



# **Ballot Box Scotland Accounts - Financial Year 2020/21**

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# 1. Overall Figures – Net Income £2902.93

## 1.1. Headline Income and Expenditure Figures

<b>Income</b>	
<b>Donations</b>	
Q1	£575.17
Q2	£308.68
Q3	£633.13
Q4	£1605.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,122.84</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	
Q1	£0.00
Q2	£0.00
Q3	£91.22
Q4	£0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£91.22</b>
<b>Gross Income</b>	<b>£3,214.06</b>
 <b>Expenditure</b>	
Q1	£73.17
Q2	£95.20
Q3	£48.72
Q4	£94.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>£311.13</b>
 <b>Net Income</b>	 <b>£2,902.93</b>

## 1.2. Notes

2020/21 was the second year of Ballot Box Scotland accepting donations. The quarterly breakdown mostly follows calendar months for simplicity, except that Q4 also includes dates in April up until the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2021, to align with the financial year. Gross income for 2020/21 increased by 90% versus 2019/20, and net income increased by 148%.

BBS committed to publishing these accounts when launching the donations platform in April 2019.

Donations to BBS are completely anonymous when paid via Stripe, whilst payments via Paypal provide the donor's name. Although Paypal does provide a name, all donations are listed anonymously in these accounts, and I have not kept a record of who has donated and how much beyond what exists on my Paypal account.

## 2. Income - Total £3,214.06

### 2.1. Donations - Total £3,122.84

#### 2.1.1. Q1 (April-June) - Total £575.17

Date	Amount
25/04/2020	£5.53
29/04/2020	£19.52
29/04/2020	£35.30
30/04/2020	£9.41
30/04/2020	£8.44
30/04/2020	£8.67
30/04/2020	£3.23
30/04/2020	£3.57
01/05/2020	£6.14
01/05/2020	£9.66
01/05/2020	£8.67
02/05/2020	£8.44
07/05/2020	£51.07
09/05/2020	£43.39
16/05/2020	£24.45
20/05/2020	£4.55
08/06/2020	£8.67
18/06/2020	£8.67
22/06/2020	£3.74
22/06/2020	£24.45
22/06/2020	£4.55
22/06/2020	£45.65
22/06/2020	£58.96
22/06/2020	£51.07
23/06/2020	£8.44
23/06/2020	£9.66
23/06/2020	£8.67
23/06/2020	£45.14
23/06/2020	£9.41
23/06/2020	£8.67
24/06/2020	£29.38

### 2.1.2. Q2 (July-September) - Total £308.68

Date	Amount
15/07/2020	£3.74
17/07/2020	£8.44
31/07/2020	£8.67
01/08/2020	£24.07
05/08/2020	£8.67
12/08/2020	£8.44
12/08/2020	£3.74
12/08/2020	£8.67
12/08/2020	£45.94
15/08/2020	£19.52
26/08/2020	£37.57
02/09/2020	£8.67
04/09/2020	£8.44
09/09/2020	£3.74
11/09/2020	£23.00
11/09/2020	£14.59
15/09/2020	£11.59
16/09/2020	£46.97
16/09/2020	£4.55
16/09/2020	£9.66

### 2.1.3. Q3 (October - December) - Total £633.13

Date	Amount
01/10/2020	£9.66
07/10/2020	£51.07
13/10/2020	£3.74
13/10/2020	£46.46
14/10/2020	£38.54
14/10/2020	£11.59
15/10/2020	£1.57
16/10/2020	£4.55
16/10/2020	£45.65
20/10/2020	£11.46
20/10/2020	£11.59
21/10/2020	£4.55
21/10/2020	£35.30
22/10/2020	£1.77
27/10/2020	£8.67
28/10/2020	£14.26
05/11/2020	£1.61
10/11/2020	£3.74
11/11/2020	£14.26
14/11/2020	£39.24
17/11/2020	£9.66
17/11/2020	£1.77
17/11/2020	£24.45
18/11/2020	£11.63
25/11/2020	£49.10
28/11/2020	£35.30
01/12/2020	£1.77
08/12/2020	£11.59
08/12/2020	£14.59
08/12/2020	£3.74
08/12/2020	£11.63
15/12/2020	£9.66
15/12/2020	£1.77
17/12/2020	£4.55
17/12/2020	£8.67
18/12/2020	£58.96
22/12/2020	£11.63
29/12/2020	£1.77
29/12/2020	£1.61

