

## Transparency Report 2018



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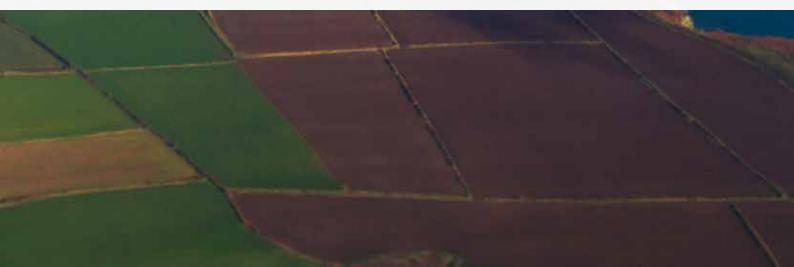
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# Message from our Managing Partner

Welcome to the KPMG in Ireland Transparency Report for the year ended 31 December 2018. We recognise the importance of sharing with our stakeholders what we do to advance quality, to manage risk and to maintain independence. This Transparency Report is one of the ways we share this information.

In this report we seek to provide stakeholders with a description of KPMG's audit quality initiatives. Together with our global colleagues we are united in our commitment to providing independent assurance on what matters to all stakeholders – our regulators, our clients, our people and the public.

Our vision is one that sees KPMG as the clear choice professional services firm in Ireland. Being the clear choice requires us to be, amongst other things:

- the number one firm by reputation;
- a firm that is significantly differentiated by quality; and
- a firm that has the very best people.

Our focus on quality is underpinned by:

#### Our culture

We drive a relentless focus on quality and service. Acting with integrity is our core value and we take every opportunity to reinforce it. We recognise that trust is not a given – it must be earned and maintained. A quality audit means the delivery of an appropriate and independent opinion that is properly supported in compliance with the applicable auditing standards, laws and professional requirements. This means being seen to be independent in mind and complying with our legal and professional obligations.

#### Our people

Responsibility for quality starts at the top and means reinforcing accountability through the complete chain of command in all our teams so that every action helps us meet our rigorous quality objectives. We look to approach all matters in an audit with objectivity and professional scepticism to offer relevant, valued insight and impartial views through candid communications. We nurture talent, create high-performing teams and deploy talented staff globally to deliver insights and innovative ideas.

#### Our approach to audit quality

This includes having globally consistent methodologies and policies, enabled by innovative tools. The expanding role of innovation and technology in audit continues to evolve providing greater clarity and generating deeper and richer insights. Innovation in audit is an area where KPMG continues to invest significantly.

#### Our monitoring programmes

These are fundamental to sustaining quality and to building on our success. We have a number of programmes and initiatives primarily aimed at identifying opportunities for continuous improvement and relevant remedial actions.



**Shaun Murphy** *Managing Partner,*KPMG in Ireland

Our Public Interest Committee, which is responsible for independently overseeing the public interest aspects of decision making in our firm, assists us in meeting our commitments. We greatly appreciate the external challenge and perspective that the additional oversight provides.

We are hugely conscious of the challenges facing businesses today as a result of significant geopolitical change, enormous technological disruption and increased regulation. In that regard our priority is to support our clients in dealing with the myriad of challenges they face. KPMG faces all of the same business challenges and the specific challenges relevant to our audit business are considered in the message from our Head of Audit, Conall O'Halloran. The creation of our new Global Audit Quality Committee is a sign of the Global Board's commitment to ensuring we have a consistent view, right across the network, of the importance of earning the public's trust by our actions and behaviours both professionally and personally. In addition, a Global Head of Audit Quality has been appointed to take the lead in monitoring and driving improvements to audit quality across the network.

This Transparency Report focuses significantly on our audit practice and plays a very important role in helping us to communicate to all of our stakeholders the measures that we take to help to ensure that we deliver high quality audits. However, a written report can never replace the additional insight that comes with discussion. Therefore, I would encourage any of our clients, potential clients, audit committee chairs, investors or indeed any other stakeholder group who wishes to discuss any matter set out in this report, to contact us. We would be very happy to discuss our approach and share our views with you.

As I pass over responsibility for our firm and our audit practice to my successor, Seamus Hand, on 1 May 2019, I am certain that KPMG in Ireland will continue to provide outstanding leadership to our audit and accounting profession. Our firm is built on a foundation of trust and integrity and we are fully committed to ensuring that all of our people do the right thing, every time, and that we continue to provide the highest quality services to our clients.

**Shaun Murphy** *Managing Partner* 

Steen May

11 March 2019

# Message from our Head of Audit

Audit Quality is fundamental to instilling confidence and trust in the capital markets. Audit Quality has been, and will always be, KPMG's fundamental promise to the audit committees, investors, companies and other stakeholders that we serve. We appreciate the importance of our work and consider it an honour to uphold the obligation that we share as guardians of the capital markets, supporting better decisions and outcomes for the investing public and the companies we audit. We also understand that with this professional privilege comes enormous responsibility, collectively and for each individual within our firm.

Audit has been the cornerstone of our business since KPMG in Ireland was founded over a century ago. Our relentless focus on audit quality and continuous improvement reflects our unwavering commitment to earning trust and inspiring confidence in the capital markets. Everything that you will read about in the following pages reflects that singular emphasis. That's been a hallmark of KPMG's role as trusted stewards of our profession. A quality audit is never routine; and even as we strive for and achieve progress through change, our pursuit of Audit Quality is never over.

#### Audit overview - 2018

Our audit practice continued to perform very strongly during 2018 on all objective measures. While our statutory audit revenues have grown from €107 million to €114 million, we have been as pleased with the performance of many other aspects of our business. In particular, during 2018, we have successfully on-boarded our two largest audit clients and will sign off our first opinions on their 31 December 2018 financial statements in 2019. 2018 was also a year of significant further tender activity in the Public Interest Entity ("PIE") market and I am very pleased to report as we come to the end of that first wave of EU driven audit tenders, that we remain the auditor of choice for Ireland's largest public companies.

Also, as a business, we have made significant investments in technology and resources to drive audit quality and, as you will read elsewhere in this document, our reputation for audit quality, as evidenced by both internal and external inspections, remains extremely high. Indeed, as we reflect on the first wave of audit tenders, it is our view that it is our reputation for

quality that differentiates us. It was only possible to deliver quality work and the growth that we have seen, with significant investment in people and on this measure we can reflect positively on the significant increase in our audit headcount of 9% during the year.

#### Investing in continuous improvement

Building on the theme of quality, we are very conscious of the expectations imposed on us, not just by our own standards and by regulators but also by many other stakeholders. Our global firm, in 2018, created our new Global Audit Quality Committee and appointed a Global Head of Audit Quality, to ensure that from the very top of our global firm our commitment to, and investment in, audit quality remains our absolute Number 1 priority. The investments that the global firm is making in audit are the largest it has ever made and underpins our absolute focus on having audit tools and methodologies available to our people which are at the cutting edge of technology and will ensure that we deliver consistent audits across the KPMG network. At the core of these programmes is our new KPMG audit workflow, KPMG Clara, which is already deployed on a pilot basis in a number of member firms and which we will be deploying on a limited basis during 2019. KPMG Clara is a fully technology enabled platform which we believe will become the benchmark for quality audits of the future. Migrating from our current methodologies to KPMG Clara workflow will require a significant investment in training and change management by our firm as we are committed to having full deployment of KPMG Clara workflow for all of our year ended 31 December 2020 audits.

In addition to KPMG Clara, there are many other global and local programmes which are underway, which will support us in delivering the types of audits that society and our stakeholders expect of us and which our people will be proud to deliver. We are not only creating a digitally fluent workforce but are constantly innovating to improve audit quality. We are investing in technology today to raise the bar on quality and consistency across all our audits. We are making greater use of data and analytics, introducing robotics into our processes and harnessing the power of data in our audits and are committed to the digitisation of the audit to empower our people to deliver the highest quality audit.



**Conall O'Halloran** *Head of Audit*KPMG in Ireland

#### Regulation

During 2018 we had our first joint visit from two of our regulators, the Irish Auditing & Accounting Supervisory Authority ("IAASA"), our local regulator, and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("PCAOB"), the US regulator with whom we are also registered. The joint inspection was led by IAASA and focussed on both a review of many of our whole of firm procedures and detailed file reviews of two of our US registrant audit clients and one referred work engagement.

Two review groups were established in the UK, both of which reported in December 2018. These reports, the Kingman Report on the Financial Reporting Council ("FRC") and the Competition and Markets Authority Review of the Audit Market will result in changes in the UK audit market, particularly in the manner in which the profession in the UK is regulated. From an Irish perspective, we are keeping a close eye on developments in the UK, but for now have no reason to believe that certain of the proposed remedies to the issues in the UK have any direct relevance in the Irish marketplace.

On Brexit, we particularly welcomed the clarity from the FRC and the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ("BEIS") in the UK that Irish registered audit firms, including KPMG in Ireland will continue to be licensed to operate in the UK for the foreseeable future. It is regrettable that UK registered auditors do not enjoy reciprocal rights to operate in Ireland and we do hope that this anomaly can be remedied through a pragmatic approach to licensing and authorisation.

#### People

The increasing societal expectations of audit, together with our success in the market continues to provide significant opportunities for our people. From an audit perspective, we continue to invest in our employee numbers, growing our headcount from 1,150 in 2017 to 1,225 in 2018. In particular our management team in audit grew by 10% and we were delighted to appoint two new audit partners and two audit principals. It is also gratifying to note that the demand amongst the very top graduates to join KPMG and train as Chartered Accountants remains as high as ever and we were very pleased to introduce 230 new graduates to the audit function in the current year. We recognise greatly the significant societal benefits of an audit training, regardless of whether these individuals then choose to stay with KPMG post-qualification or leave to make their way outside KPMG. Our diversity and inclusion program remains central to our agenda and this is reflected both at our trainee level, where our gender ratio is 49% Female: 51% Male and all the way through to our Managers and Directors which is also 49% Female: 51% Male.

#### Conclusion

As we look forward to 2019 and beyond, it is particularly gratifying to note that despite some of the challenges to our profession, the demand for our services remains at its highest and the demand for graduates to train with KPMG is stronger than ever before. Notwithstanding some of the economic challenges ahead, I remain very confident about the future of both our audit practice and the wider profession, as we work with our stakeholders and regulators to continue to deliver the quality audits that society expects of us.

Conall O'Halloran Head of Audit

11 March 2019

# Message from the Chairman of the Public Interest Committee

The Public Interest Committee ("PIC") was established in the autumn of 2013 in line with the Irish Audit Firm Governance Code prepared by the Chartered Accountants Regulatory Board ("CARB"). This sets out general principles rather than prescribing specific rules and has resulted in a learning-by-doing approach by the Committee and its members to establish a common view of the public interest as it relates to the firm's activities and performance. The PIC has a governance role and has a right of access to relevant information and people. The Committee comprises three non-executive members, Frances Ruane, Stephen Haughey and I as Chairman, together with the firm's Managing Partner, Shaun Murphy and its Risk Management Partner, Paul Dobey. We also have been assisted in our work by Conall O' Halloran, Head of Audit.

Both the firm and the PIC organisationally stand on the threshold of personnel changes and renewal. Since its inception the PIC has been greatly assisted in its work by Frank Gannon, an audit partner of the firm, who acted as Secretary and for whose contribution and personal level of engagment we are deeply appreciative. He has been replaced by Niall Savage, also an audit partner, marking a first step in our evolving personnel transition.

Seamus Hand, the incoming Managing Partner will replace Shaun Murphy on the PIC from 1 May 2019. He has been a welcome presence at our meetings since his election in December 2018 and we look forward to his leadership tenure and wish him every success.

Shaun Murphy, as Managing Partner, has attended all PIC meetings since the outset and has been unfailingly committed to assisting its work through a high level of openness and transparency both personally and through the presence and presentations of many of his colleagues. We wish to acknowledge his successful tenure as Managing Partner and in particular the positive tone at the top which characterised his involvment with the PIC. We thank him for his invaluable contribution to the work of the Committee.

In terms of good governance we are beginning a period of change in the non-executive component of the PIC. This will be on a staggered basis to ensure both organisational renewal and necessary continuity.

Frances Ruane, who was appointed in August 2013, will retire in July 2019 to be followed by the expiry of my tenure one year later. This will permit an orderly and measured transition through consecutive nominations of new personnel to the PIC.

Having served with Frances from the outset of our uncharted mission as a PIC, I wish to record my personal admiration for the skills, insights and capacity she brought to bear on our deliberations and my deep gratitude for her unfailing support and advice.

The PIC exercises its duty of care to the firm through the oversight of matters of public interest with an emphasis on risk and quality. This is animated through a regular series of in-depth presentations across a wide range of topics. These have included updates on a lengthy and diverse rolling list of standing items by the Managing Partner, the Head of Risk Management and the Head of Audit. These updates covered key risk issues, high profile assignments, the results of regulatory inspections, global firm updates, new or amended policies and procedures and feedback from the firm's employee survey. Our work always has sought to strike an appropriate balance betweeen necessary transparency and due respect for confidentiality. The PIC wishes to record our thanks to the Head of People and Operations (Colm Gorman) and the Head of Professional Practice (Eamonn Russell) for their particular contributions to our work. The PIC pays close attention to the KPMG International Global Compliance Review of KPMG in Ireland and to all external regulatory reviews of the firm's audit practice.

As Chairman of the PIC I have met on its behalf with the Firm's partners and its Policy Committee. In October 2018 I met with the PIC Chairman of KPMG UK in London to discuss a wide variety of governance and policy issues of public

interest which were the subject of follow up discussion and consideration in Dublin.

Given the increased regulatory focus on audit quality, the changes necessitated by EU Audit Reform and our determination to deepen stakeholder dialogue, the non-executive members of the PIC have commenced engagement with a number of Audit Committee members of significant Irish Public Interest Entities (PIEs). These encounters are policy rather than audit specific in their focus, and are designed to provide us with an improved understanding of PIE responses to the evolving regulatory and market environment faced by KPMG.

Based on our experience the non-executive members of the PIC consider the audit quality and risk management arrangements of KPMG to be appropriate, robust and, when warranted, open to change. There is a focus on continuous improvement having regard to increased stakeholder and regulator expectations and changes in the business and regulatory environments.

We look forward in the coming period to making our contribution to the continued success and standing of KPMG especially in recognising, addressing and serving wider issues pertaining to the public interest.

