

THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INFORMATION CENTRE

ACCOUNTS DIRECTION GIVEN BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INFORMATION CENTRE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCHEDULE 18, PARAGRAPH 13 (2) OF THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE ACT 2012.

1. This direction applies to the Health and Social Care Information Centre.
2. The Health and Social Care Information Centre shall prepare accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2014 and subsequent financial years in compliance with the accounting principles and disclosure requirements of the edition of the Government Financial Reporting Manual issued by HM Treasury ("the FReM") which is in force for the financial year for which the accounts are being prepared, together with any additional disclosure or other requirements as agreed with the department.
3. The accounts shall be prepared so as to:
 - a) give a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2014 and subsequent financial year-ends, and of the net operating costs, recognised gains and losses and cash flows for the financial year then ended; and
 - b) provide disclosure of any material expenditure or income that has not been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament or material transactions that have not conformed to the authorities which govern them.
4. Compliance with the requirements of the FReM will, in all but exceptional circumstances, be necessary for the accounts to give a true and fair view. If, in these exceptional circumstances, compliance with the requirements of the FReM is inconsistent with the requirement to give a true and fair view, the requirements of the FReM should be departed from only to the extent necessary to give a true and fair view. In such cases, informed and unbiased judgement should be used to devise an appropriate alternative treatment, which should be consistent with both the economic characteristics of the circumstances concerned and the spirit of the FReM. Any material departure from the FReM should be discussed with the Department of Health and HM Treasury.
5. This direction supersedes any previous directions.

Signed by the authority of the Secretary of State for Health



Andrew Baigent
Director of Group Financial Management

Date: 10th March 2014