

**DISCLOSURE LOG- FOIA Requests**

Date of response	Nature of request	Response
<p>01/04/2022</p>	<p><i>Please could you provide information relating to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>the minimum level of qualifications and experience you expect of an AQRT inspector;</i></li> <li>- <i>the extent of training and support you provide as mandatory to AQRT inspectors;</i></li> <li>- <i>the arrangements you have for quality control in relation to the work of AQRT inspectors;</i></li> <li>- <i>any changes you have made to the training and support of AQRT inspectors over the last 2 years.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>By AQRT I mean your Audit Quality Review team.</i></p>	<p>Please note our responses below relate specifically to inspectors within the Audit Quality Review Team (AQR inspectors).</p> <p><u>Minimum level of qualifications and experience</u></p> <p>The essential criteria for a Level 4 AQR inspector are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A professional accountancy qualification (ACA, ACCA, or equivalent).</li> <li>• Significant post qualification experience in the audits of listed and other public interest entities.</li> <li>• Strong technical auditing and accounting skills.</li> <li>• Broad business knowledge and interests to facilitate working across multiple sectors.</li> <li>• Ability to understand and assess significant volumes of information quickly and through this identify aspects of potential audit quality concern.</li> <li>• Ability to build constructive and professional relationships with senior audit teams and audit firm personnel.</li> <li>• Ability to challenge the judgements made and quality of work performed by audit teams authoritatively, with reference to International Standard of Auditing (ISA) and to present and discuss issues arising on their merits in a calm and professional manner.</li> <li>• Strong written and oral communication skills including report drafting, presenting AQR findings accurately, fairly and convincingly.</li> <li>• Effective project and time management skills.</li> </ul> <p>Please note: All AQR inspector roles are within the Level 4 band and additional requirements may be expected on a case-by-case basis or for any particular audit specialisms.</p> <p><u>Mandatory training and support</u></p> <p>New AQR inspectors must watch pre-recorded training on the FRC's Inspection Process and Inspection Manual. Whilst conducting their first inspection, new joiners will be supported by a peer inspector, an inspection leader, and inspection director and an allocated Technical and Quality team (T &amp; Q Team) member. Specialist skills such as IT audit inspectors or actuaries may be deployed if necessary.</p> <p>All AQR team members attend various training sessions throughout the year, designed and delivered in-house and using specialists from other departments of the FRC.</p> <p>Please note: All AQR inspectors are members of professional bodies which set minimum continuing professional education requirements. The AQR team offers regular training opportunities and updates to AQR inspectors. These sessions are usually sufficient for AQR inspectors to meet these requirements.</p> <p><u>Changes to training and support in the past two years</u></p> <p>The main developments in training and support in the past two years have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The codification of existing practices and guidance into one overall inspection manual.</li> <li>• A focus on formalising the AQR Team's induction process to onboard new joiners consistently. This was prompted by the need to onboard and support new staff remotely during lockdown.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The recording of training sessions for future access by new joiners, those that missed sessions or as refreshers.</li> <li>The T&amp;Q team has recently been expanded to provide additional capacity.</li> <li>Increased training in specialised areas such as financial services audit.</li> </ul> <p><u>Quality control arrangements for AQR inspectors' work</u> All inspection work is reviewed in detail by a more senior team member, normally either the Inspection Leader or a Senior Inspector. An Inspection Director will also be involved/consulted in cases where this is considered appropriate. This includes a review of the detailed planning and scoping for each inspection at the outset and consideration of the key findings identified and quality grading decisions.</p> <p>A Primary Quality Control (Primary QC) reviewer from the AQR T&amp;Q Team is appointed for each review, to be consulted throughout the review as appropriate.</p> <p>A Quality Control (QC) Panel is held for higher-risk reviews and those with key findings where improvements are required. This involves a second member of the T&amp;Q team alongside the Inspection Team, Inspections Director and Primary QC reviewer. Reviews not determined to be higher-risk, or where the quality assessment is one of limited improvements or good, are reviewed by a single member of the T&amp;Q team.</p> <p>A final Executive Review of each draft report and supporting papers is carried out by the AQR Director, T&amp;Q Director or another senior member of the T&amp;Q team.</p>
