Staff costs and other overheads | Electoral Commission Nonparty campaigners: Where to start You are in the Non-party campaigners: Where to start section Home Non-party campaigners: Where to start View the navigation tree Go to main guidance section: Non-party campaigners: Where to start What are the rules for non-party campaigners? Elections Act 2022: Changes for non-party campaigners overview Elections Act 2022: Code of Practice for non-party campaigners Elections Act 2022: New limits on campaigning by non-UK individuals and organisations Elections Act 2022: New notification threshold How to notify us to register as a non-party campaigner Elections Act 2022: Reporting threshold Elections Act 2022: Reporting at a UKPGE What spending is regulated? Does your campaign activity meet the purpose test? Purpose test: Intention Purpose test: Campaigning on an issue What happens if the policy I have been campaigning on is adopted by a political party? Purpose test: Charities and other organisations with limits on their political activities Purpose test: The regulated period in an early UK Parliamentary general election Staff costs and other overheads Joint campaigning Staff costs and other overheads You will need to include staff costs, as well as other overheads, where they are associated with your regulated activities. Staff costs that are associated with your organisation's general, non-campaign related activities do not count as regulated campaign spending. If you have a member of staff working on regulated campaign activity as well as your organisation's other work, you will need to count a proportion of the staff salary which reflects the time spent working on regulated campaign activities. If your organisation already has an established way of apportioning these costs, you may decide to calculate staff costs incurred in relation to regulated campaign activities in the same way. In each case you should make an honest and reasonable assessment of the amount you have spent, based on the facts. You should be able to explain what the assessment is based on. Examples of calculating staff costs and overheads: Example 1 A member of staff estimates that they spent half of their time working on regulated activity during the regulated period. You treat half of what you pay that staff member during the regulated period as regulated spending. Eg2 staff costs Example 2 You are planning an online campaign that will meet the purpose and public tests. From your budgeting and team planning you have estimated in advance that your Campaigns team will spend 20% of their time working on it for three months of the regulated period. If this estimate turns out to be correct, you count 20% of the staff costs for the Campaigns team for three months towards the spending on that online campaign. Eg 3 staff costs Example 3 Carrying out a canvassing campaign, your office telephone bills increase. The increase in the telephone costs counts towards the regulated spending for your campaign. You could estimate this increase by looking at your telephone bill at the same time last year, and calculating the extra you have spent this year. Last updated: 24 May 2021 Book traversal links for Staff costs and other overheads Purpose test: The regulated period in an early UK Parliamentary general election Joint campaigning