

## RESPONSIBILITIES AND SCOPE FOR AUDIT SERVICES

### Limited Liability Partnership Clients

#### 1.1 Your responsibilities as members

- 1.1.1 As members of the limited liability partnership, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view and which have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 (the Act). As designated members you must not approve the financial statements unless you are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the limited liability partnership.
- 1.1.2 In preparing the financial statements, you are required to:
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
  - make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
  - prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the limited liability partnership will continue in business.
- 1.1.3 You are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that set out with reasonable accuracy at any time the limited liability partnership's financial position, and for ensuring that the financial statements comply with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (UK GAAP) and with the Companies Act 2006.
- 1.1.4 You are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the limited liability partnership and hence for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.
- 1.1.5 ***If audit exemption is being taken*** You are also responsible for deciding whether, in each financial year, the limited liability partnership meets the conditions for exemption from an audit, as set out in section 477 (or 480) of the Act, and for deciding whether the exemption cannot be claimed that year for any of the reasons set out in sections 476, 478, or 479.
- 1.1.6 You are responsible for ensuring that the limited liability partnership complies with laws and regulations that apply to its activities, and for preventing non-compliance and detecting any that occurs.
- 1.1.7 You have undertaken to make available to us, as and when required, all the limited liability partnership's accounting records and related financial information, including minutes of management and members' meetings, that we need to do our work. Each member is required to take all steps that he ought to take as a director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that we are aware of that information.

- 1.1.7 If audited financial information is published, which includes a report by us or is otherwise connected to us, on the limited liability partnership's website or by other electronic means, you must inform us of the electronic publication and get our consent before it occurs and ensure that it presents the financial information [and] [Chartered Accountants] [auditor's] [report] properly. We have the right to withhold consent to the electronic publication of [our report or] the financial statements if they are to be published in an inappropriate manner.
- 1.1.8 You must set up controls to prevent or detect quickly any changes to electronically published information. We are not responsible for reviewing these controls nor for keeping the information under review after it is first published. You are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of electronically published information, and we accept no responsibility for changes made to any audited information after it is first posted.

## AUDIT

### 1.2 Our responsibilities as statutory auditors

- 1.2.1 We have a statutory responsibility to report to the members as a body, whether in our opinion the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with UK GAAP, whether they have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and whether they give a true and fair view. We are also required to confirm that the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements. In arriving at our opinion, we are required to consider the following matters, and report on any that we are not satisfied with:
- (a) whether the limited liability partnership has kept proper accounting records, and whether branches that we have not visited have sent in proper returns adequate for our audit;
  - (b) whether the limited liability partnership's individual accounts are in agreement with the accounting records and returns; **[and]**
  - (c) **whether we have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.**
- 1.2.2 We may also need to deal with certain other matters in our report. **[For example, if the financial statements do not give details of directors' remuneration or of their transactions with the company, the Companies Act 1985 requires us to disclose such matters in our report.]** If the limited liability partnership prepares accounts and reports in accordance with the small companies regime when in our opinion it is not entitled to do so we are required to state the fact in our report.
- 1.2.3 We have a professional responsibility to report if the financial statements do not significantly comply with applicable financial reporting standards, unless we believe there is a good reason for the non-compliance. In deciding whether or not this is the case, we consider:
- (a) whether the non-compliance is necessary for the financial statements to give a true and fair view; and
  - (b) whether the non-compliance has been clearly disclosed.
- 1.2.4 Our professional responsibilities also include:

- (a) describing in our report the members' responsibilities for the financial statements if the financial statements or accompanying information do not include this information; and
  - (b) considering whether other information in documents containing audited financial statements is consistent with those financial statements.
- 1.2.5 As noted in 1.2.1 above, our report is made solely to the limited liability partnership's members, as a body, in accordance with section 495 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work will be undertaken so that we might state to the limited liability partnership's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the limited liability partnership and the limited liability partnership's members as a body, for our audit work, the audit report, or for the opinions we will form.
- 1.2.6 The Senior Statutory Auditor under s504 Companies Act 2006 is [Insert name].
- 1.2.7 In the event that we cease to act as statutory auditors for the limited liability partnership we are required by paragraph 9(3) of schedule 10 to the Companies Act 2006, as applied by the Limited Liability Partnerships (Accounts and Audit) (Application of the Companies Act 2006) Regulations 2008, to make available, if requested, all relevant information concerning the audit of the limited liability partnership to our successors as statutory auditors. You agree to cover any reasonable costs of making such information available that we may incur in fulfilling our statutory duty.

