

SCHEDULE 1

PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES: APPOINTMENT ETC

Accounting officer

- 19 (1) The Ombudsman is the accounting officer for the office of the Ombudsman.
- (2) If the Ombudsman is incapable of discharging the Ombudsman's responsibilities as accounting officer, the Audit Committee may designate a member of the Ombudsman's staff to be the accounting officer for as long as the Ombudsman is so incapable.
- (3) If the office of the Ombudsman is vacant and there is no acting Ombudsman, the Audit Committee may designate a member of the Ombudsman's staff to be the accounting officer for as long as the office of the Ombudsman is vacant and there is no acting Ombudsman.
- (4) The accounting officer has, in relation to the accounts and the finances of the Ombudsman, the responsibilities which are from time to time specified by the Audit Committee.
- (5) In this paragraph references to responsibilities include in particular—
- (a) responsibilities in relation to the signing of accounts,
 - (b) responsibilities for the propriety and regularity of the finances of the Ombudsman, and
 - (c) responsibilities for the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the resources of the Ombudsman are used.
- (6) The responsibilities which may be specified under this paragraph include responsibilities owed to—
- (a) the Assembly, the Welsh Ministers or the Audit Committee, or
 - (b) the House of Commons or its Committee of Public Accounts.
- (7) If requested to do so by the House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts, the Audit Committee may—
- (a) on behalf of the Committee of Public Accounts take evidence from the accounting officer, and
 - (b) report to the Committee of Public Accounts and transmit to that Committee any evidence so taken.