

evidence and on that basis discontinued the cases. The cases were not dismissed on the basis of merit and no judgement either way was made by the panel in relation to this. Following this decision the Agency discontinued all the cases and did not proceed with the rehearing of the two teachers who had their prohibition appeals upheld. Further details about the Teacher Misconduct Units work is referenced in paragraphs 2.40-2.41.

- 1.10. In February 2016, The National Audit Office (NAO) published the [report](#)⁶ of its review evaluating whether the Department's arrangements for training new teachers represent value for money. On 7 March 2016, the issues raised in the report were addressed at the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). The PAC published a [report](#)⁷ with recommendations on 10 June 2016, which we responded to on 7 November 2016. Further information is at paragraph 3.64.

Statement of purpose and activities

- 1.11. Our purpose is to improve the quality of the education workforce and support the development of a school-led system.
- 1.12. We have responsibility, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education ('the Secretary of State'), to improve academic standards by recruiting and developing a workforce to meet the needs of our school system, and to help schools to help each other to improve.
- 1.13. These two aims are underpinned by the Agency's commitment to provide high-quality services that represent value for money.
- 1.14. The Agency will also deliver other functions on behalf of the Secretary of State which, at present, include:
- supporting the quality and status of the teaching profession by ensuring that in cases of serious professional misconduct, teachers are prohibited from teaching
 - overseeing the induction process for teachers and awarding Qualified Teacher Status and Early Years Teacher Status
 - commissioning training for Educational Psychologists

⁶ <https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Training-new-teachers.pdf>

⁷ <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/public-accounts-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/training-new-teachers-15-16/>