### **1.3 Scope of audit**

- 1.3.1 We will carry out our audit in accordance with the International Standards of Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Because of the test nature and other inherent limitations of an audit, together with the inherent limitations of any accounting and internal control system, there is an unavoidable risk that even some material misstatements may remain undiscovered.
- 1.3.2 We shall obtain an understanding of the accounting and internal control systems in order to assess their adequacy as a basis for the preparation of the financial statements and to establish whether proper accounting records have been maintained by the limited liability partnership. We shall expect to obtain such appropriate evidence as we consider sufficient to enable us to draw reasonable conclusions therefrom. In addition to our report on the financial statements, we expect to provide you with a separate letter concerning any material weaknesses in accounting and internal control systems which come to our notice.
- 1.3.3 The nature and extent of our audit will vary according to our assessment of the limited liability partnership's accounting system and, where we wish to rely on it, the internal control system, and may cover any aspect of the business's operations that we consider appropriate. Our audit is not designed to identify all significant weaknesses in the limited liability partnership's systems but, if we detect

significant weaknesses we will report them to you. You may not show this report to third parties without our prior written consent. We will grant consent on the basis that the report is only prepared in the sole interests of the limited liability partnership and that we accept no duty or responsibility to any other party as concerns the report.

- 1.3.4 As part of our normal audit procedures, we may ask you to confirm in writing representations you have made to us during the audit. In particular, where misstatements in the financial statements that we bring to your attention are not adjusted, you must state your reasons in writing. In connection with representations and the supply of information to us generally, we draw your attention to section 501 of the Companies Act 2006 under which it is an offence for anyone to recklessly or knowingly supply information to the auditors that is false or misleading and to fail to promptly provide information requested.
- 1.3.5 To help us examine your financial statements, we will ask to see all documents or statements that are due to be issued with the financial statements.
- 1.3.6 You are responsible for safeguarding the limited liability partnership's assets and for preventing and detecting fraud, error and non-compliance with law or regulations. We will plan our audit so that we can reasonably expect to detect significant misstatements in the financial statements or accounting records (including those resulting from fraud, error or non-compliance with law or regulations), but you cannot rely on us finding all such errors.
- 1.3.7 *Where appropriate* We shall not be treated as having notice, for the purposes of our audit responsibilities, of information provided to members of our firm (principals and staff) other than those engaged on the audit (for example information provided in connection with accounting, taxation and other services). *When accounting, taxation or other services are undertaken on behalf of an audit client, information may be provided to members of the audit firm other than those engaged on the audit. In such cases, it may be appropriate for the audit engagement letter to include this or a similar paragraph to indicate that the auditors are not to be treated as having notice, for the purposes of their audit responsibilities, of such information, to make it clear that a company would not be absolved from informing the auditors directly of a material matter.*
- 1.3.8 Once we have issued our report, we have no further responsibility in relation to the financial statements for that financial year. However, we expect that you will inform us of any material event occurring between the date of our report and the date the financial statements are sent out in accordance with section 423 Companies Act 2006 which may affect the financial statements.
- 1.3.9 To ensure that there is effective two-way communication between us and to comply with the requirements of Standards on Auditing we will:
- contact you prior to the audit to discuss any relevant matters and to agree any required action; and
  - contact you after the audit to discuss any matters arising from the audit and to confirm any agreed action.

We will of course contact you more frequently and regularly about audit and other matters during the course of the audit.

1.3.10 *And if applicable* We appreciate that the present size of your business makes it uneconomic to create a system of internal control based on the segregation of duties for different functions within each area of the business. In the running of your limited liability partnership, we understand that the **members [is]/[are]** closely involved with the control of the company's transactions. In planning and performing our audit work we shall take account of this supervision.