#### Pat Cox

Chairman of the Public Interest Committee

11 March 2019

## Profiles of Independent Non-Executive members of the Public Interest Committee

#### Pat Cox (Chairman)

Pat Cox is currently the President of the Jean Monnet Foundation, Lausanne, Switzerland and the President de l'Alliance Française de Dublin in Ireland. He has served as the President of the European Parliament and the President of the European Movement International. He is Chairman of Gore Street Energy Storage Fund, UK; of Supernode Ltd., Ireland and of the Finance Green Ireland Committee. He serves on the Boards of Ecocem Ltd. and of Appian Asset Management Ltd., Ireland; and of the Third Age Foundation, the Institute for International and European Affairs, and the Ireland China Institute. He is on the Board of Yalta European Strategy in Ukraine. He acts as the EU Project Coordinator for a multi modal transport corridor, the Scandinavian-Mediterranean TEN-T Core Network Corridor.

#### Frances Ruane

Professor Frances Ruane is an economist and currently President of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland and a member of the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board. She is also a member of the Council of the Institute of International and European Affairs in Dublin. Frances was previously director of the Economic and Social Research Institute ("ESRI") and a member of the Council of Economic Advisors in Scotland. Frances is now an Honorary Fellow at Trinity College, where she worked prior to joining the ESRI. She has served on various national boards including the Commission of the National Pensions Reserve Fund, IDA, Forfas, Bord Gais, the Abbey Theatre, the Higher Education Authority and the Health Research Board. Her research interests are in international trade, innovation and industrial policy.

#### Stephen Haughey

Stephen Haughey is a qualified solicitor and was a partner in A&L Goodbody for twenty four years prior to retiring in 2010. Stephen was a partner in the Corporate Finance Department at A&L Goodbody, specialising in Banking and Finance and was head of the Banking Department for a period. He was appointed Chairman of A&L Goodbody in May 2005 and served in that role until he retired as a partner in April 2010. Stephen currently acts as a Consultant to A&L Goodbody and has a number of non-executive directorships including Airbus Finance Company and Enable Ireland Limited.

## KPMG Values

Ethical values are the foundation of business ethics. Our values lie at the heart of the way we do things and define our culture and our commitment to the highest principles of personal and professional conduct.

KPMG people work together to deliver value to clients. We believe strongly in a common set of shared values which guide our behaviour when dealing with both clients and each other:

#### We lead by example

At all levels we act in a way that exemplifies what we expect of each other and our clients.

#### We work together

We bring out the best in each other and create strong and successful working relationships.

#### We respect the individual

We respect people for who they are and for their knowledge, skills and experience as individuals and team members.

#### We seek the facts and provide insight

By challenging assumptions and pursuing facts, we strengthen our reputation as trusted and objective business advisers.

#### We are open and honest in our communication

We share information, insight and advice frequently and constructively and manage tough situations with courage and candour.

#### We are committed to our communities

We act as responsible corporate citizens by broadening our skills, experience and perspectives through work in our communities.

#### Above all, we act with integrity

We are constantly striving to uphold the highest professional standards, provide sound advice and rigorously maintain our independence and do the hard right thing.

## 1 Who we are

#### 1.1 Our business

KPMG in Ireland is a provider of professional services, offering a range of Audit, Tax and Advisory services to a broad range of domestic and international clients across all sectors of business and the economy. We operate on an all-Ireland basis and had an average of 91 partners (2017: 87 partners) and 2,937 people (2017: 2,535 people) during our financial year to 31 December 2018. We have five offices located across Ireland in Dublin, Belfast, Cork and Galway. Full details of all the services we offer can be found on our website www.kpmg.ie.

#### 1.2 Our strategy

Our strategy is determined by the partners; we have set out our ambition to be the clear choice professional services firm in Ireland. We recognise in doing this that our commitment to quality in everything we do is the most important element of our strategy: our reputation depends on it, as does our ability to achieve all other elements of our strategy. The ability to articulate clearly and consistently what quality means to us, as well as being able to demonstrate how we safeguard the quality of the service we provide, underpins all elements of our strategy.

The key elements of our strategy are to:

- drive a relentless focus on quality and service excellence and service innovation;
- continuously improve quality, consistency and efficiency;
- take a long-term sustainable view;
- act as a multidisciplinary firm, collaborating seamlessly;
- invest together in our chosen global growth priorities;
- maintain a passionate focus on our clients;
- deploy globally our highly talented people;
- bring insights and innovative ideas; and
- build public trust.



## 2 Our structure and governance

#### 2.1 Legal structure

KPMG is the registered trademark of KPMG International and is the name by which the member firms are commonly known. The rights of member firms to use the KPMG name and trademarks are contained within agreements with KPMG International.

KPMG in Ireland ("the firm") operates through a number of partnerships, formed under the Partnership Act 1890 and governed by a formal Partnership Deed, where each partner has one vote. During the year to 31 December 2018 there was an average of 91 partners (2017: 87 partners) in KPMG in Ireland. KPMG in Ireland is affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative ("KPMG International"). KPMG International is a Swiss cooperative which is a legal entity formed under Swiss law. It is the entity with which all the member firms of the KPMG network are affiliated. Further details about KPMG International and its business activities, including our relationship with it, are available in section 'Governance and leadership' in the KPMG International Transparency Report-1

KPMG in Ireland is part of a global network of professional services firms providing Audit, Tax, and Advisory services to a wide variety of public and private sector organisations. KPMG International's structure is designed to support consistency of service quality and adherence to agreed values wherever its member firms operate.

#### 2.2 The Irish Audit Firm Governance Code

The Irish Audit Firm Governance Code ("the Code") was issued by the Chartered Accountants Regulatory Board ("CARB") in June 2012 and applies to firms that audit public interest entities.

The Audit Executive Team, as defined in the Executive Team section 2.3, has reviewed the provisions of the Code together with details of how the firm is complying with those provisions and has concluded that, as at 31 December 2018, KPMG in Ireland is in compliance with the provisions of the Code.

#### 2.3 Governance structure

KPMG in Ireland applies high standards of corporate governance and we are totally committed to ensuring that we stay at the forefront of good governance.

#### Managing Partner

The Managing Partner acts as the chief executive of the firm and manages the firm in accordance with its policies. Executive authority over all partners is vested in the Managing Partner and extends to all areas of the firm, in accordance with the terms of the Partnership Deed. The Managing Partner may consult other partners and, in particular, the Policy Committee and the Executive Team, as considered advisable in relation to matters which are within the power of the Managing Partner, but he is not obliged to do so.

The Managing Partner is elected by the partnership and serves a three-year term. A Managing Partner can stand for election for a second three-year term. He or she may only stand for a further term if that is approved by the partners. Any partner can put him/herself forward for Managing Partner at each three year interval as long as he/she is nominated by at least eight other partners.

Along with the Managing Partner there are a number of other principal bodies that deal with key aspects of governance within the firm. These are:

- the Policy Committee;
- the Executive Team;
- the Public Interest Committee; and
- the Remuneration Committee.

Details about the roles and responsibilities and composition of each of these key bodies are set out below.

#### The Policy Committee

The KPMG in Ireland Policy Committee is responsible for ensuring that the firm is run in the interests of its partners and employees as a whole and in a manner which is in keeping with the standing and reputation of the firm.

It is responsible for all policy decision making with the exception of certain matters which are reserved to the partners as a whole. The Committee's policy decisions are binding on the partnership. In addition, the Policy Committee is responsible for approving the strategy of the firm, overseeing its implementation by the Executive Team, considering quality and risk matters, recommending partner candidates to the partnership and considering the firm's overall financial performance.

The Policy Committee is composed of seven people. The Managing Partner is ex-officio Chair of the Policy Committee. Other members are elected by the partnership at an annual election. Members who are elected serve a two-year term and can be then reappointed for a further two years. Members having served four years are not eligible for election again for two years.

The Committee meets regularly throughout the year. In the year to 31 December 2018 it met 19 times. The Committee reports to partners at least twice yearly updating them on its activities and the issues it is addressing. Minutes from each meeting are circulated to all partners.

#### The Executive Team

The KPMG in Ireland Executive Team acts as the key management decision making group of the firm. The composition of the Executive Team is determined by the Managing Partner for a period that is normally concurrent with, and may not exceed the period of appointment of the Managing Partner. In 2018 the Executive Team comprised the Managing Partner, the Head of Audit, the Head of Tax and Legal Services, the Head of Advisory, the three Heads of Markets (Financial Services, Other Sectors, and Strategic Pursuits), the Head of Risk Management, the Head of People and Operations, the Head of Finance and Administration and the Secretary to the Executive Team.

The Executive Team is responsible for developing the business plan within the overall strategy approved by the Policy Committee, together with its subsequent implementation. It deals with operational matters affecting the firm including operating and financial performance, quality and risk, budgets, new business proposals, innovation, marketing, technology development, recruitment, retention and remuneration. The Executive Team generally meets fortnightly. It met 23 times during the year to 31 December 2018.

A Functional Executive Team acts as the key management decision making group of their respective function in consultation with the Executive Team. The composition of each Functional Executive Team is determined by the Managing Partner and the Head of Function for a period that is concurrent with the period of appointment of the Managing Partner. In 2018 the Audit Executive Team comprised the Head

of Audit, the Head of the Department of Professional Practice ("DPP") and the leaders of the key audit business units; the Tax and Legal Services Executive Team comprised the Head of Tax and Legal Services and the leaders of the key tax business units; and the Advisory Executive Team comprised the Head of Advisory and the leaders of the key advisory business units.

Details of the members of the Executive Team for KPMG in Ireland for 2018 are set out in Appendix 1.

#### The Public Interest Committee

The Public Interest Committee ("PIC") was established in autumn 2013 to respond to the Irish Audit Firm Governance Code.

The PIC comprises three externally appointed members along with the Managing Partner and the Head of Risk Management. It is supported by a partner who acts as Secretary to the Committee.

The PIC is responsible for overseeing the public interest aspects of decision making of KPMG in Ireland. The Committee's focus is on the firm's governance, risk, quality and oversight structures. Through its work the Committee assists in building public confidence in the quality control structures that the firm has in place to ensure we properly consider our broader public accountability in delivering our services. Acting in the public interest involves having regard to the legitimate interests of clients, government, financial institutions, employers, employees, investors, regulators, the business and financial community and others who rely upon the objectivity and integrity of the auditing profession. The PIC may also participate, together with Audit Leadership, in dialogue with external stakeholders.

The three independent non-executive members of the PIC, are Pat Cox (Chairman), Frances Ruane and Stephen Haughey.

The Public Interest Committee generally meets quarterly. It met 3 times during the year to 31 December 2018.

The firm has considered the Irish Audit Firm Governance Code and the Ethical Standard issued by IAASA in drawing up criteria for appointment of the members of the PIC. These criteria recognise the need for the external non-executive members of our PIC to maintain appropriate independence from the firm and its partners and have due regard to the impact of any external financial and business relationships held by the non-executive members on the firm's independence from its audit clients.

Our external non-executive members are not considered to be part of the chain of command for the purposes of auditor independence requirements. In addition, none of them hold senior management positions at audit clients of the firm which are public interest entities. They are, as a condition of their appointment, under a continuing obligation to disclose any matters which may constitute a potential conflict of interest as soon as they become aware of them. A report from the chair of the Public Interest Committee on the activities of the Committee in the year is provided on page 5.

#### The Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee is responsible for determining the remuneration of each partner on an annual basis following a detailed review of each partner's contribution over the year. Each partner submits a written appraisal to the Remuneration Committee detailing his/her own view of performance against objectives over the previous year. The Committee hears a report from each partner's Counselling Partner on his/her individual performance for the year.

Finally, as part of its deliberations the Remuneration Committee also receives and considers presentations from the Heads of Audit, Tax and Legal Services, Advisory, Markets, Risk Management and People and Operations setting out an assessment of the quality of work performed by partners and their overall performance during the year under review. The Remuneration Committee details its findings and its recommendation in relation to profit allocations in a report at the end of the review process which is then circulated to all partners for their approval.

The Remuneration Committee is chaired by the Managing Partner. Other members of the Committee are elected by the partner group annually. The Committee met 21 times in the year ended 31 December 2018.

Further information regarding partner remuneration is set out in Section 6.

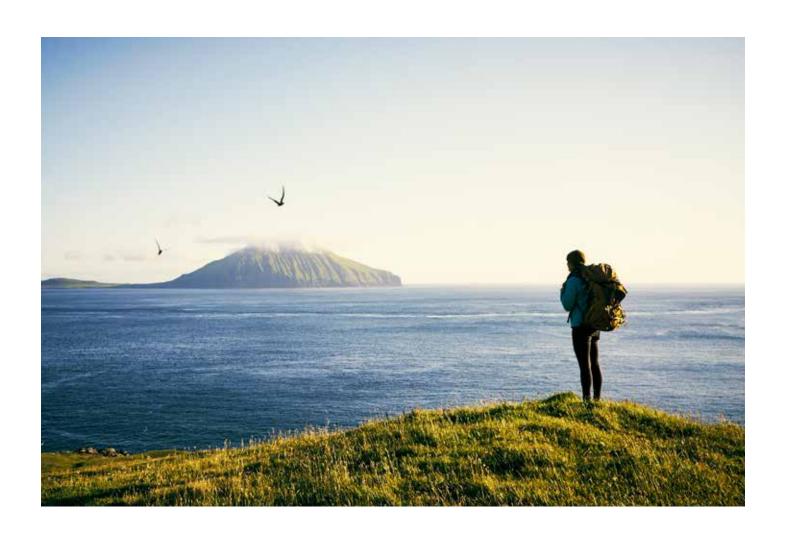
#### 2.4 Reporting

The governance bodies receive timely and appropriate quality information to enable them to discharge their duties. Section 5 of this Transparency Report provides the following disclosures:

- the financial information required by Article 5 of the EU audit regulation (EU regulation No. 537/2014 of the European Parliament);
- a statement of who is responsible for preparation of the financial information and their respective reporting responsibilities;
- a statement in respect of going concern; and
- our internal control review process.

#### 2.5 Dialogue with stakeholders

We encourage any of our clients, audit committee chairs, investors or indeed any other stakeholder group who wish to discuss any matter set out in this report to contact us.



# System of quality control

## 3.1 Responsibility for quality and risk management

Everything we do begins and ends with quality. We are committed to achieving a high level of quality and the highest ethical standards. As a result, we continue to build a culture of continuous improvement so that we are recognised through the quality of our work. We are cognisant that fundamental to building and maintaining public trust in our audit services is a continuous commitment to improving quality. We continue to invest heavily in delivering and developing an audit offering including significant investment in training and in tools that enable us to deliver more effective audits.

Quality control and risk management are the responsibility of all KPMG personnel. This responsibility includes the need to understand and adhere to member firm policies and associated procedures in carrying out their day-to-day activities. The system of quality control applies to KPMG personnel wherever they are based.

