

Recruitment and consultancy freeze – exceptions approved – September 2011
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1. During the month of September, the following exceptions to the recruitment and consultancy freeze (above £20k) have been considered by the Chief Executive, in his capacity as Accounting Officer.
2. The details are shown below:

Approval date	Ref: No. & directorate	Summary of application	Consultancy/ recruit	Decision
5 September 2011	126 RME	Scope for improvement in the efficiency of NR expenditure on support and operations £35,000	Consultancy	Approved
5 September 2011	129 External Affairs	Temporary cover for PA to director	External recruitment	Approved
9 September 2011	124 External Affairs	Web manager maternity leave cover	External recruitment	Approved
9 September 2011	127 RME	Financial analyst – Grade C	External recruitment	Approved
9 September 2011	128 RPP	Agency worker (3 months) and Casual worker (1 year)	External recruitment	Approved
9 September 2011	130 Corporate Services	Organisational change manager	External recruitment	Approved
9 September 2011	131 RME	Efficient expenditure benchmarking of NR against North American railroads £50,000	Consultancy	Approved
13 September 2011	132 RME	Impact of changes in track access charges on rail freight traffic £60,000	Consultancy	Approved

Approval date	Ref: No. & directorate	Summary of application	Consultancy/ recruit	Decision
20 September 2011	133 External Affairs	Web developer extension to contract	External recruitment	NOT approved
30 September 2011	125b* RME and RPP	International benchmarking of efficiency of NR expenditure on support and operations £200,000 plus vat	Consultancy	Approved
Further details of any of the above applications and decisions are available from Elaine Horton				

*This is the second time this application has been considered – the limit for the second application was raised from £100k plus VAT to £200k plus VAT

3. The chief executive refused one application for external recruitment (Web Developer contract extension)
4. The Director of Corporate Services did not consider any applications for consultancy <£20,000.