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Financial Reporting Council
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### ukfrs@frc.org.uk

17 November 2014

Dear Ms Carter,

FRC Consultation – FRED 55 Draft Amendments to FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland – Pension obligations

#### Introduction

We are the Quoted Companies Alliance, the independent membership organisation that champions the interests of small to mid-size quoted companies. Their individual market capitalisations tend to be below £500m.

The Quoted Companies Alliance is a founder member of European**Issuers**, which represents over 9,000 quoted companies in fourteen European countries.

The Quoted Companies Alliance Financial Reporting Expert Group has examined your proposals and advised on this response. A list of members of the Expert Group is at Appendix A.

## Response

We welcome the opportunity to respond to this consultation. We are supportive of the proposed amendments. We believe that these changes allow for clarity while minimising risks for companies.

#### Responses to specific questions

Q1 Do you agree that FRS 102 should be amended to clarify that an entity is not required to recognise any additional liabilities to reflect an agreement with a defined benefit plan to fund a deficit, where the entity has already measured and recognised its defined benefit obligation/asset in accordance with paragraphs 28.15 and 28.18 (and additionally for assets, paragraph 28.22) of FRS 102, even though this may differ from the accounting required by entities applying EU-adopted IFRS? If not, why not?

Yes, we agree.

We note that there have been different interpretations of FRS 102 and believe that the FRC is right to clarify the position. We are pleased that the FRC have clarified the position is a clear and proportionate manner that will cause minimal disruption to companies current reporting.

The Quoted Companies Alliance is the independent membership organisation that champions the interests of small to mid-size quoted companies.

Financial Reporting Council FRED 55 – Draft Amendments to FRS 102 17 November 2014 Page 2

Q2 Do you agree with the proposed new paragraph 28.15A of FRS 102 and the other proposed amendments to FRS 102? If not, why not?

Yes, we agree.

If you would like to discuss any of our response in more detail, we would be happy to attend a meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Ward

**Chief Executive** 

# **Quoted Companies Alliance Financial Reporting Expert Group**

| Matthew Stallabrass (Chairman) | Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP               |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Jonathan Lowe                  | Baker Tilly                             |
| Paul Watts                     |   |
| Nick Winters                   |   |
| Anna Draper                    | BDO LLP                                 |
| Joseph Archer                  | Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP               |
| Bill Farren                    | Deloitte LLP                            |
| Ian Smith                      |   |
| David Gray                     | DHG Management                          |
| Shalini Kashyap                | EY                                      |
| Gary Jones                     | Grant Thornton UK LLP                   |
| Anthony Carey                  | Mazars LLP                              |
| David Pugh                     | Nationwide Accident Repair Services plc |
| Nigel Smethers                 | One Media IP Group plc                  |
| Niraj Patel                    | Saffery Champness                       |
| Matthew Howells                | Smith & Williamson LLP                  |
| Jack Easton                    | UHY Hacker Young                        |
| Ian Davies                     | Vislink PLC                             |
| Edward Beale                   | Western Selection Plc                   |