

An aerial photograph of a coastal town in Northern Ireland. The town is built on a hillside overlooking a large marina filled with numerous sailboats. A railway line runs through the town, and a large green park with a central building is visible in the foreground. The sky is clear and blue.

*Delivering
with expertise...*

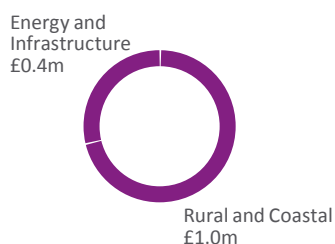
Financial highlights

	The Crown Estate Northern Ireland Year ended 31 March 2013 £m	The Crown Estate Northern Ireland Year ended 31 March 2012 £m	The Crown Estate total Year ended 31 March 2013 £m	The Crown Estate total Year ended 31 March 2012 £m	Increase/ (decrease) from prior year %	Percentage of total %
Revenue	1.4	1.3	332.2	314.2	7.7	0.4
Gross surplus	1.2	1.3	283.2	272.4	(7.7)	0.4
Property value	14.8	13.4	7,752.2	7,219.9	10.4	0.2
Capital investments	0.7	0.1	324.3	409.9		
Capital receipts	0.9	–	351.9	639.7		

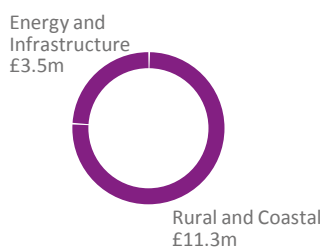
Revenue by activity	Year ended 31 March 2013 £m	Year ended 31 March 2012 £m
Coastal	0.8	0.6
Minerals	0.1	0.2
Aquaculture	0.1	0.1
Rural and Coastal total	1.0	0.9
Cables/pipelines	0.4	0.4
Energy and Infrastructure total	0.4	0.4
Total	1.4	1.3

Property value by activity	Year ended 31 March 2013 £m	Year ended 31 March 2012 £m
Coastal	10.1	9.8
Cables/pipelines	0.5	0.4
Minerals	0.1	0.1
Aquaculture	0.6	0.6
Rural and Coastal total	11.3	10.9
Cables/pipelines	2.4	2.5
Renewables	1.1	–
Energy and Infrastructure total	3.5	2.5
Total	14.8	13.4

Revenue by activity 2013
£ million



Property valuation by activity 2013
£ million



Alison Nimmo CBE
Signed by Second Commissioner and
Accounting Officer on behalf of the Board

17 June 2013

We are a key facilitator for the Northern Ireland Executive, helping deliver policies that benefit the whole of the Province.

A breakthrough year for renewables

The last 12 months have been extremely significant for the renewables sector in Northern Ireland, with the hard work of recent years bearing fruit.

In October 2012, we announced the award of development rights for three offshore energy sites in Northern Ireland's coastal waters, following a competitive tendering process that attracted high levels of interest from national and international renewable energy development companies.

The projects, which together could deliver 800 MW of electricity, comprise an area located off the south-east coast of County Down for development of a 600 MW offshore wind farm and areas off the north-east coast of County Antrim for two tidal stream projects, each of up to 100 MW, near to Torr Head and Fair Head.

First Flight Wind has been awarded the rights for the 600 MW offshore wind area, Tidal Ventures will be developing the tidal opportunity at Torr Head and DP Marine Energy with DEME Blue Energy will be working on the tidal stream energy project off Fair Head. All parties have now signed legal agreements with The Crown Estate, as we have responsibility for awarding development rights for the seabed for renewable energy schemes in all UK waters. This will enable the companies to take their proposals forward and carry out detailed surveys and planning work before their proposals are submitted to the relevant Northern Ireland bodies for development consent.

Northern Ireland Energy Minister Arlene Foster MLA welcomed the news and said: "The development of offshore renewables is an excellent opportunity for Northern Ireland in so many ways – energy security and diversity; climate change mitigation; a contribution to the Executive's 2020 targets and the business supply chain opportunities for local companies over the next few years as these projects come on stream."

The UK is Europe's leading offshore wind generator and there are plans in place to develop 11,000 new offshore wind turbines, a quarter of which are expected to be built within 150 nautical miles of Belfast. During the year we were pleased to facilitate the completion of a new £50 million offshore wind terminal development at Belfast Harbour, ensuring that the city seizes the opportunities presented by new technologies and making sure they benefit the local area. The terminal will create around 300 jobs and help establish a hub capable of servicing a market valued in excess of £100 billion.

Engaging with stakeholders

In addition to working with the Department of Enterprise, Technology and Industry (DETI) in meeting the aspirations of the Northern Ireland Executive for 40 per cent of electricity being produced from renewable sources by 2020. We are also an active stakeholder both with DETI as they bring forward legislation required to deliver offshore renewables, and the Department of Environment as they consider the forthcoming Northern Ireland Marine Bill.

We are continuing to work with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Northern Ireland Office to agree a scheme for a bridge across the River Newry between County Down in Northern Ireland and County Louth in the Republic of Ireland, where there is at present no agreed border. The new bridge will greatly facilitate tourist trade between the two countries and is expected to be funded by the EU.

Marine stewardship fund

The Crown Estate's marine stewardship fund is widely valued throughout the UK for supporting community initiatives, helping encourage good environmental practice and promoting the long-term sustainable management of our marine assets. There are currently five priority areas for funding: access, awareness, biodiversity, environment and management.

In accordance with our corporate Biodiversity Action Plans, we are committed to furthering the conservation of priority species and habitats at national and local levels. To support this aim, we provided almost £5,000 to Ulster Wildlife Trust to help raise awareness of the marine environment amongst local communities. An interactive map has been developed, which will be available online, providing an easy reference point for information about key species and habitat features, and what their presence means to the quality of Northern Ireland's marine and coastal environment. A short film has also been developed providing a tour of the underwater environment.

In Strangford Lough, we provided £1,000 for Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland to produce a canoe trail guide aimed at providing information on responsible behaviour within the marine environment. Funded in conjunction with Down District Council and Ards Borough Council, the guide helps to raise awareness of the sensitive habitats within Strangford Lough and promote the principles of the 'Leave No Trace' campaign, the most widely accepted outdoor ethics programme used on public lands. The importance of the flora and fauna of Strangford Lough means the area is designated as a Special Area of Conservation, Special Protection Area, Ramsar site, Area of Special Scientific Interest and Marine Nature Reserve.

Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General to The Crown Estate Commissioners

I have audited the financial statements of The Crown Estate for the year ended 31 March 2013, from which the financial information on the inside front cover was derived, in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. In my report dated 12 June 2013, I expressed an unqualified opinion on the financial statements from which the financial information was derived.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial information has been correctly extracted, in all material respects, from the accounting records used to construct the audited financial statements from which they were derived.

For a better understanding of The Crown Estate's position and the results of its operations for the period and of the scope of our audit, the financial information should be read in conjunction with the financial statements from which the financial information was derived and our audit report thereon.

Amyas C E Morse
*Comptroller and Auditor General
National Audit Office
157–197 Buckingham Palace Road
Victoria
London
SW1W 9SP*

18 June 2013