<p><b>31/03/2022</b></p>	<p><i>We are submitting this Freedom of Information request to your Organisation in order to obtain information regarding whether you have any current insurances in force. Please could you therefore respond to the following: -</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Please confirm the name, position and contact details (telephone number and email address) of the person responsible for arranging and administering the Authority's insurances.</i></li> <li><i>Which classes of commercial insurance do the Authority currently procure? When are these policies due for renewal?</i></li> <li><i>How much does the Authority spend annually on its insurance premium?</i></li> <li><i>Please confirm the name of the Authority's current insurance broker/advisor (if applicable).</i></li> <li><i>When was the contract for insurance broking services last reviewed/tendered?</i></li> <li><i>When will the current contract for insurance brokerage services expire? Is this subject to a potential extension?</i></li> </ul>	<p>Procurement related activities are overseen by the FRC's Procurement Team, who can be contacted by email: <a href="mailto:Procurement@frc.org.uk">Procurement@frc.org.uk</a> and by telephone: 02074923000.</p> <p>The rest of the information relating to the FRC's commercial insurance is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Act as it is reasonably accessible to you. This is an absolute exemption which means the public interest does not need to be considered. More details about this exemption is provided in <b>Annex A</b>.</p> <p>The information requested is available on the Contracts Finder website, accessible here: <a href="https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/3e370f81-17bd-4ca4-8b2a-98af7d62be01">https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/3e370f81-17bd-4ca4-8b2a-98af7d62be01</a></p>
<p><b>30/03/2022</b></p>	<p>1. A list of all the applicants to become a signatory to the stewardship code who were rejected for the September and March updates to the signatory list - please can this list make clear</p>	<p>We are unable to provide you with a list of all unsuccessful applicants, individual feedback or any correspondence between those firms and the FRC. We consider that section 43 (Commercial interests) of the Act applies as disclosure of the names, feedback and correspondence, would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the firms in question. In addition, the correspondence sent between the FRC and the relevant firms was sent in confidence. Therefore, we consider that section 41</p>



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	<p>whether an applicant was rejected from the September or March updates, or both.</p> <p>2. A copy of the individual feedback sent to failed applicants for both updates, as well as any subsequent email correspondence from applicants relating to their failed application.</p> <p>3. A copy of any general feedback circulated to applicants.</p>	<p>(Information provided in confidence) of the Act applies. For a detailed explanation of why these exemptions apply, please refer to Annex A below. In relation to your third request, we published and emailed the following information to all unsuccessful applicants.  <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/getattachment/afd3c2de-b13e-4f9a-b6dd-f08e9260dd92/FRC-advice-for-October-2021-Stewardship-Code-applications.pdf">https://www.frc.org.uk/getattachment/afd3c2de-b13e-4f9a-b6dd-f08e9260dd92/FRC-advice-for-October-2021-Stewardship-Code-applications.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>09/03/2022</b></p>	<p><i>Under the Freedom of Information Act I'm writing for information in relation to the total fines of £13.5M levied on KPMG &amp; David Costley-Wood re Silentnight.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst there's much information on your website, I can't find what I'm looking for, namely the detailed reference in your constitution or similar that required you to pay over the whole of the £13.5M to the ICAEW; or did you have any discretion in that respect? Can you please send me electronically the relevant documentation and also let me know whether the £2.45M costs recovered were also paid to the ICAEW.</i></p>	<p>We have interpreted the first part of your request to mean you seek a copy of the information contained within any relevant document that requires fines collected by the FRC in connection with any Accountancy Scheme investigation generally and not limited specifically the fine mentioned in your request, to be paid to the relevant RSB involved in funding the investigation.</p> <p>We can confirm that there is a requirement for the FRC to pay any monies collected through fines to the relevant RSB. We have extracted the relevant information and included it at <b>Annex A</b>.</p> <p>We can also confirm that in relation to Silentnight, the case costs were returned to the ICAEW.</p>