#### 3.2 Our system of quality control

A robust and consistent system of quality control is an essential requirement in performing high-quality services. KPMG International has policies of quality control that apply to all member firms. These are included in KPMG's Global Quality & Risk Management Manual (Global Q&RM Manual) which is available to all personnel. These policies are based on the International Standard on Quality Control 1 ("ISQC1") issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board ("IAASB"), and the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants ("IESBA"), relevant to firms that perform statutory audits and other assurance and related services engagements. These policies and associated procedures are designed to guide KPMG member firms in complying with relevant professional standards, regulatory and legal requirements, and in issuing reports that are appropriate in the circumstances as well as help member firm personnel act with integrity and objectivity and perform their work with diligence.

KPMG in Ireland implements KPMG International policies and procedures and adopts additional systems of quality control that

are designed to address the rules and standards issued by the IAASA, Chartered Accountants Ireland ("CAI") and other relevant regulators as well as local legal and regulatory requirements.

There have been significant changes in professional standards and in the regulatory environment in which we operate during the last few years as a result of EU Audit Reform. We have considered the changes in the regulatory environment and professional standards and continue to refine our policies and procedures to ensure compliance with same.

Amendments to risk and quality policies, including ethics and independence policies, are included in quality and risk management alerts and are communicated by email. KPMG in Ireland is required to implement changes specified in these email alerts and this is checked through internal monitoring programs.

While many KPMG's quality control processes are crossfunctional, and apply equally to tax and advisory work, the remainder of this section focuses on the delivery of quality audits.

#### Audit quality framework

Audit quality is fundamental to maintaining public trust and is the key measure on which our professional reputation stands.

We define 'audit quality' as being the outcome when:

- Audits are executed consistently, in line with the requirements and intent of applicable professional standards, within a strong system of quality controls; and
- All of our related activities are undertaken in an environment of the utmost level of objectivity, independence, ethics and integrity.

All KPMG in Ireland professionals are expected to adhere to KPMG International's and KPMG in Ireland's policies and procedures, including independence policies, and are provided with a range of tools and guidance to support them in meeting these expectations. The policies and procedures set for audit engagements incorporate the relevant requirements of accounting, auditing, ethical and quality control standards, and other relevant laws and regulations.

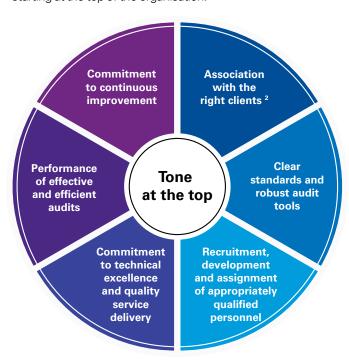
At KPMG in Ireland, audit quality is not just about reaching the right opinion, but how that opinion is reached. It is about the

processes, thought and integrity behind the auditors' report. The outcome of a quality audit is the delivery of an appropriate and independent opinion in compliance with relevant professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

To help all audit professionals concentrate on the fundamental skills and behaviours required to deliver a quality audit, KPMG International has developed the Audit Quality Framework. This framework uses a common language that is adopted by all KPMG member firms, including KPMG in Ireland, to describe what the KPMG network believes drives audit quality, and to highlight how every audit professional at each KPMG member firm contributes to the delivery of audit quality.

'Tone at the top' sits at the core of the Audit Quality Framework's seven drivers of audit quality and helps ensure that the right behaviours permeate across the entire KPMG network. All of the other drivers create a virtuous circle because each driver is intended to reinforce the others. Each of the seven drivers is described in more detail in the following sections of this report.

Leadership plays a critical role in establishing our commitment to quality and the highest standards of professional excellence. A culture based on quality, integrity and ethics is essential in an organisation that carries out audits and other services on which stakeholders and investors rely. KPMG's leadership drives an awareness that everyone across the network who is involved in performing an audit, or any client engagement across tax and advisory, has a responsibility and a part to play. This is one of the factors that connects everyone at KPMG. It is embedded by starting at the top of the organisation.



In 2018, our new Global Audit Quality Committee ("GAQC") was established for monitoring and driving improvements in audit quality across our international firm. The GAQC comprises country senior partners (CEOs) from our largest firms – a demonstration of our united view that audit quality is paramount to our firm and to the effective functioning of capital markets. In addition, a Global Head of Audit Quality

has been appointed to take the lead in monitoring and driving improvements to audit quality across the network. This will assist in driving a consistent awareness across member firms of what audit quality is and how it can be measured and investing in technology to help member firms deliver it.

KPMG in Ireland has established an Audit Quality Committee which is chaired by the Head of Audit. The overarching role of the Committee is to promote consistent audit quality across the Irish audit practice and to oversee those activities of the audit practice which relate to improving and maintaining the consistency and quality of audits undertaken. The Committee oversees quality related activities including internal quality monitoring programmes, results of and responses to inspections by external regulators and the principal projects and initiatives relevant to audit quality undertaken by KPMG in Ireland.

#### 3.3 Tone at the top

The culture of KPMG International and KPMG member firms is underpinned by a strong set of values and supporting policies and processes and enables the right attitudes and behaviours to permeate throughout the KPMG network. At KPMG in Ireland we promote a culture in which consultation is encouraged and recognised as a strength.

Tone at the top means that KPMG in Ireland's leadership demonstrates commitment to quality, ethics and integrity and communicates its commitment to clients, stakeholders, and society at large. Integrity is a critical characteristic that stakeholders expect and rely on. It is also the key KPMG value: "Above all, we act with integrity". Integrity means constantly striving to uphold the highest professional standards in our work, providing high quality advice and rigorously monitoring our independence.

The KPMG values, which have been explicitly codified for a number of years, are embedded into the working practices and values-based compliance culture at KPMG in Ireland. The KPMG values form the foundation of our culture and set the tone at the top. They also form the foundation of the KPMG approach to audit and shape how we work together. We communicate the KPMG values clearly to our people and embed them into our people processes – induction, performance development and reward. The KPMG values are set out on page 8.

KPMG's commitment to integrity and quality is enshrined in the KPMG values that lie at the heart of the way we do things. They define KPMG's diverse and inclusive culture and our commitment to the right personal and professional conduct. The KPMG values emphasise that, above all, KPMG personnel act with integrity, uphold the highest professional standards and provide sound advice while rigorously maintaining independence and complying with laws, regulations, and professional standards. The KPMG values are communicated clearly to all people and are embedded into member firms' people processes – induction, performance development and reward.

#### KPMG Global Code of Conduct

Building on the KPMG values is the KPMG Global Code of Conduct. Member firms, including KPMG in Ireland are required to adopt, as a minimum, the Global Code of Conduct.

#### KPMG in Ireland Code of Conduct

In addition, the KPMG in Ireland Code of Conduct lays out the expectations of ethical behaviour for all partners and employees at KPMG in Ireland and is built on the foundation of the KPMG values, the shared set of beliefs and principles at KPMG. In addition, the KPMG in Ireland Code of Conduct emphasises that each partner and employee is personally responsible for following the legal, professional, and ethical standards that apply to his or her job function and level of responsibility. The KPMG in Ireland Code of Conduct sets out our commitments and includes provisions that require KPMG in Ireland personnel, in summary to:

- build public trust;
- focus on quality;
- comply with all applicable laws, regulations, professional standards and KPMG in Ireland policies;
- work with the right clients and third parties;
- maintain our objectivity and independence;
- not tolerate any illegal or unethical acts, committed within KPMG in Ireland, by clients or suppliers, or public officials with whom we deal;
- protect information;
- compete fairly;
- help our people to be extraordinary;
- be responsible corporate citizens.

All KPMG in Ireland personnel are required to:

- comply with both the Global Code of Conduct and the KPMG in Ireland Code of Conduct and confirm their compliance with, the Code of Conduct upon joining the firm, and annually thereafter; and
- complete regular training covering the Code of Conduct upon joining the firm and on a biennial basis thereafter.

Individuals are encouraged to speak up when they see something that makes them uncomfortable or that is inconsistent with the KPMG values. Moreover, everyone at KPMG is responsible for reporting, and is required to report, any activity that could potentially be illegal or in violation of the KPMG values, KPMG policies, applicable laws, regulations or professional standards.

We have procedures and established channels of communication so that our personnel can report ethical and quality issues. Retaliation is prohibited against individuals who 'raise their hand' and speak up in good faith.

In addition, the KPMG International hotline is a mechanism for all KPMG partners, employees, clients and other external

parties to confidentially report concerns they have relating to certain areas of activity by KPMG International itself, KPMG member firms or the senior leadership or employees of a KPMG member firm.

At KPMG in Ireland, we regularly monitor the extent to which our people feel we live the KPMG values through the People Survey (refer to Section 3.7.7).

#### Investing in continuous improvement

At a global level, through the Global Audit Quality Issues Council ("GAQIC") and the Global Quality Risk Management Steering Group ("GQRMSG"), KPMG International reviews the results of the quality monitoring programs, analyses member firm root causes and action plans and develops additional global actions as required.

To date, global remediation plans developed by KPMG International have been aimed at changing culture and behaviour across the KPMG network and at driving consistent engagement team performance within KPMG member firms. The remediation plans have been implemented through the development of global training, tools and guidance to drive consistency, ensure the fundamentals are right and that best practice is shared across the KPMG network.

## 3.3.1 Leadership responsibilities for quality and risk management

KPMG in Ireland demonstrates commitment to quality, ethics and integrity, and communicates our focus on quality to clients, stakeholders and society. Our leadership plays a critical role in setting the right tone and leading by example – demonstrating an unwavering commitment to the highest standards of professional excellence and championing and supporting major initiatives.

Our leadership team is committed to building a culture based on quality, integrity and ethics, demonstrated through their actions – written and video communications, presentations to teams and one-to-one discussions.

The following individuals have leadership responsibilities for quality and risk management at KPMG in Ireland.

#### Managing Partner

In accordance with the principles in ISQC1, our Managing Partner, Shaun Murphy, has assumed ultimate responsibility for KPMG in Ireland's system of quality control.

The three Heads of Function – Audit, Tax and Legal Services and Advisory – are primarily accountable for the quality of service delivered in their respective functions. Each is supported by an executive team of partners who, together with the Head of Function, are responsible for the operation of the risk management, quality assurance and monitoring procedures for their specific functions set by the firm's policies and the Head of Risk Management. These procedures reinforce the fundamental principle that, on each individual engagement, quality is ultimately the responsibility of each and every professional.

#### Head of Risk Management ("RMP")

Operational responsibility for the system of quality control, risk management and compliance has been delegated to our Head of Risk Management, Paul Dobey, who reports directly to the Managing Partner and is a member of the Executive Team. This underlines the importance that our firm places on risk and quality. He is responsible for setting overall professional risk management and quality control policies and monitoring compliance for KPMG in Ireland. The Head of Risk Management consults as required with the appointed Area Quality and Risk Management Leader.

The Head of Risk Management is supported by a team of professionals in the Risk Management function and is also responsible for establishing policies and procedures in relation to ethics, and independence, and for monitoring compliance with these policies and procedures.

#### Department of Professional Practice ("DPP")

The DPP function is responsible for providing support to the firm's professionals in meeting their professional responsibilities in the areas of auditing, accounting, reporting and assurance standards. It is led by our Head of DPP, Eamonn Russell, and is comprised of a team of senior and experienced professionals with the technical expertise necessary to support audit teams on the interpretation and application of auditing, accounting and regulatory requirements.

The DPP and Risk Management functions are involved in the internal monitoring procedures described in Section 3.9.1.

#### The Audit, Tax and Legal Services and Advisory functions -Heads of Function

The three heads of the client service functions (Audit, Tax and Legal Services and Advisory) are accountable to the Managing Partner for the quality of service delivered in their respective functions.

Between them, they determine the operation of the risk management, quality assurance and monitoring procedures for their specific functions within the framework set by the Head of Risk Management. These procedures make it clear that at the engagement level, risk management and quality control is ultimately the responsibility of all professionals.

Our Heads of Function are responsible for leading a sustainable high-quality practice that is attractive to KPMG people. This includes:

- setting the right 'tone at the top' by demonstrating an unwavering commitment to the highest standards of professional excellence, including scepticism, objectivity, and independence;
- developing and implementing strategies to monitor and maintain knowledge and skills required of partners and employees to fulfil their professional responsibilities; and
- working with the Head of Risk Management to monitor and address quality and risk matters including an annual evaluation of activities considered to be key to quality.

#### 3.4 Clear standards and robust audit tools

#### 3.4.1 Consistent audit methodology and tools

KPMG has been investing significantly in evolving the network's audit capabilities and will continue to do so in the coming years including a new global electronic audit workflow delivered through the KPMG Clara platform – KPMG's smart, modular audit platform – capable of continually integrating new and emerging technologies, with advanced capabilities embedded that leverage data, automation, and visualisation. Data & Analytics ("D&A") is integral to the way in which KPMG member firms obtain audit evidence and interact with clients in the digital era.

Significant resources are dedicated to keeping KPMG's standards and tools complete and up to date. The KPMG audit methodology, developed by the Global Service Centre ("GSC"), is based on the requirements of the International Standards on Auditing ("ISA"). The KPMG audit methodology is set out in KPMG Audit Manual ("KAM") and includes additional requirements that go beyond the ISAs which KPMG International believes enhance the quality of the audit. The methodology emphasises applying appropriate professional scepticism in the execution of audit procedures and requires compliance with relevant ethical requirements, including independence. Enhancements to the audit methodology, guidance and tools are made regularly to be in compliance with standards, emerging auditing areas of focus and audit quality results (internal and external). Key topics include accounting estimates, internal control, revenue recognition, group audits, audit sampling and risk assessment.

KPMG member firms may add local requirements and/or guidance in KAM to comply with additional professional, legal or regulatory requirements. KAM contains examples and guidance for, among other things, procedures intended to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement and procedures to respond to those assessed risks.

The KPMG audit methodology encourages the use of specialists when appropriate and also requires involvement of relevant specialists in the core audit engagement team when certain criteria are met or where the audit team considers it appropriate or necessary. The policies and procedures set out in KAM are specific to audits and supplement the policies and procedures set out in the Global Quality and Risk Management Manual that is applicable to all KPMG member firms, functions and personnel.

The KPMG audit workflow is enabled through eAudIT, an activity-based workflow and electronic audit file. eAudIT is KPMG's audit documentation workflow that allows 75,000+professionals to complete high quality and consistent audits. eAudIT integrates KPMG's audit methodology, guidance and industry knowledge, and the tools needed to execute and document the audit work performed.

eAudIT can be "scaled" to present the relevant requirements and guidance, depending on the nature of the entity to be audited and in accordance with professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements. It provides direct

access to our audit guidance, professional standards and required procedures.

Significant investments are underway to revise and enhance the KPMG audit methodology ("KAM") and workflow tool (eAudIT), with the deployment of all KPMG Clara Workflow which was piloted in 2018 in certain KPMG member firms, planned for initial deployment globally in 2019, and full deployment beginning in 2020.

