



Minutes of the QCA Financial Reporting Expert Group

Held on: Tuesday 3 December 2019, 4.30pm – 6.00pm

Venue: Grant Thornton, 30 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1AG

Present:

Matthew Howells (Chair)	Smith & Williamson	MH
Laura Mott	Haysmacintyre	LM
James Nayler	Mazars	JN
Elisa Noble	BDO	EN
Jon Wallis	Grant Thornton	JW
Peter Westaway	Deloitte	PW
Anthony Robinson	Quoted Companies Alliance	AR

In attendance:

Hannah Armitage	FRC Lab	HA
Thomas Toomse-Smith	FRC Lab	TT

1. Welcome to Thomas Toomse-Smith and Hannah Armitage of the FRC's Financial Reporting Lab to discuss the Lab's latest work.

MH welcomed HA and TT to the Financial Reporting Expert Group meeting. They presented an overview of two of their most recent projects/reports: 1) Disclosures on the sources and uses of cash, and 2) Climate change and workforce projects.

To help them set their forward agenda, they asked for feedback from FREG members on the following questions:

- What challenges do companies face in reporting forward-looking information?
- What horizons do companies use internally and in their reporting?
- In which areas of reporting are horizons most useful?
- How do companies consider longer-term risks and uncertainties?

FREG members are invited to give any feedback on these questions to Jack or Anthony at the QCA.

It was suggested that annual reminders on FRC priorities to auditors and advisors would be useful. This would help to understand what companies get picked up on regularly. It was also noted that Deloitte maintains a climate change resources page for businesses.

MH thanked HA and TT for their time. HA and TT left the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Edward Beale, Matthew Brazier, Rochelle Duffy, Anna Hicks, Mark Hodgkins, Clive Lovett, Matthew Stallabrass and Helena Watson.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2019 were tabled and approved without amendment.

4. ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

	ITEM	ACTION
a)	<p>Post-general election engagement priorities and speakers for 2020.</p> <p>The group expressed interest in the following guest speakers for the 2020 meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BEIS post-Brexit; • IASB; • FRC. 	<p>JM to invite guest speakers to 2020 meetings.</p>

5. COMMUNICATIONS (information only)

	ITEM	ACTION
a)	<p>The QCA has published a new research report on Corporate Governance on AIM.</p> <p>This was tabled for information only and not discussed.</p>	None.
b)	<p>The latest QCA Small & Mid-Cap Sentiment Index will be published soon.</p> <p>This was tabled for information only and not discussed.</p>	None.
c)	<p>The latest QCA/Peel Hunt Small and Mid-Cap Investor Survey will be published in Q1 2020.</p> <p>This was tabled for information only and not discussed.</p>	None.
d)	<p>The dates and venues for the 2020 Financial Reporting Expert Group meetings are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Tuesday 28 January 2020, 4.30pm – 6.00pm, at haysmacintyre, 10 Queen Street Place, London, EC4R 1AG ii. Tuesday 7 April 2020, 4.30pm – 6.00pm, at Smith & Williamson LLP, 25 Moorgate, London, EC2R 6AY iii. Tuesday 23 June 2020, 4.30pm – 6.00pm, at PKF Littlejohn LLP, 15 Westferry Circus, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4HD iv. Tuesday 22 September 2020, 4.30pm – 6.00pm, at BDO LLP, 55 Baker St, Marylebone, London, W1U 7EU 	None.

	<p>v. Tuesday 1 December 2020, 4.30pm – 6.00pm, at Grant Thornton UK LLP, 30 Finsbury Square, London, EC2A 1AG</p> <p>This was tabled for information only and not discussed.</p>	
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6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 28 January 2020, 4.30pm – 6.00pm (Venue: haysmacintyre, 10 Queen Street Place, London, EC4R 1AG)