

Meeting of the QCA Financial Reporting Expert Group

To be held on: Tuesday 24 September 2019, 4.30pm – 6.00pm

Venue: BDO LLP, 55 Baker St, Marylebone, London, W1U 7EU



**QUOTED
COMPANIES
ALLIANCE**

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome to Claire Hardgrave, Michael Ashby and Agni Singh of the Audit Reform and Regulation team of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to speak about the consultation on the CMA's recommendations.**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting (18 June 2019)**
- 4. Issues for discussion**
 - a. Updates to the Financial Reporting Expert Group *Terms of Reference*
 - b. Updated QCA Audit Committee Guide
 - c. Expert Group Stakeholder Map and future stakeholders to engage with the Financial Reporting Expert Group.
- 5. Communications (for information only)**
 - a. Henley Business School have been commissioned by the QCA and Downing LLP to undertake a research project to understand the role that NEDs play in smaller growth companies. The results were released at a launch event on Wednesday 4 September 2019.
 - b. Towards the end of July, the QCA published the results of two surveys of UK small and mid-caps in coordination with YouGov.
 - a. The first survey analysed the extent to which small and mid-caps were managing the regulatory burden. The results indicated that 63% of these companies find regulatory compliance either excessive or demanding and 72% stated that they believe the reason why the number of companies on public equity markets in the UK has fallen is due to the increased regulatory burden.
 - b. The second survey analysed the impact of Brexit on small and mid-caps in the UK. The key findings include:
 - i. The three years of Brexit preparations has negatively impacted companies

- ii. The information that the UK Government has provided to help prepare for Brexit has been inadequate
 - iii. The majority of small and mid-caps are taking action to prepare for no deal
 - iv. Small and mid-caps are most likely to favour remaining in the EU
- c. YouGov are surveying companies that adopted the QCA Corporate Governance Code to identify any ways in which we might be able to improve the Code and see if we can find evidence that following the QCA Code has helped companies. This is due to be released shortly.

Any Other Business

Next Meeting: Tuesday 3 December 2019, 4.30pm – 6.00pm (Venue: Grant Thornton, 30 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1AG)