#### 2.1.4. Q4 (January – 5<sup>th</sup> of April) – Total £1,605.86

Date	Amount
05/01/2021	£3.74
12/01/2021	£1.77
14/01/2021	£11.08
19/01/2021	£22.17
21/01/2021	£38.54
25/01/2021	£14.67
26/01/2021	£1.77
27/01/2021	£50.19
02/02/2021	£3.74
06/02/2021	£44.92
09/02/2021	£1.77
10/02/2021	£14.26
11/02/2021	£29.38
16/02/2021	£1.61
18/02/2021	£14.26
18/02/2021	£39.24
19/02/2021	£10.81
23/02/2021	£1.77
25/02/2021	£49.10
28/02/2021	£9.21
01/03/2021	£9.66
02/03/2021	£8.67
02/03/2021	£3.74
03/03/2021	£11.08
04/03/2021	£8.67
08/03/2021	£15.58
09/03/2021	£11.59
09/03/2021	£14.59
10/03/2021	£49.10
12/03/2021	£14.59
16/03/2021	£58.96
20/03/2021	£43.89
23/03/2021	£8.67
26/03/2021	£43.89
27/03/2021	£44.17
28/03/2021	£19.12
30/03/2021	£6.14
30/03/2021	£3.74
31/03/2021	£33.40
31/03/2021	£14.26
31/03/2021	£1.77
31/03/2021	£42.62

31/03/2021	£24.95
31/03/2021	£28.93
31/03/2021	£19.12
31/03/2021	£9.66
31/03/2021	£2.61
31/03/2021	£1.35
31/03/2021	£51.07
31/03/2021	£10.70
31/03/2021	£48.25
31/03/2021	£3.74
31/03/2021	£19.12
31/03/2021	£9.41
31/03/2021	£28.83
31/03/2021	£4.55
31/03/2021	£48.25
31/03/2021	£10.57
31/03/2021	£10.30
01/04/2021	£33.34
01/04/2021	£9.66
01/04/2021	£9.41
01/04/2021	£19.12
01/04/2021	£2.76
01/04/2021	£60.52
01/04/2021	£98.40
01/04/2021	£29.38
01/04/2021	£10.70
01/04/2021	£21.16
02/04/2021	£42.62
02/04/2021	£1.48
05/05/2021	£10.43
05/05/2021	£43.38
05/05/2021	£50.19



## 2.2. Donation Notes

Donations this year more than doubled (105% increase) compared to the previous year. Approximately half of all donations were received in Q4, and a quarter of all donations came following the close of nominations for the Holyrood election (and an, ahem, mild run in with a needlessly rude MP on Twitter...!) on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March, in the very last week of the financial year. Even excluding that week, donations would have shown a substantial (48%) increase versus 2019/20.

The number of individual donations increased to 164 (52% increase), and the average value of a donation to £19.05 (up 35%). Due to the nature of how donations are logged, it isn't possible to determine how many individual donors there were, as some donors may have contributed multiple times.

The fees collected by Paypal (20p + 3.4%) and Stripe (20p + 1.4%) are not included in the donation figures here, as I never see that money! If you're looking for your own donation here, you won't find the nice round figure you paid.

## 2.3. Advertising Income - Total £91.22

Date	Amount
21/12/2020	£91.22

I carried out no paid work as BBS this year. Apart from donations, my only other income was one AdSense payment.