### KPMG Clara, KPMG Clara Workflow and Audit Data & Analytics ("D&A")

As a means of further improving audit quality, investment is being focused on better digital platforms and artificial intelligence (AI) initiatives. A most exciting aspect of this powerful new tech is how it frees our people to unleash the best of their human abilities. Being a good auditor means having an inquiring mind and the emotional intelligence to understand different people so they engage constructively with you. The challenge of aligning our best human qualities with sophisticated digital tools is one we should relish.

#### KPMG Clara

In 2017, KPMG International commenced the global launch of KPMG Clara – KPMG's Smart Audit Platform, bringing together KPMG's Audit Data & Analytics (D&A) capabilities, innovative new technologies, collaboration capabilities and audit workflow.

This represents KPMG's ambition to:

- transform audit execution for our people and clients through new, modern technology-enabled interfaces and collaboration functionality;
- integrate the required capability to digitise the audit and deliver new D&A routines;
- enable an enhanced and re-designed workflow;
- incorporate the development of monitoring capabilities at the engagement-level and across engagement portfolios for use by engagement teams and member firms;
- support Global leadership's monitoring of the effectiveness of member firm systems of quality control; and
- develop an extendable audit platform to enable member firm customisation and scaling, as well as incorporate future capabilities.

KPMG Clara also encompasses the tracking of selected engagement-level indicators by engagement teams for an individual engagement and across an engagement portfolio. This provides a summary and visualisation of these indicators to:

- measure audit engagement progress and ensure timely issue resolution;
- facilitate audit execution by providing key indicators for prioritising tasks; and
- highlight unexpected results/relationships that may require further investigation.

KPMG Clara will be enriched over time as emerging technologies continue to transform the audit, with areas like cognitive and predictive technology being channelled through KPMG Clara to deliver ever greater capabilities. Through alliances with some of the world's most advanced technology companies such as Microsoft, KPMG is building the future of audit, aligning with technology leaders to bring new insights faster and, with growing capabilities, deliver even more value through KPMG member firm audits. KPMG International's investment strategy also includes innovation, working with universities on important applied audit research and working with member firms as they develop advanced technologies.

#### KPMG Clara Workflow

Building on the launch of KPMG Clara in 2017, KPMG International is creating a new workflow tool that will be used by KPMG audit teams to execute and document KPMG audits. It will be intuitive, user-friendly and modern. The new system will genuinely be a workflow – guiding audit teams through a series of steps in a logical sequence, with clearer display of information and visuals, knowledge and guidance available at the moment of need, and with embedded advanced D&A capabilities. The workflow and methodology will also be scalable – adjusting the requirements to the size and complexity of the audit engagement. This globally-driven project will significantly overhaul and redesign the execution of an audit by KPMG professionals and drive improvements in audit quality.

The KPMG Clara Workflow will incorporate the development of monitoring capabilities (e.g. data mining) at the engagement level for use by member firms. The predecessor audit workflow tool, eAudIT, is expected to be decommissioned in the 2021 fiscal year.

#### Audit data & analytics ("D&A")

KPMG's audit, powered by D&A:

- enhances audit quality; by providing a deeper understanding of data populations, giving focus to higher risk transactions;
- is secure; by restricting access to data both in transit and within KPMG's IT environments; and
- is transparent; by facilitating detailed analysis to uncover the reasons behind, and root causes of, outliers and anomalies and provide increased visibility into higher risk transactions and process areas.

D&A tools and routines are built on principles and professional standards underlying an audit and do not relieve auditors of their responsibilities.

#### 3.4.2 Access to specialist networks

KPMG in Ireland engagement teams have access to a network of local KPMG specialists as well as specialists in other KPMG member firms. Specialists who are members of an audit team and have overall responsibility for specialist involvement on an audit engagement have the competencies, capabilities and objectivity to appropriately fulfil their role.

The need for specialists (e.g. Information Technology, Tax, Treasury, Actuarial, Forensic, Valuation) to be assigned to a specific audit engagement is considered as part of the audit engagement acceptance and continuance as well as during the risk assessment and planning stage of each audit.

#### 3.4.3 Culture of consultation

KPMG encourages a strong culture of consultation that supports member firm teams throughout their decision-making processes and is a fundamental contributor to audit quality. KPMG in Ireland promotes a culture in which consultation is recognised as a strength and that encourages personnel to consult on difficult or contentious matters. To assist audit engagement professionals in addressing difficult or contentious matters, protocols have been established for consultation and documentation of significant accounting and auditing matters, including procedures to facilitate resolution of differences of opinion on engagement issues. In addition, the KPMG Global Q&RM Manual includes mandatory consultation requirements with Risk Management where certain matters are identified such as concerns over client integrity.

Appropriate consultation support is provided to audit engagement professionals through our professional practice resources that includes DPP. Across our firm, the role of DPP is crucial in terms of the support that it provides to the Audit Function. It provides technical guidance to client service professionals on specific engagement related matters, develops and disseminates specific topic related guidance on emerging local technical and professional issues and disseminates international guidance on IFRS and ISAs.

Specific guidance is issued to assist teams in areas of significant judgement including topics such as use of fair values, impairment testing, pension assumptions and the appropriateness of going concern disclosures where significant uncertainties exist. To assist audit engagement professionals in addressing difficult or contentious matters, we have established protocols for consultation and documentation of significant auditing and accounting matters, including procedures to facilitate resolution of differences of opinion on engagement issues.

Consultation with a team member at a higher level of responsibility than either of the differing parties usually resolves such differences. In other circumstances, the matter may be elevated through the chain of responsibility for resolution by technical specialists. In exceptional circumstances, a matter may be referred to the Head of Audit, the Head of DPP, the Head of Risk Management, or ultimately the Managing Partner.

#### Technical consultation and global resources

Auditing and technical accounting support available to our firm also includes the Global Services Centre ("GSC") and the International Standards Group ("ISG") as well as (for work on SEC foreign registrants) the U.S. Capital Markets Group based in London and New York

#### Global Services Centre ("GSC")

The GSC's mission is to drive success for KPMG's global network of audit practices through collaboration, innovation and technology. The GSC develops, maintains and deploys KPMG's audit methodology and technology-based tools used by KPMG audit professionals to facilitate effective and efficient audits. With three global locations, one in each region, the GSC Audit team is made up of professionals with backgrounds in audit, IT, data science, mathematics, statistics, and more from around the world who bring diverse experiences and innovative ways of thinking to further evolve KPMG's audit capabilities.

#### International Standards Group ("ISG")

The ISG works with Global IFRS and ISAs topic teams with geographic representation from around the world to promote consistency of interpretation of IFRS and auditing requirements between member firms, identify emerging issues and develop global guidance on a timely basis.

Further details about the GSC and ISG and its activities are available in the KPMG International Transparency Report.

#### Member firm professional practice resource

Appropriate consultation support on auditing and technical accounting matters is provided to audit engagement professionals through our professional practice resources (referred to as Department of Professional Practice or DPP). DPP also assists engagement teams when there are differences of opinion either within teams or with the EQC ("Engagement Quality Control") reviewer. Unresolved differences are required to be escalated to senior partners for final resolution. The ISG is also available for consultation when required. KPMG International policies include minimum requirements for member firm DPPs.



## 3.4.4 Developing business understanding and industry knowledge

A key part of quality is having a detailed understanding of the client's business and industry.

For significant industries global audit sector leads are appointed to support the development of relevant industry information, which is made available to audit professionals through the KPMG audit workflow. A key element of this industry knowledge is the provision of industry knowledge within eAudit. This knowledge comprises examples of industry audit procedures and other information (such as typical risks and accounting processes). In addition, industry overviews are available that provide general and business information in respect of particular industries as well as a summary of the industry knowledge provided in the KPMG audit workflow.

## 3.5 Performance of effective and efficient audits

We understand that how an audit is conducted is as important as the final result. Our drivers of audit quality enhance the quality of the engagement team's performance during the conduct of every audit. We expect our people to demonstrate certain key behaviours in the performance of effective and efficient audits. These behaviours are discussed below.

#### 3.5.1 KPMG audit process

Our audit workflow is enabled through KPMG Clara and eAudIT. KPMG in Ireland's activity based workflow and electronic audit file eAudIT integrates our audit methodology, guidance and industry knowledge, and the tools needed to manage audits consistently. Our high-quality audit process includes:

- timely partner and manager involvement throughout the engagement;
- timely access to the right knowledge including involvement of specialists, accredited individuals and relevant industry expertise;
- critical assessment of audit evidence obtained during the audit, exercising appropriate professional judgment and professional scepticism;
- ongoing mentoring, supervision and review;
- appropriately supported and documented conclusions; and
- robust challenge and review, including EQC review.

#### Timely partner and manager involvement

To help identify and respond to the significant audit risks applicable to each audit, the engagement team requires an understanding of the client's business, its financial position and the environment in which it operates.

The engagement leader is responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the engagement and therefore responsible for the overall quality of the audit engagement.

The engagement leader is a key participant in the planning meetings, reviews key audit documentation – especially

documentation relating to significant risks and key audit judgements – and is responsible for the final audit opinion.

The engagement manager assists the partner in these responsibilities and in the day to day liaison with the client and team, building a deep business understanding that helps the partner and team deliver valued insights.

Involvement and leadership from the engagement leader early in the audit process helps set the appropriate scope and tone for the audit and helps the engagement team obtain maximum benefit from the partner's experience and skill. Timely involvement of the engagement leader at other stages of the engagement allows the engagement leader to identify and appropriately address matters important to the engagement, including critical areas of judgement, significant risks and other areas the engagement partner considers important.

### Critical assessment of audit evidence with emphasis on professional scepticism

We consider all audit evidence obtained during the course of the audit, including consideration of contradictory or inconsistent audit evidence. The nature and extent of the audit evidence we gather is responsive to the assessed risks. We recognise that audit evidence obtained from external sources tends to be more persuasive. For the purpose of obtaining sufficient appropriate audit evidence all team members are required to exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit engagement.

Professional scepticism involves a questioning mind and alertness to contradictions or inconsistencies in audit evidence. Professional scepticism features prominently throughout auditing standards and receives significant focus from regulators. Our Audit Quality Framework emphasises the importance of maintaining an attitude of professional scepticism throughout the audit.

KPMG's professional judgement process facilitates good judgment by introducing a structured approach to auditing areas that require significant judgment. It also reinforces the importance of independence and objectivity and emphasises the importance of having the right mind-set and the need to apply professional scepticism.

Our professional judgement process recognises the need to be aware of and alert to biases which may pose threats to good judgement. The structured approach to auditing areas that require significant judgment involves:

- considering alternatives;
- critically assessing audit evidence by challenging management's assumptions and following up contradictory or inconsistent information; and
- documenting rationale for conclusions reached on a timely basis as a means of evaluating their completeness and appropriateness.

The use of the professional judgment process and the application of professional scepticism is reinforced through

coaching and training, acknowledging that judgment is a skill developed over time and with different experiences.

### 3.5.2 Ongoing mentoring, supervision and review

We understand that skills are built over time and through exposure to different experiences. To invest in the building of skills and capabilities of KPMG professionals, without compromising on quality, KPMG in Ireland promotes a continuous learning environment and supports a coaching culture.

The engagement partner, supported by the engagement manager, is responsible for driving a culture of coaching and continuous learning throughout the audit process and setting an example in the performance of the audit to drive a culture of continuous audit quality improvement.

Ongoing mentoring, coaching and supervision during an audit involves:

- engagement partner participation in planning discussions;
- tracking the progress of the audit engagement;
- considering the competence and capabilities of the individual members of the engagement team, including whether they have sufficient time to carry out their work, whether they understand their instructions, and whether the work is being carried out in accordance with the planned approach to the engagement;
- helping engagement team members address any significant matters that arise during the audit, and modifying the planned approach appropriately; and
- identifying matters for consultation with more experienced team members during the engagement.

A key part of effective mentoring and supervision is timely review of the work performed so that significant matters are promptly identified and addressed.

#### Appropriately supported and documented conclusions

Audit documentation records the audit procedures performed, evidence obtained and conclusions reached on each audit engagement. Our policies require review of documentation by more experienced engagement team members.

KAM recognises that documentation prepared on a timely basis helps to enhance the quality of the audit and facilitates the effective review and evaluation of the audit evidence obtained and conclusions reached before our report is finalised.

Engagement teams are required to assemble a complete and final set of audit documentation for retention within an appropriate time period, which is ordinarily not longer than 60 days (45 days for SEC registrants) from the date of the audit report. A key principle that engagement team members are required to consider when preparing audit documentation is whether an experienced auditor, having no previous connection with the engagement, reviewing the audit documentation sometime in the future will understand:

- the nature, timing, and extent of audit procedures performed to comply with ISAs, KAM and other requirements applicable legal and regulatory requirements;
- the results of the procedures performed and the audit evidence obtained;
- significant findings and issues arising during the audit, and actions taken to address them (including additional audit evidence obtained); and
- the basis for the conclusions reached, and significant professional judgements made in reaching these conclusions.

#### Timely engagement quality control (EQC) review

EQC reviewers are independent of the engagement team and have the appropriate experience and knowledge to perform an objective review of the more critical decisions and judgments made by the engagement team and the appropriateness of the financial statements. They are experienced audit professionals who are independent of the engagement team and are required to be involved at several stages of the audit. They offer an objective review of the more critical and judgemental areas of the audit.

An EQC reviewer is required to be appointed for audits, including any related review(s) of interim financial information, of all listed entities, non-listed entities with a high public profile, engagements that require an EQC review under applicable laws or regulations, and other engagements as designated by the Head of Risk Management, the Head of DPP or country Head of Audit.

The EQC review takes place before the date of the auditor's report and includes, among other matters:

- review of selected audit documentation relating to significant judgements the engagement team made and the conclusions it reached;
- review of the financial statements and proposed auditor's report; and
- evaluation of the conclusions reached in formulating the audit report and consideration of whether the proposed report is appropriate.

Although the engagement partner is ultimately responsible for the resolution of financial reporting and auditing matters, the EQC reviewer must be satisfied that all significant questions raised have been resolved before an audit can be considered complete.

KPMG in Ireland is continually seeking to strengthen and improve the role that the EQC reviewer plays in audits, as this is a fundamental part of the system of audit quality control. In recent years, a number of actions have been taken to reinforce this, including:

 issuing guidance focusing on reviewer competencies and capabilities and on ongoing support provided to EQC reviewers;

- incorporating specific procedures in the KPMG audit workflow to facilitate effective reviews; and
- implementing policies relating to recognition, nomination and development of EQC reviewers, as well as monitoring and assessing the nature, timing and extent of their involvement.

#### Reporting

Auditing standards and Company Law largely dictate the format and content of the audit report that includes an opinion on the fair presentation in all material respects of the client's financial statements. Experienced auditors arrive at all audit opinions after involvement in and review of the work performed by the audit team.

