



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

Public Accounts Committee

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**From: Aoibhinn Treanor
Clerk to the Public Accounts Committee**

**To: Shane McAteer
Clerk to the Committee for Finance and Personnel**

Date: 30 May 2012

Subject: Financial Provisions Bill 2013

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the Financial Provisions Bill. The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) considered this at its meeting on 29 May 2013.

The provision in relation to the remit of the C&AG updates the definition of a relevant NHS body, reflecting reorganisation in the health system, for the purposes of the C&AG's datamatching powers which he exercises for the prevention and detection of fraud.

The provision amends the Audit and Accountability (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 to replace a reference to 1972 health legislation (the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972) with a reference to 2009 health legislation (the Health and Social Care (Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009).

The Committee sought to establish from the Comptroller and Auditor General the practical and financial implications of the Bill. As the C&AG advised that the proposed amendment is revenue neutral and serves to update references across statutory instruments and to formalise what is already current practice, the Committee agreed that it has no objections or additional commentary to make at this stage.