### 3. Expenditure - Total £311.13

#### 3.1. Q1 - Total £73.17

Date	Amount	Description	Recipient
16/04/2020	£48.00	Domain Renewal - ballotbox.scot	1&1 Ionos
27/04/2020	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos
27/05/2020	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos
27/06/2020	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos

#### 3.2. Q2 - Total £95.20

Date	Amount	Description	Recipient
10/07/2020	£14.38	Q1 Liberapay Donation	Liberapay
27/07/2020	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos
27/08/2020	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos
31/08/2020	£34.65	Premium Theme	MH Themes
11/09/2020	£21.00	50x Badges	Glasgow Badges
27/09/2020	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos

#### 3.3. Q3 - Total £48.72

Date	Amount	Description	Recipient
27/10/2020	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos
27/11/2020	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos
27/12/2020	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos
31/12/2020	£23.55	Q2 & Q3 Liberapay Donations	Liberapay

#### 3.4. Q4 - Total £94.04

Date	Amount	Description	Recipient
18/01/2021	£29.99	MS Office Subscription Renewal (Half)	Microsoft
27/01/2021	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos
27/02/2021	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos
27/03/2021	£8.39	Web Hosting	1&1 Ionos
05/04/2021	£38.88	Q4 Liberapay Donation	Liberapay

#### 3.5. Expenditure Notes

Far fewer line items for expenditure so it's just presented as consolidated quarterly blocks. The bulk of the expenditure relates to web hosting and domain registration fees. An additional one-off cost for a Premium WordPress theme allowing more control over site design and appearance was also an important item of expenditure.

Quarterly Liberapay donations are approximately 2.5% of that quarter's donation income. That payment is voluntary, to support the free platform provided for collecting donations. The Q4 donation is slightly below that because, naturally, someone managed to put in a donation in the last half hour of the year when I'd already sent the Liberapay payment.

## 4. Hours Worked on Ballot Box Scotland

### 4.1. Background

I put a lot of my time and energy into Ballot Box Scotland, and it occurred to me it might be worth keeping a very rough estimate of exactly how much that amounts to over the year. Once I know how much time I've spent on BBS, I can also estimate how much I've earned per hour worked.

This isn't intended to suggest that I expect people to contribute any more to BBS than they already do. The extremely generous support I receive has absolutely blown me away, and when I started accepting donations in 2019 I had expected to cover my costs, if I was lucky.

That BBS has become an additional source of income for me was a surprise – but a very welcome one. Given I was unemployed for a long period and am now getting back on my feet with a new career, my earnings from BBS really help to make ends meet, especially as I plan ahead for the next few years. I am indescribably thankful to everyone who has so kindly donated any amount of money to BBS at any point.

### 4.2. Hours Worked - Total 531 (75.9 Days)

Piece of Work	Hours per Iteration	Iterations	Total
Holyrood Poll	5	33	165
By-Election Preview	4	20	80
By-Election Result	3	19	57
Website Identity Refresh	12	1	12
New Website Pages	5	5	25
Holyrood Hub Development	70	1	70
New Content Development	24	1	24
Boundary Review Analysis	6	3	18
Holyrood Party Profiles	4	5	20
Ballot Box Battlegrounds	3	20	60
<b>Total (Days FTE)</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>Total (Hours)</b>	<b>531</b>

Over the course of this year, I've spend approximately 531 hours on Ballot Box Scotland work. Taking my current full-time workday of 7 hours as a baseline, I've therefore worked the equivalent of 75.9 full-time days on BBS, or 15.2 working weeks.

### 4.3. Earnings per Hour - £6.05

Based on my gross income from BBS this year and the hours spent on the project, my earnings equate to roughly £6.05/hr. For comparison, the minimum wage for the year was £8.72 (earnings equate to 52.7 MWE days), and the Living Wage was £9.50 (earnings equivalent to 48.3 LWE days).

As noted above, I very much do not intend this to mean I expect any more payment than I currently receive! I'm already delighted and amazed at how much support people have given me, which is far beyond what I could ever have hoped for. Instead, this is intended simply to illustrate how much work has goes into BBS over the year, producing content available to anyone free of charge, and which I hope is making a substantial contribution to everyone's understanding of elections in Scotland.