We provide through DPP extensive reporting guidance and technical support to audit partners in preparing audit reports where there are significant matters to be reported to users of the audit report including the key audit matters which form part of our extended audit report.

Insightful, open and honest two-way communication

Two-way communication with those charged with governance, often identified as the audit committee, is key to audit quality and is a key aspect of reporting and service delivery.

At KPMG in Ireland we stress the importance of keeping those charged with governance informed of issues arising throughout the audit and the need to listen to and understand their views. We achieve this through a combination of reports and presentations, attendance at audit committee or board meetings, and when appropriate, ongoing informal discussions with management and members of the audit committee.

Communications with audit committees include:

- an overview of the planned scope and timing of the audit,
   which includes communicating significant risks identified;
- significant findings from the audit which may include control deficiencies and audit misstatements; and
- an annual written communication that states the engagement team and KPMG in Ireland has complied with relevant independence requirements; describes all relationships and other matters between KPMG in Ireland and the audit client that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on independence; and states related safeguards we have applied to eliminate (or reduce to an acceptable level) identified threats to independence.

We ensure such communications meet the requirements of professional standards.

#### Audit Committee Institute

In recognition of the demanding and important role that audit committees play for the capital markets and also of the challenges that they face in meeting their responsibilities, the Audit Committee Institute ("ACI") aims to help audit committee members enhance their awareness, commitment and ability to implement effective audit committee processes. The ACI operates in more than 40 countries across the globe including KPMG in Ireland and provides audit committee members with authoritative guidance (such as the ACI Audit Committee

Handbook) on matters of interest to audit committees; updates on issues like EU audit reform, changes to accounting standards and other matters of interest to audit committees (such as cyber security and corporate culture); and the opportunity to network with their peers during an extensive program of technical updates and awareness seminars.

The ACI's offerings cover the array of challenges facing audit committees and businesses today – from risk management and emerging technologies to strategy and global compliance.

Further details and insights on the Audit Committee Institute are available on our website<sup>3</sup>.

#### IFRS Institute

KPMG's Global IFRS Institute provides information and resources to help the KPMG in Ireland's Board and Audit Committee members, executives, management, stakeholders and government representatives gain insight and access thought leadership about the evolving global financial reporting framework.

#### 3.6 Association with the right clients

## 3.6.1 Acceptance and continuance of clients and engagements

One of the key ways to manage audit quality is to understand the nature of our clients business and the issues they face and to build a robust audit response to address the identified risks.

Rigorous client and engagement acceptance and continuance policies and processes help protect KPMG's reputation, support the KPMG brand and play an important part in enabling us to provide high quality professional services.

Accordingly, KPMG International has established policies and procedures which all member firms are required to implement in order to decide whether to accept or continue a client relationship, and whether to perform a specific engagement for that client.

## 3.6.2 Client and engagement acceptance process

#### Client evaluation

KPMG in Ireland undertakes an evaluation of every prospective client

This involves obtaining sufficient information about the prospective client, its key management and significant beneficial owners and then properly analysing the information to be able to make an informed acceptance decision. This evaluation includes completion of a questionnaire to assess the client's risk profile and obtaining background information on the client, its key management, directors and owners. In addition, we obtain additional information required to satisfy our local legal and regulatory requirements.

A second partner, as well as the evaluating partner, approves each prospective client evaluation. Where the client is considered to be 'high risk' the Head of Risk Management or a sufficiently skilled and experienced delegate is involved in approving the evaluation.

#### Engagement evaluation

Each prospective engagement is also evaluated to identify potential risks in relation to the engagement. A range of factors are considered as part of this evaluation, including potential independence and conflict of interest issues (using Sentinel<sup>TM</sup>, KPMG's conflicts and independence checking system), intended purpose and use of engagement deliverables, as well as factors specific to the type of engagement. For audit services these include the competence of the client's financial management team and the skills and experience of personnel assigned to staff the engagement. The evaluation is made in consultation with other senior KPMG personnel and includes review by quality and risk management leadership as required.

Where audit services are to be provided for the first time, the prospective engagement team is required to perform additional independence evaluation procedures. These procedures include a review of any non-audit services provided to the client and of other relevant business and personal relationships.

Similar independence evaluations are performed when an existing audit client becomes a public interest entity or where additional independence restrictions apply following a change in the circumstances of the client.

We follow specific procedures (detailed further in section 3.6.6) to identify and evaluate threats to independence for prospective audit clients that are public interest entities.

Depending on the overall risk assessment of the prospective client and engagement, additional safeguards may be introduced to help mitigate the identified risks. Any potential independence or conflict of interest issues are required to be documented and resolved prior to acceptance.

A prospective client or engagement will be declined if a potential independence or conflict issue cannot be resolved satisfactorily in accordance with professional standards and our policies, or if there are other quality and risk issues that cannot be appropriately mitigated.

#### 3.6.3 Continuance process

KPMG in Ireland undertakes an annual re-evaluation of all its audit clients. The re-evaluation identifies any issues in relation to continuing association and any mitigating procedures that need to be put in place (this may include the assignment of additional professionals such as an Engagement Quality Control ("EQC") reviewer or the need to involve additional specialists on the audit).

Recurring or long running non-audit engagements are also subject to re-evaluation.

In addition, clients and engagements are required to be reevaluated if there is an indication that there may be a change in their risk profile.

#### 3.6.4 Withdrawal

Where we obtain information that indicates that we should withdraw from an engagement or from a client relationship, we consult internally and identify any required legal, professional and regulatory steps. We also communicate as necessary with those charged with governance and any other appropriate authority.

#### 3.6.5 Client portfolio management

Our leadership appoints engagement partners who have the appropriate competence, capabilities, time and authority to perform the role. Each audit partner's client portfolio is regularly reviewed to ensure they have sufficient time to manage the portfolio and the related risks. The reviews consider the industry, nature and risk of the client portfolio as a whole along with the competence, capabilities and capacity of the partner to deliver a quality audit for every client.

## 3.6.6 Independence, integrity, ethics and objectivity

#### Overview

Auditor independence is a cornerstone of international professional standards and regulatory requirements.

KPMG in Ireland has adopted the KPMG Global Independence Policies which are derived from the IESBA Code of Ethics and incorporate, as appropriate, the rules of the US Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and of the US PCAOB. These are set out in KPMG's Global Q&RM Manual. Automated tools facilitate compliance with these requirements. In addition, we comply with relevant local ethics and independence requirements issued by the Irish Auditing & Accounting Supervisory Authority and/or the Financial Reporting Council.

The firm's policies cover areas such as firm independence (including, for example, treasury and procurement functions), personal independence, firm financial relationships, postemployment relationships, partner rotation, and approval of audit and non-audit services.

The designated Ethics and Independence Partner ("EIP") is also the Head of Risk Management and is supported by a core team of specialists to help ensure that we apply robust and consistent independence policies, processes and tools. Ethics and independence policies are set out in our Global Quality and Risk Management Manual which contains our independence policies, and is reinforced through the issue of alerts and an annual training program. Amendments to the ethics and independence policies during the course of the year are communicated through the use of e-mail practice alerts and are incorporated in regular risk and quality communications and this is checked through the internal monitoring programs described in Section 3.9.1.

KPMG in Ireland personnel are required to consult with the EIP on certain matters as defined in the Global Q&RM Manual. Consultations may also be required with the Global Independence Group, depending upon the facts and circumstances.

#### Personal financial independence

KPMG International policies require that KPMG member firms and KPMG professionals are free from prohibited financial interests in, and prohibited relationships with, KPMG member firm audit clients, their management, directors, and significant owners. The policies also extend the IESBA Code of Ethics restrictions on ownership of audit client securities to every KPMG member firm partner in respect of any audit client of any member firm.

Our professionals are responsible for making appropriate inquiries and taking other appropriate actions on an ongoing basis to ensure that they do not have any personal financial, business or family interests that are restricted for independence purposes.

In common with other KPMG member firms, we use a webbased independence compliance system ("KICS") to assist our professionals in complying with personal independence investment policies. This system contains an inventory of publicly available investments.

Partners and all client facing personnel who are at manager grade and above are required to use the KICS system prior to entering into an investment to identify whether they are permitted to do so. They are also required to maintain a record of all of their investments in KICS, which automatically notifies them if any investment subsequently become restricted. Newly restricted investments must be disposed of within five business days of the notification. KPMG monitors partner and manager compliance with this requirement as part of our program of independence compliance audits of a sample of professionals.

#### Employment relationships

Any professional providing services to an audit client irrespective of function is required to notify our EIP if they intend to enter into employment negotiations with that audit client. For partners, this requirement extends to any audit client of any KPMG member firm that is a public interest entity.

Former members of the audit team or former partners of KPMG in Ireland are prohibited from joining an audit client in certain roles unless they have disengaged from the member firm financially and have ceased participating in KPMG in Ireland's business and professional activities.

Key audit partners and members of the chain of command for an audit client that is a public interest entity are subject to time restrictions (referred to as 'cooling-off' periods) that preclude them from joining that client in certain roles until a defined period of time has passed.

We communicate and monitor requirements in relation to the employment of KPMG in Ireland professionals by audit clients.

#### Firm financial independence

KPMG member firms must also be free from prohibited interests in, and prohibited relationships with, audit clients, their management, directors and significant owners.

Additionally, KPMG in Ireland is required to record in the KICS system all borrowing and capital financing relationships, and custodial, trust and brokerage accounts that hold member firm assets.

On an annual basis, KPMG in Ireland confirms compliance with independence requirements as part of the Risk Compliance Program.

#### Business relationships/suppliers

KPMG in Ireland has policies and procedures in place that are designed to ensure its business relationships are maintained in accordance with both the Ethical Standards and the IESBA Code of Ethics. Detailed guidance is maintained covering, inter alia, business alliances and joint working arrangements, procurement relationships and marketing and public affairs activities. Consultation with our ethics and independence professionals is required in any case of uncertainty to ensure that no relationship is entered into with an audit client or its management which is not permitted for independence purposes. Compliance with these policies and procedures is reviewed periodically.

#### Business acquisitions, admissions and investments

If KPMG in Ireland is in the process of considering the acquisition of, or investment in, a business, it is required to perform sufficient due diligence procedures on the prospective target to identify and address any potential independence and risk management issues prior to closing the transaction. Specific consultation requirements are applied to enable independence and other issues to be addressed when integrating the business into KPMG in Ireland and the wider KPMG network.

#### Independence clearance process

KPMG in Ireland follows specific procedures to identify and evaluate threats to independence related to prospective audit clients that are public interest entities and to identify any services that we need to terminate prior to accepting the client as an audit client. These procedures, also referred to as 'the independence clearance process', must be completed prior to accepting an audit engagement for these entities. Our independence clearance is also completed when an audit client becomes a public interest entity.

#### Independence training and confirmations

KPMG in Ireland requires that all relevant personnel (including all partners and client service professionals) complete independence training that is appropriate to their grade and function upon joining KPMG in Ireland and on an annual basis thereafter.

New personnel who are required to complete this training must do so by the earlier of (a) thirty days after joining KPMG in Ireland or (b) before providing any services to, or becoming a member of the chain of command for, any audit client, including any of its related entities or affiliates.

We also provide all personnel, on a biennial basis, with training on the Code of Conduct, including KPMG's anti-bribery policies, compliance with laws, regulations, and professional standards, and reporting suspected or actual non-compliance with laws, regulations, professional standards and KPMG's policies on a biennial basis. New personnel are required to complete this training within three months of joining KPMG in Ireland.

In addition, certain non-client-facing personnel who work in finance, procurement or sales and marketing departments, and

who are at the manager level and above, are also required to undertake anti-bribery training.

Upon acceptance of employment, all KPMG personnel are required to confirm that they are in compliance with, and will abide by applicable ethics and independence rules and policies. Thereafter, all KPMG personnel are required to sign an annual confirmation stating that they have remained in compliance with applicable ethics and independence policies throughout the period covered by the confirmation. This confirmation is used to evidence the individual's compliance with and understanding of KPMG's independence policies.

In addition, all KPMG personnel are required to confirm their understanding of, and compliance with, the applicable Code of Conduct upon joining their member firm and on an annual basis thereafter. This confirmation is used to evidence the individual's compliance with and understanding of our Code of Conduct.

#### Non-audit services

We have policies, that are consistent with the IESBA Code of Ethics, the Ethical Standards and applicable laws and regulations, which address the scope of services that can be provided to audit clients.

We have a process to review and approve all new and modified services that are developed by the firm. The EIP is involved in the review of potential independence issues, and the Global Independence Group is involved in the case of services developed which are intended to be delivered to audit or assurance clients in more than one jurisdiction.

In addition to identifying potential conflicts of interest, Sentinel<sup>TM</sup>, facilitates compliance with these policies. Certain information on all prospective engagements, including service descriptions and fees must be entered into Sentinel<sup>TM</sup> as part of the engagement acceptance process. Lead audit engagement partners are required to maintain group structures for their publicly traded audit clients and certain other audit clients as well as their affiliates in Sentinel<sup>TM</sup>, and they are also responsible for identifying and evaluating any independence threats that may arise from the provision of a proposed non-audit service and the safeguards available to address those threats. Sentinel<sup>TM</sup> enables lead audit engagement partners for those entities for which group structures are maintained, to review and approve, or deny any proposed service for those entities worldwide.

#### Fee dependency

KPMG International's policies recognise that self-interest or intimidation threats may arise when the total fees from an audit client represent a large proportion of the total fees of the member firm expressing the audit opinion. They require that in the event that the total fees from a public interest entity audit client and its related entities were to represent more than 10 percent of the total fees received by a particular member firm for two consecutive years:

- This would be disclosed to those charged with governance at the audit entity; and
- A senior partner from another KPMG member firm would be appointed as the EQC reviewer.

No audit client accounted for more than 10 percent of the total fees received by KPMG in Ireland over the last two years.

#### Conflicts of interest

Conflicts of interest can arise in situations where KPMG personnel have a personal connection with the client which may interfere, or be perceived to interfere, with their ability to remain objective, or where they are personally in possession of confidential information relating to another party to a transaction. Consultation with the Risk Management Partner is required in these situations.

All KPMG member firms and personnel are responsible for identifying and managing conflicts of interest, which are circumstances or situations that have, or may be perceived by a fully informed, reasonable observer, to have an impact on a member firm or its personnel in their ability to be objective or otherwise act without bias.

All KPMG member firms must use Sentinel<sup>™</sup> for potential conflict identification so that these can be addressed in accordance with legal and professional requirements.

KPMG in Ireland has risk management resources ("Resolvers") who are responsible for reviewing an identified potential conflict and working with the affected member firms to resolve the conflict, the outcome of which must be documented. It may be necessary to apply specific procedures to manage the potential for a conflict of interest to arise, or be perceived to arise, so that the confidentiality of all clients' affairs is maintained. Such procedures may, for example, include



establishing formal dividers between engagement teams serving different clients and making arrangements to monitor the operation of such dividers.