<p><b>18/02/2022</b></p>	<p>"total number of whistleblower reports received in the time periods specified in the original request"</p> <p>The time period specified in your previous FOIA request is for year ending 30.09.2021 and for the previous five years.</p>	<p>The information requested is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Act as it is reasonably accessible to you. This is an absolute exemption which means that the public interest does not need to be considered. More details about this exemption is provided in <b>Annex A</b>.</p> <p>The total number of whistleblower reports received by the FRC from 2016 to 2021 is available in the FRC's Annual Reports, accessible here:  <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/search?searchtext=annual+report&amp;searchmode=anyword">https://www.frc.org.uk/search?searchtext=annual+report&amp;searchmode=anyword</a></p>
<p><b>11/02/2022</b></p>	<p><i>I am writing in respect of your finance solution. Could you kindly help me out with the below information?</i></p> <p><i>1. What ERP (Enterprise Resource Management) or Finance system is currently used at FRC?</i></p> <p><i>2. When does your contract expire?</i></p> <p><i>3. Do you have any planned upgrades of the software? If so, when?</i></p> <p><i>4. Are you planning to go to market for a different ERP/ Finance system? If so, when?</i></p>	<p>1. What ERP (Enterprise Resource Management) or Finance system is currently used at FRC?</p> <p><i>The Finance system used at the FRC is One Advance Cloud Financials and WebExpenses for employee expenses. These services are provided by Advanced Business Software and Solutions Limited.</i></p> <p>2. When does your contract expire?</p> <p><i>The contract expires in February 2025.</i></p> <p>3. Do you have any planned upgrades of the software? If so, when?</p> <p><i>There are no planned upgrades of the software under the current contract.</i></p>



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	<p>5. Who is the person responsible for your ERP / Finance system? Please provide full name, title, and contact information if possible.</p>	<p>4. Are you planning to go to market for a different ERP/ Finance system? If so, when?</p> <p><i>The FRC will carry out a tendering process, either publicly or through a government framework agreement between June to November 2024.</i></p> <p>5. Who is the person responsible for your ERP / Finance system? Please provide full name, title, and contact information if possible.</p> <p><i>The Senior Financial Planning &amp; Analysis Manager (FP&amp;A Manager) is responsible for the FRC's Finance system and can be contacted via email: <a href="mailto:Procurement@frc.org.uk">Procurement@frc.org.uk</a>.</i></p> <p><i>We have withheld disclosure of the name of the FP&amp;A Manager under section 40 (Personal Information) of FOIA as it is personal data concerning another individual. Further information on the application of this exemption is set out in <b>Annex A</b> below.</i></p> <p>Further information relating to the FRC's contract with Advanced Business Software and Solutions Limited can be found on the government contract finder page, accessible here: <a href="https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/notice/e7aabde9-d60f-43cc-b4f8-867bbec6f09b?origin=SearchResults&amp;p=1">https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/notice/e7aabde9-d60f-43cc-b4f8-867bbec6f09b?origin=SearchResults&amp;p=1</a></p>
<p>11/02/2022</p>	<p><i>There were some webpages/files which could not be downloaded due to 'error 404 no page available'.</i></p> <p><i>Page link for 'cases under the accountancy scheme': <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors/enforcement-division/past-cases-accountancy-scheme">https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors/enforcement-division/past-cases-accountancy-scheme</a></i></p> <p><i>Sections are were unable to download:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Barclays Capital</i></li> <li>• <i>BAE Systems</i></li> <li>• <i>European Home Retail plc</i></li> <li>• <i>Lehman Bros CASS</i></li> <li>• <i>Equitable Life</i></li> <li>• <i>Lehman Bros Repos</i></li> <li>• <i>J P Morgan</i></li> <li>• <i>XL Leisure Group plc</i></li> </ul>	<p>The FRC holds the information requested and was provided in a separate PDF document.</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Emerging Business</li><li>Mayflower Corp plc</li></ul>	
11/02/2022	<p>1) The dates that the ICAEW provided information to the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Scotland, or any other person, asking that entities in the Register of Statutory Auditors for and/or relating to each of the persons listed as "individuals linked with" the firms of Deloitte LLP and Deloitte NSE LLP as at 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021.</p> <p>2) The dates that the firms of Deloitte LLP and Deloitte NSE LLP, and/or any person authorised by those firms, provided the ICAEW with each of the names of those persons such that the ICAEW became obliged by Statute(s) and/or other regulations to update the list of persons listed as "individuals linked with" the firms of Deloitte LLP and Deloitte NSE LLP as at 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021.</p>	The FRC does not hold the information requested.
