

<b>Approvals committee – March 2011</b>
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1. Since the last Board meeting, our approval committee has met on 2 March, 14 March and 30 March 2011 to consider applications requiring approval of consultancy contracts over £20,000 and all external recruitment. One application was also considered by correspondence on 16 March 2011

2. The cases considered are listed below:

<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Ref: No. &amp; directorate</b>	<b>Summary of application</b>	<b>Consultancy/ recruit</b>	<b>Committee Decision</b>
2 March 2011	92 RME	Contract extension – economist	Recruitment	Approved
2 March 2011	93 RME	Call off contract – economic advice £100,000	Consultancy	Approved
2 March 2011	91 EA	Development of line managers' toolkit £6,600*	Consultancy	Approved
14 March 2011	95 RME	Appointment of temporary economist	Recruitment	Approved
30 March 2011	98 RPP	HS1 data assurance review £30,000	Consultancy	Approved
30 March 2011	99 RME	Understanding consumer behaviour £50,000	Consultancy	Approved
30 March 2011	100 CS	Extension to FRISS Phase 2 consultancy £10,000 **	Consultancy	Approved
30 March 2011	101 CS	Temporary agency cover – post distribution	Recruitment	Approved
30 March 2011	103 CS	IS interim manager	Recruitment	Approved
Consideration by correspondence				
16 March 2011	96 RME	Extension to contract – secretary VfM study	Recruitment	Approved
* This was referred to the committee because the original budget for the work was £17k and this additional request took the spend above the committee threshold of £20k				

** This is an additional approval, making the total sum now approved for this consultancy £50k
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Further details of any of the above applications and decisions are available from Brian Warrener
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3. The committee were also provided with details of any applications below £20,000 which are subject to approval by the director of corporate services. One application was approved at a cost of £18,000.