Escalation and dispute resolution procedures are in place for situations in which agreement cannot be reached on how to manage a conflict. If a potential conflict cannot be appropriately mitigated, the engagement is declined or terminated.

#### Breaches of independence policy

All KPMG in Ireland personnel are required to report an independence breach as soon as they become aware of it to the EIP. In the event of failure to comply with the firm's independence policies, whether identified in the compliance review, self-declared or otherwise, professionals are subject to an independence disciplinary policy.

KPMG in Ireland has a documented disciplinary policy in relation to breaches of independence policies. The disciplinary policy is communicated to all professionals and applies to all breaches of independence rules, incorporating incremental sanctions reflecting the seriousness of any violations. Any breaches of auditor independence regulations are reported to those charged with governance at the audit client, on the basis agreed with them but at a minimum on an annual basis.

Matters arising are factored into our promotion and compensation decisions and, in the case of engagement partners and responsible individuals, are reflected in their individual quality and risk metrics.

## Compliance with laws, regulations and anti-bribery and corruption

Compliance with laws, regulation and relevant standards is a key requirement for all KPMG in Ireland personnel. In particular, we have zero tolerance of bribery and corruption.

We prohibit involvement in any type of bribery – even if such conduct is legal or permitted under applicable law or local practice. We also do not tolerate bribery by third-parties, including by our clients, suppliers or public officials.

Further information on KPMG International anti-bribery and corruption policies can be found on our website<sup>4</sup> on the anti-bribery and corruption page.

#### Partner and firm rotation

#### Partner rotation

KPMG in Ireland partner rotation policies are consistent with the Ethical Standards and where applicable any stricter rotation requirements.

KPMG in Ireland partners are subject to periodic rotation of their responsibilities for audit clients under applicable laws, regulations, independence rules and KPMG International policy. These requirements place limits on the number of consecutive years that partners in certain roles may provide statutory audit services to a client, followed by a 'time-out' period during which time these partners may not participate in the audit, provide quality control for the audit, consult with the engagement team

or the client regarding technical or industry-specific issues or in any way influence the outcome of the audit.

KPMG in Ireland monitors the rotation of audit engagement leaders (and any other key roles, such as the Key Audit Partner and EQCR, where there is a rotation requirement) and develops transition plans to enable allocation of partners with the necessary competence and capability to deliver a consistent quality of service to clients. The partner rotation monitoring is subject to compliance testing.

#### Firm rotation

KPMG in Ireland is permitted to act for public interest entity audit clients, to which the EU Audit Regulation applies, for a maximum period of 10 years and not to act as auditor for such clients for a period of four years thereafter – referred to as the 'cooling off period'. KPMG in Ireland has processes in place to track and manage audit firm rotation.

## 3.7 Recruitment, development and assignment of appropriately qualified personnel

One of the key drivers of quality is ensuring that our professionals have the appropriate skills and experience, passion and purpose, to deliver the highest quality in audit. This requires appropriate recruitment, development, promotion, retention and assignment of our professionals. The KPMG performance development approach is linked to the KPMG values and is designed to articulate what is required for success – both individually and collectively. Ensuring Audit quality is an essential element of the training, planning and development underway to support the KPMG Clara Workflow roll-out and the associated updated KPMG audit methodology, with processes embedded in all of the KPMG learning programs.

#### 3.7.1 Our people

We depend on our ability as a firm to recruit, train and motivate intelligent professionals who take personal responsibility to deliver high-quality work. We make a big effort to develop our people and help them advance their careers.

Over the past three years 716 of our people qualified as Chartered Accountants and 114 of these people also qualified as Chartered Tax Advisers. Our people sit the FAE Elective examination which corresponds to their line of business ensuring better delivery of services to our clients.

Exam success is a key priority for our people and for the firm. Our overall exam success rate is significantly higher than the national average and our people regularly achieve the top exam placings in both the Chartered Accountants Ireland and the Irish Taxation Institute exams.

In 2018 KPMG in Ireland won the Best Internship Programme and the Best Graduate Training & Development Programme at the Graduate Ireland Awards. These awards reflect the tremendous investment we make in our student programmes and graduate training programme. In previous years we have won the Most Popular Employer of the Year Award (as voted by the students) and also won the Best Accountancy/Professional

Services Award. These awards are an acknowledgment of our ongoing focus on innovative and quality graduate recruitment. We are committed to supporting our people sitting professional exams; 231 of our people passed Chartered Accountants Ireland's FAE exams and 48 people passed the Irish Tax Institute's final examinations ("Part 3") in 2018.

Internally, the firm participates in the "KPMG Global People Survey" on an annual basis which, inter alia, measures people engagement and performance excellence with a view to maximising the success of the firm. We engage in a comprehensive programme of communication and feedback with our people in all business units each year following the Global People Survey results. We continue to invest in equipping our people with the technical, coaching and management skills needed to deliver quality work and we also encourage regular, honest feedback to help in their development.

KPMG in Ireland delivers over 1,500 courses every year to ensure our people have the best leadership, business and technical skills to support them to succeed as individuals and the firm to continue to succeed. Being part of the KPMG Business School ensures we have access to state of the art virtual classroom and on-line resources from across the KPMG network and we engage with cutting edge universities and executive education schools to ensure our Leadership and Business training remains first class. Our technical training is delivered by a combination of our partners, directors and managers, who are subject matter experts, and external specialists.

Our learning culture focuses on the application of training in a supportive, coaching orientated and learning environment. We strongly believe that people learn in the classroom, through on-line forums, by networking with others and by applying their knowledge in a range of work environments.

On joining the firm and in each year of their training contract our graduates attend a structured programme that combines technical and leadership skills in line with the increasing challenges of their role. As they progress through their professional exams (through Chartered Accountants Ireland and the Irish Tax Institute) they benefit from our additional supports and development, helping our exam results remain well ahead of the national average.

As people are promoted to the grade of manager and above they continue to enhance their technical skills and they benefit from our leadership skills development, helping them to excel with their clients and support them as they contribute and lead more complex and challenging projects.

In 2018 the people in our audit function completed 56,192 hours (2017: 53,026 hours) of technical (audit and accounting) training programmes, and additional leadership courses were also available and accessed. Training is only one aspect of our people's development. We offer a mix of on-the-job experience, coaching and training programmes. This is supported by additional development opportunities such as secondments and international assignments.



#### 3.7.2 Recruitment

KPMG in Ireland strives to be an employer of choice by creating an environment where our people can fulfil their potential and feel proud and motivated to give their best.

Our recruiting strategies are focused on drawing entry-level talent from a broad talent base, including working with established universities, colleges and business schools, but also working with secondary schools, helping build relationships with a younger, diverse talent pool at an early age. In 2018, 370 graduates joined the firm (2017: approximately 350) and we expect a further 380 to join us in 2019.

KPMG in Ireland also recruits significant numbers at an experienced hire and partner level.

All candidates submit an application and are employed following a variety of selection processes, which may include application screening, competency-based interviews and qualification/reference checks.

Where individuals are recruited for senior grades. A formal independence discussion is conducted with them by the Ethics and Independence Partner or a delegate. KPMG in Ireland does not accept any confidential information belonging to the candidate's former firm/employer.

The partner hire process is rigorous and thorough, involving appropriate members of leadership. Our criteria for partner hires are consistent with our commitment to professionalism and integrity, quality, and being an employer of choice.

#### 3.7.3 Personal development

It is important that all of our professionals have the necessary business and leadership skills in addition to technical skills to be able to perform quality work (see Section 3.8).

KPMG is launching a new leadership competencies framework as part of the performance development process which will apply to all member firms called 'Everyone a Leader', where stretching goals will be set and reviewed regularly throughout the year. Leadership competencies will include 'driving quality', 'advancing an ethical environment' and 'making sound decisions'. A goals library is available for our people to gain inspiration around what goals they want to set, with one category of goals focussed specifically around quality.

A culture of continuous improvement is encouraged to drive feedback, both positive and developmental, from both junior and senior colleagues, as well as peers. In our performance development approach feedback can be sought and received through two mechanisms, informal feedback, which should be regular and owned by the individual for their own development and growth, and formal feedback through an engagement review form.

Partners and certain professionals are also required to be evaluated on key quality and compliance metrics. KPMG in Ireland monitors quality incidents and maintains quality and compliance metrics for the purpose of partner assignments and also for the purposes of partner evaluation, promotion and remuneration.

In relation to audit, opportunities are provided for professionals to develop the skills, behaviours and personal qualities that form the foundations of a successful career in auditing. Courses are available to enhance personal effectiveness and develop technical, leadership and business skills.

KPMG in Ireland professionals are also developed for high performance through access to coaching and mentoring on the job and global mobility opportunities.

#### 3.7.4 Inclusion and Diversity programs

Inclusion and diversity is part of who we are at KPMG. We embrace diversity of background, diversity of experience, diversity of perspective – as we recognise the value that diverse thinking brings to our firm and our reputation in the marketplace. We're committed to inclusion at every level in our firm and acknowledge the role of leaders in driving this from the top through their inclusive actions and behaviours.

We want to bring about a positive integration between work and life that not only promotes career achievement but also provides an environment that enables everyone, regardless of gender, ethnicity, age, disability, religion, socio-economic background or sexual orientation, to reach their full potential by being valued for being themselves. We strive to be an employer of choice by ensuring that all our people feel proud and motivated to do their best. Being inclusive enables us to bring together successful teams with the broadest range of skills, experiences and ways of working, to deliver solutions for our clients, but it is our culture and environment that enables us to harness this most effectively.

We are proud to lead and support a wide range of programmes to help foster diversity in business. These include celebrating Pride Week, encouraging young women's interest in STEM, investing in children's literature initiatives such as Bold Girls, promoting skills-development in Sri Lanka through Plan International, supporting early stage women-led businesses through Going for Growth and adding our voice to the campaign for greater diversity at board level in Ireland through the 30% Club. For International Women's Day 2018, we reaffirmed our pledge to 'press for progress', advocate for gender parity and to support the next generation of women leaders.

We believe that the established Inclusion and Diversity strategy of KPMG International provides a good framework to drive the actions that are necessary to promote inclusive leadership at KPMG in Ireland and across the KPMG network. While we have made good progress on our agenda we still have a long way to go. For more on Inclusion and Diversity please see our website.<sup>5</sup>

#### 3.7.5 Performance & Reward

Evaluation process including quality and compliance metrics KPMG in Ireland professionals, including partners, have annual goal-setting and performance reviews. Each professional is evaluated on their agreed-upon goals, demonstration of our leadership competencies, technical capabilities and market knowledge. A culture of continuous improvement is encouraged to drive feedback - both formal and informal, from junior and senior colleagues, as well as peers. Feedback gathered forms an integral part of performance reviews.

KPMG in Ireland monitors quality and compliance incidents and maintains quality metrics in assessing the overall evaluation, promotion and remuneration of partners and certain personnel. These evaluations are conducted by performance managers and partners who are in a position to assess performance.

KPMG in Ireland's policy prohibits audit partners from being evaluated on or compensated based on their success in selling non-assurance services to audit clients.

#### Reward

We have compensation and promotion policies that are clear, simple, and linked to the performance review process, which for audit professionals includes the achievement of key audit quality and compliance metrics. This helps our partners and employees know what is expected of them and what they can expect to receive in return.

Reward decisions are based on consideration of both individual and organisational (member firm) performance. The extent to which our people feel their performance has been reflected in their reward is measured through the Global People Survey, with action plans developed accordingly (refer to Section 3.7.7).

#### Promotion

The results of performance evaluations directly affect the promotion and remuneration of partners and staff and, in some cases, their continued association with KPMG.

#### Partner admissions

The KPMG in Ireland process for admission to partnership is rigorous and thorough, involving appropriate members of leadership. The procedure includes a business case and a personal case for the individual candidate along with assessment of performance. We use criteria for admission to the KPMG in Ireland partnership that are consistent with our commitment to professionalism and integrity, quality, and being an employer of choice. The criteria are strongly aligned to KPMG's behavioural capabilities and are based on consistent principles to help achieve quality in our partner admissions. All recommendations for admission to the partnership of KPMG in Ireland needs to be approved by the partners.

#### 3.7.6 Assignment of professionals

KPMG in Ireland has procedures in place to assign both the engagement leaders and other professionals to a specific engagement on the basis of their skill sets, relevant professional and industry experience, and the nature of the assignment or engagement.

Heads of Function are responsible for the partner assignment process. Key considerations include partner experience and capacity - based on an regular partner portfolio review - to perform the engagement taking into account the size, complexity and risk profile of the engagement and the type of support to be provided (i.e. the engagement team composition and specialist involvement).

Audit engagement partners are required to be satisfied that their engagement teams have appropriate competencies, training and capabilities, including time, to perform audit engagements in accordance with KAM, professional standards, and applicable legal and regulatory requirements. This may include involving specialists from our own firm or other KPMG member firms.

When considering the appropriate competencies and capabilities expected of the engagement team as a whole, the engagement partner's considerations may include the following:

- an understanding of, and practical experience with, audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation;
- an understanding of professional standards and legal and regulatory requirements;
- appropriate technical skills, including those related to relevant information technology and specialised areas of auditing or accounting;
- knowledge of relevant industries in which the client operates;
- ability to apply professional judgment;
- an understanding of KPMG in Ireland's quality control policies and procedures; and
- QPR results and results of regulatory inspections.

#### 3.7.7 Insights from our people – People Survey

On an annual basis KPMG in Ireland invites its people to participate in an independent People Survey to share their perception about their experience working for KPMG. The survey provides an overall measure of our people's engagement through an Employee Engagement Index ("EEI") as well as insights into areas driving engagement which may be strengths or opportunities. The survey also identifies opportunities to strengthen those levels of engagement. Results can be analysed by functional or geographic area, grade, role, gender to provide additional insight. Additional insight is provided on how we are faring on categories known to impact employee engagement.

The survey also specifically provides KPMG in Ireland leadership with results related to audit quality, upholding

the KPMG values, employee and partner attitudes to quality, leadership and tone at the top.

KPMG in Ireland participates in the People Survey and monitors the results and takes appropriate actions to communicate and respond to the findings of the survey. This includes monitoring survey results including those related to:

- audit quality and tone at the top referred to in the survey as leadership behaviour; and
- employee engagement through the EEI.

The results of the survey are also aggregated for the KPMG network and are presented to the partners and employees and the Global Board each year and appropriate follow-up actions agreed.

