
Policy on the provision of Non-Audit Services by Audit Scotland's external auditor

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Introduction

1. The Audit Committee is responsible for developing and monitoring a policy on engaging the external auditor to provide non-audit services, taking into account relevant guidance on the provision of non-audit services by the external audit firm.
2. The SCPA appoints Audit Scotland's external auditors and may impose contractual restrictions/prohibitions on the external auditor providing non-audit services. In the absence of contractual restrictions, the Audit Committee and Audit Scotland Board are responsible for determining in what circumstances Audit Scotland may engage the external auditor to provide non-audit services.
3. The Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard 2016 categorises non-audit services as "audit related services" (which includes work normally expected to be undertaken by an external auditor such as grant claim certification) and "other non-audit services" (which includes management consultancy and tax work).

Scope

4. This policy applies to Audit Scotland.

Policy

5. It is important that Audit Scotland's external auditors are independent and seen to be independent in the work that they undertake. It is therefore not appropriate for them to provide any non-audit work that might be perceived to create a conflict of interest with their role as external auditors.

Implementation

6. Audit Scotland may engage the external auditors to provide work classified as "audit related services" by the Ethical Standard.
7. Audit Scotland shall notify the Chair of the Audit Committee before any such work is undertaken and notify the Audit Committee at their next available meeting.
8. Audit Scotland shall not engage the external auditors to provide work classified as "other non-audit services."