

SCHEDULE 1 THE SCOTTISH PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN

Accountable officer

- 14 (1) The Parliamentary corporation is to designate the Ombudsman, a deputy Ombudsman or a member of the Ombudsman's staff as the accountable officer for the purposes of this paragraph.
- (2) The functions of the accountable officer are—
- (a) those specified in sub-paragraph (3), and
 - (b) where the accountable officer is not the Ombudsman, the duty set out in sub-paragraph (4),
- and the accountable officer is answerable to the Parliament for the exercise of those functions.
- (3) The functions referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(a) are—
- (a) signing the accounts of the expenditure and receipts of the Ombudsman,
 - (b) ensuring the propriety and regularity of the finances of the Ombudsman,
 - (c) ensuring that the resources of the Ombudsman are used economically, efficiently and effectively.
- (4) The duty referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(b) is a duty, where the accountable officer is required to act in some way but considers that to do so would be inconsistent with the proper performance of the functions specified in sub-paragraph (3), to—
- (a) obtain written authority from the Ombudsman before taking the action, and
 - (b) send a copy of that authority as soon as possible to the Auditor General for Scotland.