

Audit Committee 27 February 2008

National Audit Office director responsibilities

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

Mr D S Sidhu of the National Audit Office wrote to the Chief Executive on 29 January 2008, to explain that he had been asked to become lead director for the financial audit of the Department for Children, Families and Schools. Mr Dean Parker has taken over most of Mr Sidhu's existing responsibilities, including the HPC, from 1 February 2008.

Copies of the letter were also sent to the Director of Finance and the Chairman of the Audit Committee and a copy is attached to this paper.

Decision

This paper is for information only. No decision is required.

Background information

The Health Professions Order 2001 requires the Council to prepare annual accounts for each financial year, to be audited "by persons the Council appoints" (article 46(1) and 46(2)). In addition, the Comptroller and Auditor General is required to "examine, certify and report on the annual accounts." (article 46(5)).

Resource implications

None.

Financial implications

None.

Appendices

Copy of letter from National Audit Office to Chief Executive, dated 29 January 2008.

Date of paper

13 February 2008.

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National Audit Office

Helping the nation spend wisely

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29 January 2008

Dear Marc

NAO DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

In recognition of the increasing priority which the Government is giving to children and families I have recently been asked to become the lead director for the financial audit of the Department for Children, Families and Schools (DCFS).

Dean Parker, currently the C&AG's Private Secretary, will be taking over most of my existing responsibilities on health, including the Health Professionals Council from 1 February 2008. Dean and I will work together over the coming weeks to ensure a smooth transition, and I will continue to be in regular contact with him as the audit for 2007-08 progresses. I will continue my involvement with around half a dozen of the NHS clients.

It has been a delight to work with the Health Professionals Council and I am grateful for the assistance that has been provided. I trust that you will find the transition a smooth one; Dean and I are committed to ensuring you continue to receive a quality professional service.

If you have any questions about this change, please do not hesitate to contact Dean or me. Dean can be contacted on 020 7798 7074, e-mail: dean.parker@nao.gsi.gov.uk

I have copied this letter to the Director of Finance Simon Leicester and the Chair of the Audit Committee, Paul Acres.

Best regards


D S Sidhu
Director

