

**Health Professions Council
Finance and Resources Committee 22nd March 2006**

Attendance of Accountant Members at Committee Meetings

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

At its meeting on 8 February, the Committee agreed that, subject to confirmation that there was nothing in the Standing Orders of each Committee to prevent it, the Accountant Member of the Audit Committee should observe their counterpart's Finance and Resources Committee meetings. The intention of the proposed arrangement is to ensure that there is no overlap or conflict between the Committees when decisions are taken.

The Finance and Resources Standing Orders provide that:-

"46. The Secretary or any other person advising on the business before a meeting of the Committee (including advising the Chairman on issues of order) may attend and, with the consent of the Chairman, speak at that meeting."

There is an identical provision in the Audit Committee Standing Orders (Standing Order 49).

On 27 February, an e-mail was sent to members of the Audit Committee, requesting agreement to a resolution that the Accountant Member of the Finance and Resources Committee should be invited to observe all meetings of the Audit Committee. The resolution was agreed on 28 February.

Decision

The Committee is requested to note this paper. No decision is required.

Background information

See Finance and Resources Committee minutes 8 February 2006 - item 13.5.

Resource implications

Accountant Members will have additional commitments in preparing for, and attending, their counterpart's committee meetings.

Financial implications

Payment of additional attendance allowance and expenses.

Appendices

None.

Date of paper

9th March 2006.