

Jon Levett submission – via email

Dear Sir

I am a member of the public with no connection to any Accountancy or Consultancy organisation.
I am happy for my personal details and consultation response to be published.

There is no doubt that the auditing of large organisations needs radical change. This has been highlighted by the well publicised and farcical signing off of "satisfactory" accounts of a number of large companies such as Carillion and Patisserie Valerie, but I am sure there are many more.

The "Big Four" auditing organisations have far too much power and influence and appear unaccountable for extremely poor work.

I would like to make the following comments:

The same auditing company, or closely associated organisations or other international parts of their global organisations, should not be allowed to act as both consultants and auditors of a company or closely related parts of a company.

Auditing companies should have legal and financial responsibility if their work has been deficient, inaccurate or misleading.

There should be greater controls on the appointment of senior "Big 4" staff to policy making government positions, and their subsequent return to the private sector.

"Big 4" staff should play only minor roles on Government Advisory Committees and should certainly not influence policy.

Yours faithfully

John Levett BSc C Eng MIET