04/02/2022	<p>This is an information request relating to losses and special payments</p> <p>Please include the information for each of the following periods; 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The total number of cases of losses in each year.</li><li>The total cost of losses in each year.</li><li>An itemisation of each loss including what it was for and how much it cost.</li><li>The total number of special payments in each year.</li><li>The total value of special payments in each year.</li><li>An itemisation of each special payment including what it was for and how much it cost.</li></ul>	<p>Following our request for clarification, on 25 January 2022 you confirmed that 'losses' means any loss which the organisation was not expecting to make, such as fruitless payments, constructive losses, storage losses, not including contingent liabilities; and 'special payment' mean a one off payment, which could include compensation or ex-gratia payments. You also confirmed that the information you requested was not in the context of enforcement cases. In accordance with your clarification, we have excluded any contractually or statutorily required payments such as salary or redundancy payments.</p> <p>From 2018 to 2021, the FRC has not had any cases of losses or special payments.</p>
04/02/2022	<p>This is an information request relating to payments made to charities and third sector organisations.</p> <p>Please provide the following information for 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21:</p>	From 2018 to 2021, the FRC has not awarded any grants or loans to the charities and third sector organisations listed in your request.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The value of grants made to each of the organisations listed below. Please provide the information for each of the three financial years separately, and list all grants separately.</i></li> <li>• <i>The value of loans made to each of the organisations listed below. Please provide the information for each of the three financial years separately, and list all loans separately.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The payments made to charities and third sector organisations relate to the following only:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH)</i></li> <li>• <i>Independent Sage</i></li> <li>• <i>NHS Confederation</i></li> <li>• <i>Keep our NHS public</i></li> <li>• <i>SOS NHS</i></li> <li>• <i>Care and Support Workers Organise</i></li> <li>• <i>UNITED VOICES OF THE WORLD</i></li> <li>• <i>Health Campaigns Together</i></li> <li>• <i>Doctors for the NHS</i></li> <li>• <i>We Own It</i></li> <li>• <i>The People's Assembly</i></li> <li>• <i>Zero Covid Coalition</i></li> <li>• <i>Health Campaign Together</i></li> <li>• <i>Docs Not Cops</i></li> <li>• <i>British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin</i></li> <li>• <i>Association of Pakistani Physicians of Northern Europe</i></li> <li>• <i>Royal College of General Practitioners</i></li> <li>• <i>Royal College of Ophthalmology</i></li> <li>• <i>Royal College of Psychiatrists</i></li> <li>• <i>Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists</i></li> </ul>	
31/01/2022	The FRC's Enforcement Committee has found that Mazars LLP failed to comply with the Regulatory Framework for	Questions 1-3 have not asked for recorded information but instead asked open questions, FOIA does not apply to these parts of the request.



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	<p><i>Auditing in its audit of a local government authority's 2019 financial statements.</i></p> <p><i>Please answer the following questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. Which local government authority was in question?</i></li> <li><i>2. Are there other local government audits currently being investigated under the Auditor Regulatory Sanctions Procedure?</i></li> <li><i>3. If so, how many instances and which auditors and authorities do these concern?</i></li> </ol> <p><i>Please also provide the following:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>4. All correspondence with Mazars LLP regarding the case</i></li> <li><i>5. All correspondence with the local government authority in question</i></li> <li><i>6. All correspondence with other bodies involved in local government audit and its regulation concerning the case (such as CIPFA, NAO, PSAA...)</i></li> </ol>	<p>contains) confidential information we have received for the purposes of carrying out our regulatory functions under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 (LAAA). As a result, we are prohibited from disclosing the information under section 44 of the Act. This is an absolute exemption which means that the public interest does not need to be considered.</p> <p>Additionally, we are unable to disclose some of the information requested as it is information that has been provided to the FRC in confidence. Therefore, we consider that section 41 of the Act applies. This is an absolute exemption which means that the public interest does not need to be considered. Furthermore, some of the information contains personal information concerning individuals other than yourself. Therefore, we consider that section 40 (Personal information) of the Act applies. This is an absolute exemption which means that the public interest does not need to be considered. Lastly, some of the information requested is exempt from disclosure under section 43 of the Act as disclosure of the information requested would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).</p> <p>Details about these exemptions were provided in Annex A.</p>
12/01/2022	<p>Minutes and agreed outputs from all of the 2020 workstream groups which were set up as an outcome of the 2020 Employee Opinion Survey.</p>	<p>The FRC's Executive Committee decided to create workstreams focusing on the themes that arose from the 2020 People Survey. These included: Understanding of our purpose and linking these with individual objectives, effective management of Change, Values and Culture, career development, promotions and salary progression. Each workstream formed a group made up of FRC staff which was led by an Executive Director. These groups met individually, then collectively drafted recommendations to present to the Executive Committee.</p> <p>We have interpreted your request for "minutes" in this context to mean any recorded information produced in the meetings held by the workstream groups and "output" to mean any documents that were produced by these workstreams.</p> <p>Please find enclosed in <b>Annex B</b> minutes and outputs produced by these workstreams, recommendations made by the workstreams to Executive Committee and minutes of Executive Committee meeting.</p> <p>Section 40 (Personal information)</p> <p>You will note that the names of staff have been redacted as we believe this constitutes their personal data and we consider that the exemption at section 40 (Personal information) of the Act applies. Further information on the application of this exemption is set out in <b>Annex A</b> below. Some information was also redacted because it was outside the scope of your request.</p>