## 3.8 Commitment to technical excellence and quality service delivery

All KPMG in Ireland professionals are provided with the technical training and support they need. This includes access to specialists, Risk Management and DPP, which are made up of senior professionals with extensive experience in audit, reporting and risk management, either to provide resources to the engagement team or for consultation. Where the right resource is not available within KPMG in Ireland, access is provided to a network of highly skilled KPMG professionals in other KPMG member firms.

At the same time audit policies require professionals to have the appropriate knowledge and experience for their assigned engagements.

#### 3.8.1 Lifetime learning strategy

We have invested heavily in delivering and developing training. In addition to personal development, discussed at Section 3.7.3, our lifetime learning strategy is underpinned by policies requiring all professionals to maintain their technical competence and to comply with applicable regulatory and professional development requirements.

#### Formal training

Annual training priorities for development and delivery are identified by the Audit Learning and Development steering groups at global and regional level and locally through the Audit Training Committee. Training is delivered using a blend of classroom, e-digital learning and performance support to assist auditors on the job. Audit Learning and Development teams work with subject matter experts and leaders from the GSC, the International Standards Group ("ISG") and DPP, as appropriate, to ensure the training is of the highest quality, is relevant to performance on the job and is delivered on a timely basis. Training would include, for example, Audit quality workshops, learning from quality reviews, IFRS updates, US GAAP and/or US GAAS/PCAOB and industry specific training.

### Mandatory requirements – IFRS and U.S.GAAP engagements

We have specific requirements for partners and managers working on International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") engagements, US Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("US GAAP") engagements, US Generally Accepted Auditing Standards ("US GAAS") engagements, and the Standards of the PCAOB for SEC and Internal Control Over Financial Reporting ("ICOFR") engagements performed outside of the US. These require that the partner, manager, and EQC reviewer have completed relevant training and that the engagement team collectively has sufficient experience to perform the engagement or has implemented appropriate safeguards to address any shortfalls.

For the year ended 31 December 2018, our formal audit training programme included mandatory technical, risk and technology based courses. In addition to this formal structured training, partners and staff are required to complete additional training relevant to their role and grade. All partners and staff also undergo training relevant to the industry in which they specialise. The aggregated number of hours of training undertaken by partners and staff for the year was 83,000 hours (80,000: 2017). These hours exclude time spent on any programmes to support career and professional development, and the hours spent ensuring continual professional development.

#### Mentoring and on the job training

Learning is not confined to the classroom – rich learning experiences are available when needed through coaching and just-in-time learning, available at the click of a mouse and aligned with job specific role profiles and learning paths. All classroom courses are reinforced with appropriate performance support to assist auditors on the job.

## 3.8.2 Licensing and mandatory requirements for IFRS and U.S. GAAP engagements

All KPMG in Ireland professionals are required to comply with applicable professional license rules and satisfy the Continuing Professional Development ("CPD") requirements in the jurisdiction where they practice. Policies and procedures are designed to facilitate compliance with licence requirements. We are responsible for ensuring that audit professionals working on engagements have appropriate audit, accounting and industry knowledge and experience in the local predominant financial reporting frameworks – principally IFRS and accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council ("FRC").



## 3.8.3 Client confidentiality, information security and data privacy

The importance of maintaining client confidentiality is emphasised through a variety of mechanisms including the Global and KPMG in Ireland Code of Conduct, training, and the annual affidavit/confirmation process, that all KPMG professionals are required to complete.

We have a formal document retention policy concerning the retention period for audit documentation and other records relevant to an engagement in accordance with the relevant IESBA requirements as well as other applicable regulatory bodies' standards and regulations.

We have clear policies on information security that cover a wide range of areas. Data Privacy policies are in place governing the handling of personal information, and associated training is required for all KPMG in Ireland personnel.

#### 3.9 Commitment to continuous improvement

KPMG commits to continually improve the quality, consistency and efficiency of KPMG audits. Integrated quality monitoring and compliance programs enable us to identify quality deficiencies, to perform root cause analysis and develop, implement and report remedial action plans both in respect of individual audit engagements and KPMG's system of quality control. KPMG International's integrated quality and monitoring programs include the Quality Performance Review ("QPR") program, the Risk Compliance Program ("RCP") and the Global Compliance Review ("GCR") program.

The quality monitoring and compliance programs are globally administered and consistent in their approach across all member firms, including the nature and extent of testing and reporting. KPMG in Ireland compares the results of its internal monitoring programs with the results of those of any external inspection programs and take appropriate action.

## 3.9.1 Internal monitoring and compliance programs

Our monitoring programs evaluate both:

- engagement performance in compliance with the applicable standards, applicable laws and regulation and KPMG International policies and procedures; and
- KPMG in Ireland compliance with KPMG International policies and procedures and the relevance, adequacy, and effective operation of key quality control policies and procedures.

The results and lessons from the integrated monitoring programs are communicated internally, and the overall results and lessons from the programs are considered and appropriate action is taken at local, regional and global levels.

Our internal monitoring program also contributes to the assessment of whether our system of quality control has been appropriately designed, effectively implemented, and operates effectively.

We use two formal internal inspection programs which are conducted annually across the Audit, Tax, and Advisory functions: QPR program and RCP. Both programs are developed and conducted by KPMG International. Additionally, all member firms are covered at least every three years by the cross-functional Global Compliance Reviews ("GCRs"). Participation in QPR, RCP and GCR is a condition of ongoing membership of the KPMG network.

#### Audit Quality Performance Reviews ("QPR")

The QPR program assesses engagement level performance and identifies opportunities to improve engagement quality.

#### Risk based approach

Each engagement leader is reviewed at least once in a three year cycle. A risk-based approach is used to select engagements.

KPMG in Ireland conducts the annual QPR program in accordance with KPMG International QPR instructions. The reviews are performed at KPMG in Ireland level and are monitored regionally and globally. Member firm Audit QPR reviews are overseen by a senior experienced lead reviewer independent from the member firm.

#### Reviewer selection, preparation and process

There are robust criteria for selection of reviewers. Review teams include senior experienced lead reviewers that are independent of the member firm under review.

Training is provided to review teams and others overseeing the process, with a focus on topics of concern identified by audit oversight regulators and the need to be as rigorous as external reviewers.

#### Evaluations from Audit QPR

Consistent criteria are used to determine engagement ratings and member firm audit practice evaluations.

Audit engagements selected for review are rated as 'Satisfactory', 'Performance Improvement Needed' or 'Unsatisfactory'.

#### Reporting

Findings from the QPR program are disseminated to member firm professionals through written communications, internal training tools, and periodic partner, manager and staff meetings. These areas are also emphasised in subsequent inspection programs to gauge the extent of continuous improvement.

Lead audit engagement partners are notified of less than satisfactory engagement (defined as 'Performance Improvement Needed' or 'Unsatisfactory') ratings on their respective cross border engagements. Additionally, lead audit engagement partners of parent companies/head offices are notified where a subsidiary/affiliate of their client group is audited by a member firm where significant quality issues have been identified during the QPR.

#### Risk Compliance Program ("RCP")

KPMG International develops and maintains quality control policies and processes that apply to all member firms.

These policies and processes, and their related procedures, include the requirements of ISQC1. During the annual RCP, we perform a robust assessment program consisting of documentation of quality controls and procedures, related compliance testing and reporting of exceptions, action plans and conclusions.

The objectives of the RCP are to:

- monitor, document and assess the extent of compliance of KPMG in Ireland system of quality control with global quality & risk management policies and key legal and regulatory requirements relating to the delivery of professional services;
- provide the basis for KPMG in Ireland to evaluate that the firm and its personnel comply with relevant professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Where deficiencies are identified, we are required to develop appropriate action plans and monitor the status of each action item.

#### Global Compliance Review ("GCR") program

Each member firm is subject to a GCR conducted by the KPMG International's GCR team, independent of the member firm at least once in a 3 year cycle.

The GCR team performing the reviews is independent of the KPMG member firm and is objective and knowledgeable of global quality and risk management policies. GCRs assess compliance with selected KPMG International policies and procedures and share best practices among member firms. The GCR provides an independent assessment of:

- a member firm's commitment to quality and risk management (tone at the top) and the extent to which its overall structure, governance and financing support and reinforce this commitment;
- a member firm's compliance with key KPMG policies and procedures; and
- the robustness with which the member firm performs its own compliance program (RCP)

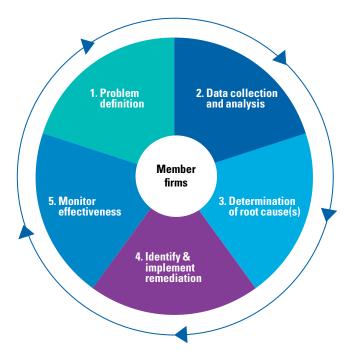
We develop action plans to respond to all GCR findings and agree these with the GCR team. Our progress on action plans is monitored by the GCR central team. Results are reported to the Global Quality & Risk Management Steering Group ("GQ&RMSG"), and, where necessary, to appropriate KPMG International and regional leadership, to help ensure timely remedial actions taken by the member firm.

#### Root Cause Analysis ("RCA")

KPMG in Ireland performs root cause analysis to identify and address audit quality issues in order to prevent them from recurring and help identify good practices as part of continuous improvement.

In 2018 RCA training based on our Global RCA 5 Step Principles was attended by those individuals at KPMG in Ireland who will be performing RCA or directing those performing RCA. The training provides a common platform for advancing the practices and skills associated with resourcing, planning and conducting RCA.

The Global RCA 5 Step Principles are as follows:



It is our responsibility to perform RCA and thereby identify and subsequently develop appropriate remediation plans for the audit quality issues identified.

KPMG in Ireland's Head of Audit is responsible for the development and implementation of action plans as a result of RCA, including identification of solution owners. The Risk Management Partner monitors their implementation.



## 3.9.2 External feedback and dialogue with Regulators

Our firm is registered as a statutory audit firm with Chartered Accountants Ireland ("CAI"). CAI is subject to oversight by IAASA. On 17 June 2016 IAASA was designated as the independent statutory audit oversight body in Ireland. IAASA is directly responsible for the inspection of the audits of Public Interest Entities ("PIE") and is ultimately responsible for:

- the approval of statutory auditors and audit firms;
- the disciplinary systems in relation to all statutory auditors and audit firms;
- quality assurance; and
- continuing professional education requirements for auditors.

The firm is also subject to review by the Professional Standards Department of CAI in relation to statutory audits of non-PIE entities. Professional Standards is the department within CAI which is responsible for developing standards of professional conduct and supervising the compliance of member firms in their execution of statutory audits.

IAASA have recently completed their second inspection of the firm, and as at the date of this report and we are working through the actions in the action plan developed to respond to the matters arising from the inspection. While we are satisfied with the outcome of the visit, we do recognise that there are areas where additional focus and attention is required and we have committed to working with our regulators to ensure that appropriate programmes are implemented to ensure we meet the standards they expect of us.

As the firm is registered with the Public Company Audit Oversight Board ("PCAOB") in the US, we are also subject to inspections by the PCAOB. The most recent inspection took place in November 2018 and encompassed detailed audit file reviews of two of our US registrant audit clients and one referred work engagement, together with a review of our system of quality control. The PCAOB report on their inspection was not yet been issued.

Our firm is also registered with the Japanese Financial Services Agency, the Isle of Man Financial Supervision Commission, the Jersey Financial Services Commission and the Guernsey Registry.

#### Client feedback

We proactively seek feedback from clients through in-person conversations and third-party surveys to monitor their satisfaction with services delivered. We endeavour to take this feedback and make dynamic changes at both the engagement level and firm level to meet clients' needs.

#### Monitoring of complaints

We have procedures in place for monitoring and addressing complaints received relating to the quality of our work. These procedures are detailed in our general terms of business.

# 4 Corporate Citizenship

At KPMG in Ireland we believe in Corporate Citizenship. It is at the heart of all great organisations, and we are committed to making a real difference to the communities in which we operate.

All organisations have a social responsibility to their people, their clients and to society. We believe a real commitment to Corporate Citizenship unites an organisation, strengthens its reputation and creates vital links with the communities in which it operates. We want our employees to be part of this effort and to be actively involved in Corporate Citizenship activities that will ultimately make a positive impact on society.

KPMG in Ireland strives to create a well-rounded Corporate Citizenship programme. In recognition of this, our initiatives have been grouped into six categories: Community, Charity, Education, Environment, Developing World and Workplace/Marketplace.

We measure our Corporate Citizenship activity in our communities through a number of key metrics. Our metrics for the year to 31 December 2018 are set out below.

<b>Community Connections</b>	134	
Employee volunteer hours	13,023	
Cash Donations	€287,704	
Employee fundraising	€133,172	
In-Kind Donations	€874,098	

Corporate Citizenship involves creating innovative and proactive solutions to societal and environmental challenges, as well as collaborating with both internal and external stakeholders to maximise the impact of our Corporate Citizenship activity in our community. The firm is committed to playing a leading role in achieving a sustainable future. We take responsibility for our actions and promote responsible business practices, support the growth and development of our people and communities.

#### Community

We have an opportunity to play a significant role in positively impacting our surrounding communities. The education obtained by our people and their work ethic serves as a good example to the youth in our community and allows us to engage with many organisations in the wider community such as the Business in the Community Ireland Ready for Work initiative which provides work experience and guidance to people who are looking to move on from homelessness into employment or training.

The Get Cents programme sees KPMG in Ireland volunteers work with early school leavers (aged 16-21) to develop their financial know-how in managing their money, budgeting and saving.

KPMG in Ireland partners with St. Michael's House to help develop a new and innovative project of writing and packaging multi-sensory stories for use in the development and wellbeing of profoundly disabled children.

#### Charity

Each year KPMG in Ireland supports individual staff members who fundraise for their own personal charities, and gives them a donation towards their fundraising efforts based on the amount raised. This ensures that the firm supports a wide range of charities that our people feel passionate about.

The Denis O'Connor Walking Festival is an annual event that aims to raise funds for deserving causes. 2018 was the twelfth year of the Denis O'Connor Walk, which to date has raised €590,000 for various charities. For the last number of years, people at KPMG in Ireland, our alumni, and family and friends have raised money for a number of charities. In 2018 we had over 70 people participate in the walk and raised €30,000 for Pieta House.

#### Education

Education is one of the key pillars of KPMG in Ireland's Corporate Citizenship strategy. We believe that education is paramount in terms of its contribution to the development of a successful society. Our education programme allows us to further the capacity of schools and colleges, work with children



and young people to advance potential, and invest in skills that support enterprise in the community. As part of this initiative through Business in the Community Ireland, KPMG in Ireland has forged a highly successful relationship with CBS Westland Row School. This programme involves KPMG in Ireland people mentoring 5th and 6th year students and making a real difference in their lives.

KPMG in Ireland is also working with Business in the Community on a programme called Time to Read. This programme involves volunteers from businesses, including KPMG in Ireland, providing one to one reading support to second class students in City Quay National School. The desired outcomes of the programme are to: increase the enjoyment of reading; improve fluency and comprehension when reading; increase confidence in reading; and improve and encourage self-discovery.

