



## Executive Counsel – Financial Reporting Council

The Financial Reporting Council (FRC) is the UK's independent regulator responsible for promoting high quality corporate reporting, governance and audit to foster investment.

### THE ROLE

The Executive Counsel is responsible for investigations and prosecutions under the FRC's disciplinary schemes for members of the accountancy and actuarial professions in public interest cases. The role of the disciplinary schemes is to safeguard the public interest by maintaining and enhancing the standards of conduct of accountants and actuaries and their respective firms. In particular, the Executive Counsel, working with the advice of a case management committee, is responsible for deciding whether or not to prosecute following an investigation.

The role will report to the Executive Director of Conduct and heads up a team of approximately 10 people, the majority of whom are legally qualified. The successful candidate will:

- Review complaints referred by professional bodies or identified within the FRC and prepare for a decision to investigate by the relevant committee.
- Lead investigations, appointing external advisors and lawyers if necessary.
- Decide whether or not to prosecute following an investigation.
- Lead the prosecution of formal complaints including the presentation of the complaint at hearing, again instructing external advisors as necessary.
- Contribute to the design and on-going management of the schemes and any other FRC led inquiries to ensure that the procedures are robust and will not impact negatively on other enforcement processes.
- Build and manage strong working relationships with the FRC's senior executive and participate in executive meetings to share issues and understand common themes of poor quality.
- Contribute to the annual plan and budget and manage effectively the enforcement team's annual budget.

### THE PERSON

The ideal candidate will:

- Be a qualified lawyer, with demonstrable litigation exposure, detailed knowledge of rules of evidence and experience of professional regulation and disciplinary procedures as well as an ability to deal with accounting, audit and actuarial issues.
- Have the ability to establish a high-degree of credibility quickly with senior stakeholders within the accountancy, actuarial and legal professions and with other regulators as well as in the corporate environment.
- Have a balanced outlook to blend his/her FRC enforcement role with the FRC mission and strategy.
- Possess strong leadership, organisational and general management skills.
- Be an enthusiastic, energetic and robust individual who operates effectively in challenging environments and is able to withstand criticism and manage conflict.
- Be consultative and open to the advice of others, while at the same time having confidence in his/her own opinion.
- Be emotionally mature and calm with the ability to be both firm and diplomatic.

If you are interested in this exciting and challenging role please send your CV to **Harry Chetwynd-Talbot** at Hedley May LLP, Sun Court, 66-67 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NB. E mail: [Harry@hedleymay.com](mailto:Harry@hedleymay.com).