Deficit) for Year		18,916
0	Less: Corporation Tax		<hr/> 0
<hr/>			
-3,688	Transferred to General Fund Account		<hr/> <hr/> 18,916

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

REVENUE ACCOUNT SCHEDULES-YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,2015

Schedule 1- Reconciliation of Levy Payments

2014	2015
61,946 Levy received in 2015	57,452
<u>0</u> Add received in 2014 for 2015	<u>792</u>
61,946	58,244
<u>0</u> Less received in 2015 for 2014	<u>0</u>
61,946	58,244
<u>792</u> Less received in 2015 for 2016	<u>1,000</u>
<u>61,154</u> TOTAL 2015 LEVY RECEIVED	<u>57,244</u>
63,350 Total Levy for 2015	62,500
<u>61,154</u> Less received for 2015	<u>57,245</u>
<u>2,196</u> 2015 Levy Outstanding	<u>5,255</u>

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

REVENUE ACCOUNT SCHEDULES-YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,2015

Schedule 2- Donations

2014	2015
62,045 Donations-Elected Representatives	66,710
0 HQ Appeal	0
5,000 Donations-General	15,970
<u>67,045</u>	<u>82,680</u>

Schedule 3- Interest Received

2014	2015
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Schedule 4- Cost of Political Organisation

2014	2015
9,574 Development	2,855
759 Research & Publicity	0
311 Travelling Expenses	20
1,155 Liberal International	1,155
0 Ears	880
82 Assoc. of Liberal Democrat Councillors	82
96 Nation Builder	527
116 (Surplus)/Cost of Meetings	0
0 Website and Internet	750
<u>12,093</u>	<u>6,269</u>

Schedule 5- Election Expenses

2014	2015
0 Westminster Election Expenses	68,283
28,980 European Elections	0
46,721 Assembly and Local Govt. Elections	0
<u>75,701</u>	<u>68,283</u>
52,058 Less:Amounts Received	47,250
0 Transfer ex Fighting Fund	<u>0</u>
<u>23,643</u>	<u>21,033</u>

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

REVENUE ACCOUNT SCHEDULES-YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,2015

Schedule 6- Alliance News

2014	2015
5,192 Cost of Printing	3,102
<u>0 Less Income Received</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>5,192</u>	<u>3,002</u>

Schedule 7 - Administration Expenses

2014	2015
85,264 Salaries & Wages	87,323
8,754 Rent, Rates & Insurance	9,015
2,650 Light & Heat	2,468
565 Repairs & Renewals	1,515
4,821 Equipment Rental	3,655
4,578 Telephone & Postage	4,037
1,670 Printing & Stationery	1,616
500 Audit & Accountancy	360
1,755 HQ Domestic Expenses	2,118
1,773 Bank Charges	2,135
1,772 General Expenses	790
0 Advertising	0
417 Depreciation- Office F & Fs	312
<u>114,519</u>	<u>115,344</u>

Schedule 8 - Party Conference Account

2014	2015
INCOME	
10,030 Appeal Collection,Registration,Meal	8,502
<u>27,920 Fringe Exhibition</u>	<u>27,264</u>
<u>37,950</u>	<u>35,766</u>
Deduct EXPENDITURE	
<u>17,935 Sundry Expenses, meals, gratuities</u>	<u>13,525</u>
<u>17,935</u>	<u>13,525</u>
<u>20,015 Surplus</u>	<u>22,241</u>

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

FIGHTING FUND ACCOUNT -YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,2015

2014		2015
6,863	Balance at 1st January,2015	8,900
4,696	Add: Monthly Contributions	4,939
0	Interest Progressive Building Society	3
<u>11,559</u>		<u>13,842</u>
2,054	Less: Monthly Prize Allocation	2,232
240	Service & Bank Charges	90
365	Reserve for Advance Payments	358
0	Transfer to Election Expenses	0
<u>2,659</u>		<u>2,680</u>
<u>8,900</u>	Balance at 31st December, 2015	<u>11,162</u>

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT -YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,2015

2014		2015
81,915	Balance at 1st January, 2015	78,227
-3,688	Surplus/ (Deficit) on Revenue Account	18,916
<u>78,227</u>	Balance at 31st December,2015	<u>97,143</u>

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

BALANCE SHEET -YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,2015

2014		2015
1,249	FIXED ASSETS	937
28,758	INVESTMENTS	31,265
<u>30,007</u>		<u>32,202</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
2,419	Sundry Debtors & Prepayments	1,559
18,382	Lagan Properties Ltd.	15,374
85,511	Cash in Bank	97,482
193	Cash in Hand	222
<u>106,505</u>		<u>114,637</u>
Deduct CURRENT LIABILITIES		
48,517	Creditors & Accrued Expenses	37,800
0	Bank Overdraft	0
<u>48,517</u>		<u>37,800</u>
<u>57,988</u>		<u>76,837</u>
<u>87,995</u>	CAPITAL EMPLOYED	<u>109,039</u>
Represented by:		
78,227	GENERAL FUND; CREDIT BALANCE	97,143
9,768	FIGHTING FUND	11,896
<u>87,995</u>		<u>109,039</u>

The notes attached form part of these accounts and should be read in conjunction therewith.

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- 31st DECEMBER, 2015

1. Accounting Policies

Accounting Convention

The financial statements are prepared under the Historical Cost Convention.

Fixed Assets

Fixed Assets are stated at cost. Depreciation has been charged at 25% on the reducing balance method.

Compliance with Accounting Standards

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable financial standards.

2. Fixed Assets

Cost- Office Fittings & Equipment

Balance at 1.1.2015	13,397
Additions	0
Disposals	0
Balance at 31.12.2015	<u>13,397</u>

Depreciation

Balance at 1.1.2015	12,148
Charge for the year	312
Depreciation on disposals	0
Balance at 31.12.2015	<u>12,460</u>

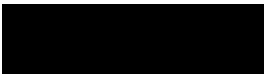
Net Book Value at 31.12.2015 937

Net Book Value at 31.12.2014 1,249

Depreciation

Office Fittings and Equipment are being written off at 25% on the reducing balance method.

3. Investments

2014		2015
21,000 Lagan Properties (1970) Ltd.		21,200
Deposit Accounts-		
7,242		9,679
516		386
<u>28,758</u>		<u>31,265</u>

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- 31st DECEMBER, 2015

4. Debtors

2014	2015
0 Deposit Account- Development Fund	0
<u>2,419</u> Prepayments	<u>1,559</u>
<u>2,419</u>	<u>1,559</u>

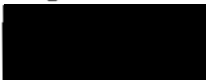
5. Creditors

2014	2015
40,250 Loan Accounts	24,750
<u>8,267</u> Accruals	<u>13,050</u>
<u>48,517</u>	<u>37,800</u>

6. Fighting Fund Account

Balance at 31 December, 2015		11,162
Add: Reserve for advance payments	358	
Reserve for Bank Charges	230	
Reserve for Prize Allocation	<u>146</u>	<u>734</u>
		<u>11,896</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Party Officers on 9th February 2015 and signed on their behalf by:


Mervyn Jones
Jt. Hon Treasurer

Judith Cochrane
Jt. Hon Treasurer