KPMG in Ireland has led the charge in establishing Enactus in Ireland. Enactus is an international non-profit organisation, founded in the US that works with leaders in business and higher education to mobilise university students to make a positive difference in their communities while developing the skills to become socially responsible business leaders. This is a way of uniquely engaging students by:

- giving them personal development opportunities;
- showcasing their talents and skills to a key business audience;
- getting students to be more socially aware and put in place solutions to community, environment and social issues;
- utilising the skill-sets of students to put their academic learning into real-life practice; and
- potentially having the honour and prestige of being crowned the Enactus Ireland National winner and going on to represent Ireland at the Enactus World Cup.

There are 1,600 universities in 37 countries around the world participating in Enactus and this is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the best of Irish talent. The Board of Directors of Enactus Ireland is chaired by a representative of KPMG in Ireland. The Board also consists of the CEOs of Enactus Ireland's other sponsors. In the 2017/18 academic year, ten third level institutions participated in the initiative.

#### Environment

We are pleased to confirm that KPMG in Ireland renewed its carbon neutral status for 2018/19. KPMG in Ireland was the first professional services firm to achieve carbon neutral status in January 2007. KPMG in Ireland has moved all its energy supply to renewable sources and moved to a bin free office, encouraging all staff to individually segregate and recycle their waste. In 2018 the firm eliminated all paper cups in the kitchen areas and all employees were given a ceramic cup and reusable water bottle to reduce down our carbon footprint.

#### Developing World

KPMG in Ireland also engages in Corporate Citizenship activity outside of Ireland. Working on projects in the Developing World is something that helps us reach out to people living in extreme poverty and dire health conditions. KPMG in Ireland funds a project with Plan International Ireland, aimed at empowering marginalised women in Sri Lanka. As part of a three year project, 550 young women from plantations and rural villages will be brought together in community-based groups for livelihood training including financial literacy and management, ICT and household economic security as well as microenterprise development. Internships and work placements will also be included. Through the 'Training of Trainers Model', it is envisaged that these young women will go on to help educate an average of 23 additional young women in community-based business groups, bringing the total number of participants to 12,650 over three years. The initiative aims to equip vulnerable women with the skills to claim and exercise their rights as citizens in order to escape the poverty cycle and maintain gainful employment.

#### Workplace/Marketplace

We have a range ofworkplace and marketplace policies and practices in the Corporate Citizenship area. As part of a Workplace Corporate Citizenship initiative, KPMG in Ireland has a workplace entrepreneurial programme to encourage staff to address local social and environmental needs. Project Bright is an innovative workplace initiative aimed at encouraging staff to be social entrepreneurs. Staff participate in a competition to identify social issues and then develop unique solutions that make a real difference to the associated community organisation, utilising the skill-set of our own employees. Through this initiative KPMG in Ireland is:

- directly engaging with staff;
- encouraging them to be innovative;
- getting the winning team to project manage the winning idea;
- empowering them to engage with a broad cross-section of their peers; and
- giving the winning team a tremendous development opportunity to attend the annual One Young World Summit for young leaders.

### 5 Financial information

The EU Regulation No. 537/2014 requires disclosure of financial information that shows the importance of statutory audit work to the overall firm's results. The results set out below for the year to 31 December 2018 have been extracted from the draft partnership accounts which have not as of yet been finalised and approved by the partners.

Revenue is presented in accordance with the EU Regulation No. 537/2014 and included for:

- Revenues from the statutory audit of annual and consolidated financial statements of PIEs, and entities belonging to a group of undertakings whose parent undertaking is a PIE
- 2. Revenues from the statutory audit of annual and consolidated financial statements of other entities
- 3. Revenues from permitted non-audit services to entities that are audited by the audit firm
- 4. Revenues from non-audit services to other entities.

Financial information for the year ended 31 December 2018 and 31 December 2017 expressed in Euro million are outlined below

Service	2018 Revenue € million	Percent
Statutory audits and directly related services for PIEs	15	4%
Other audit services and directly related services for non–PIEs	99	24%
Non-audit services provided to audit clients	87	21%
Non-audit services provided to other entities	213	51%
Total revenue	414	100%

Service	2017 Revenue € million	Percent
Statutory audits and directly related services for PIEs	17	4%
Other audit services and directly related services for non–PIEs	90	24%
Non-audit services provided to audit clients <sup>6</sup>	76	20%
Non-audit services provided to other entities <sup>6</sup>	194	52%
Total revenue	377	100%

The classification above for audit work includes a small proportion of revenues derived from other assurance services which are directly related to audit.

As the firm's business has grown we have invested very significantly in additional skills and resources. Our headcount has grown to 2,937 at 31 December 2018.

The firm's Head of Finance and Administration is responsible for the preparation of financial information. Financial Performance is reviewed on a monthly basis by the Executive Team and is circulated to all partners on a monthly basis and is discussed at partners' meetings.

The Executive Team has a reasonable expectation that the firm has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and therefore considers that the firm is a going concern.

The identification, evaluation, management and monitoring of the most significant risks that face our firm and could threaten the achievement of our strategic objectives are the joint responsibility of the Executive Team and Policy Committee.

### 6 Partner remuneration

Partners are remunerated out of the distributable profits of the firm as set out in the partnership accounts and as approved by the partnership. The determination of the profits available for distribution is based on the results of the firm as a whole and is not dependent directly on the performance of any particular line of business or function. The final allocation of profits to partners is made after assessing each partner's contribution for the year. This assessment is considered on an individual basis by the Remuneration Committee.

Each partner is required to submit a written appraisal to the Remuneration Committee detailing his/her own view of performance against objectives over the previous year. The Audit Executive Team specifically considers the contribution of each audit partner to audit quality on their engagements and to the audit quality agenda across the audit practice as a whole. The Committee hears a report from each partner's Counselling Partner on his/her individual performance for the year. Finally, as part of its deliberations, the Remuneration Committee also receives and considers presentations from the Heads of Audit, Tax and Legal Services, Advisory, Markets, Risk Management, and People and Operations setting out an assessment of the quality of work performed by each partner during the year under review.

The Remuneration Committee details its findings and its recommendations in relation to profit allocations in a report at the end of the review process which is then circulated to all partners for their approval before the profit allocations for the year are finalised. Partner remuneration comprises primarily a predetermined proportion of the profits arising which reflects the seniority and experience of each partner.

In addition to the profit share as described above, certain partners also receive a bonus payment, or special award, based on a number of criteria.

Our policies for all elements of partner remuneration take into account a number of factors including the quality of work, the link between quality and partner remuneration, excellence in client service, growth in revenue and profitability, leadership and supporting the firm's values.

Audit partners, (plus other non-audit specialist partners who are members of the audit team) are not permitted to have any objectives related to, or receive any remuneration based on, selling non-audit services to the firm's audit clients.



# 7 Network arrangements

### 7.1 Legal structure

The independent member firms of the KPMG network are affiliated with KPMG International, a Swiss cooperative, which is a legal entity formed under Swiss law.

KPMG International carries on business activities for the overall benefit of the KPMG network of member firms but does not provide professional services to clients. Professional services to clients are exclusively provided by member firms.

One of the main purposes of KPMG International is to facilitate the provision by member firms of high quality Audit, Tax and Advisory services to their clients. For example, KPMG International establishes and facilitates the implementation and maintenance of uniform policies, standards of work and conduct by member firms and protects and enhances the use of the KPMG name and brand.

KPMG International is an entity that is legally separate from each member firm. KPMG International and the member firms are not a global partnership, joint venture, or in a principal or agent relationship or partnership with each other. No member firm has any authority to obligate or bind KPMG International or any other member firm vis-à-vis third parties, nor does KPMG International have any such authority to obligate or bind any member firm.

The name of each audit firm that is a member of the network and the EU/EEA countries in which each network member firm is qualified as a statutory auditor or has its registered office, central administration or principal place of business are available in Appendix 3.

### Total turnover achieved by EU/EEA audit firms resulting from the statutory audit of annual and consolidated financial statements 7

Aggregated revenues generated by KPMG audit firms, from EU and EEA Member States resulting from the statutory audit of annual and consolidated financial statements was €2.8 billion during the year ended 30 September 2018. The EU/EEA aggregated statutory audit revenue figures are presented to the best extent currently calculable and translated at the average exchange rate prevailing in the 12 months ended 30 September 2018.

### 7.2 Responsibilities and obligations of member firms

Under agreements with KPMG International, member firms are required to comply with KPMG International's policies and regulations including quality standards governing how they operate and how they provide services to clients to compete effectively. This includes having a firm structure that ensures continuity and stability and being able to adopt global strategies, share resources (incoming and outgoing), service multi-national clients, manage risk, and deploy global methodologies and tools.

Each member firm takes responsibility for its management and the quality of its work. Member firms commit to a common set of KPMG values.

KPMG International's activities are funded by amounts paid by member firms. The basis for calculating such amounts is approved by the Global Board and consistently applied to the member firms. A firm's status as a KPMG member firm and its participation in the KPMG network may be terminated if, among other things, it has not complied with the policies and regulations set by KPMG International or any of its other obligations owed to KPMG International.

### 7.3 Professional indemnity insurance

A substantial level of insurance cover is maintained in respect of professional negligence claims. The cover provides a territorial coverage on a worldwide basis and is principally written through a captive insurer that is available to all KPMG member firms.

### 7.4 Governance structure

The key governance and management bodies of KPMG International are the Global Council, the Global Board, and the Global Management Team.

7. The financial information set forth represents combined information of the separate KPMG member firms from EU and EEA Member States that perform professional services for clients. The information is combined here solely for presentation purposes. KPMG International performs no services for clients nor, concomitantly, generates any client revenue.

### Global Council

The Global Council focuses on high-level governance tasks and provides a forum for open discussion and communication among member firms.

It performs functions equivalent to a shareholders' meeting (albeit KPMG International has no share capital and only has members, not shareholders).

Among other things, the Global Council elects the Global Chairman and also approves the appointment of Global Board members. It includes representation from 58 member firms that are "members" of KPMG International as a matter of Swiss law. Sublicensees<sup>8</sup> are generally indirectly represented by a member.

### Global Board

The Global Board is the principal governance and oversight body of KPMG International. The key responsibilities of the Global Board include approving strategy, protecting and enhancing the KPMG brand, overseeing management of KPMG International, and approving policies and regulations. It also admits member firms.

The Global Board includes the Global Chairman, the Chairman of each of the three regions (the Americas; Asia Pacific (ASPAC); and Europe, the Middle East, and Africa (EMA)) and a number of senior partners of member firms.

It is led by the Global Chairman, who is supported by the Executive Committee, consisting of the Global Chairman, the Chairman of each of the regions and currently three other senior partners of member firms. The list of Global Board members, as at 1 October 2018 is available on our website<sup>9</sup>.

One of the other Global Board members is elected as the lead director by those Global Board members who are not also members of the Executive Committee of the Global Board ("non-executive" members). A key role of the lead director is to act as liaison between the Global Chairman and the "non-executive" Global Board members.

### Global Management Team

The Global Board has delegated certain responsibilities to the Global Management Team. These responsibilities include developing global strategy by working together with the Executive Committee. The Global Management Team also supports the member firms in their execution of the global strategy and is responsible for holding them accountable for commitments.

It is led by the Global Chairman and includes the Global Chief Operating Officer, Global Chief Administrative Officer, global function and infrastructure heads, and the General Counsel.

The list of Global Management Team members as at 1 October 2018 is available on our website<sup>10</sup>.

### Global Steering Groups

The Global Steering Groups work closely with regional and member firm leadership to:

- establish and communicate appropriate audit and quality/ risk management policies;
- enable effective and efficient risk processes to promote audit quality; and
- proactively identify and mitigate critical risks to the network.

The Global Steering Groups act under the oversight of the Global Management Team. The roles of the Global Audit Steering Group and the Global Quality & Risk Management Steering Group are detailed in section 'Governance and leadership' of the KPMG International Transparency Report on our website<sup>11</sup>.

Each member firm is part of one of three regions (the Americas, ASPAC, and EMA). Each region has a Regional Board comprising a regional chairman, regional chief operating officer, representation from any sub-regions, and other members as appropriate. Each Regional Board focuses specifically on the needs of member firms within their region and assists in the implementation of KPMG International's policies and processes within the region.

Further details about KPMG International including the governance arrangements, can be found in section 'Governance and leadership' of the KPMG International Transparency Report, which is available at www.kpmg.com<sup>12</sup>

### 7.5 Area Quality & Risk Management Leaders

The Global Head of Quality, Risk and Regulatory appoints Area Quality & Risk Management Leaders ("ARL") who serve a regular and ongoing monitoring and consultation function to assess the effectiveness of a member firm's efforts and processes to identify, manage and report significant risks that have the potential to damage the KPMG brand. Significant activities of the ARL, including member firm issues identified and related member firm response/remediation, are reported to GQ&RM leadership:

The objectives of the ARL role are to:

- assist GQ&RM leadership in the monitoring of member firms 'quality and risk activities;
- work with GQ&RM leadership and the International Office of General Counsel (IOGC) when significant brand and legal risk issues occur to assist in ensuring that matters are properly handled; and
- monitor the effectiveness of member firm remediation of significant issues, including identification of the root cause(s) of serious quality incidents.

Unless otherwise stated, the words 'member firm' or 'KPMG member firm' when used in this Transparency Report include the following:
 -Those entities that are members of KPMG International as a matter of Swiss law because

Inose entities that are members of RPMG international as a matter of Swiss law because RPMG International is a Swiss cooperative (i.e. similar to shareholders, albeit KPMG International has no share capital and, therefore, only has members not shareholders).

<sup>-</sup>Those entities ('sublicensees') that are not members of KPMG International as a matter of Swiss law but have still entered into legal agreements with KPMG International and also an entity that is a 'member'.

 $<sup>9,\,10.\,</sup>https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/about/who-we-are/our-leadership.html$ 

<sup>11,12.</sup> https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/campaigns/2018/12/2018-transparency-report.html

# Statement by the Policy Committee of KPMG in Ireland on the effectiveness of quality controls and independence

The measures and procedures that serve as the basis for the system of quality control for KPMG in Ireland outlined in this report aim to provide a reasonable degree of assurance that the statutory audits carried out by our firm comply with the applicable laws and regulations. Because of its inherent limitations, the system of quality controls is not intended to provide absolute assurance that non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations would be prevented or detected.

Our Policy Committee has considered:

- the design and operation of the quality control systems as described in this report;
- the findings from the various compliance programs operated by our firm (including the KPMG International Review Programs as described in Section 3.9 and our local compliance monitoring programs); and
- findings from regulatory inspections and subsequent follow up and/or remedial actions.

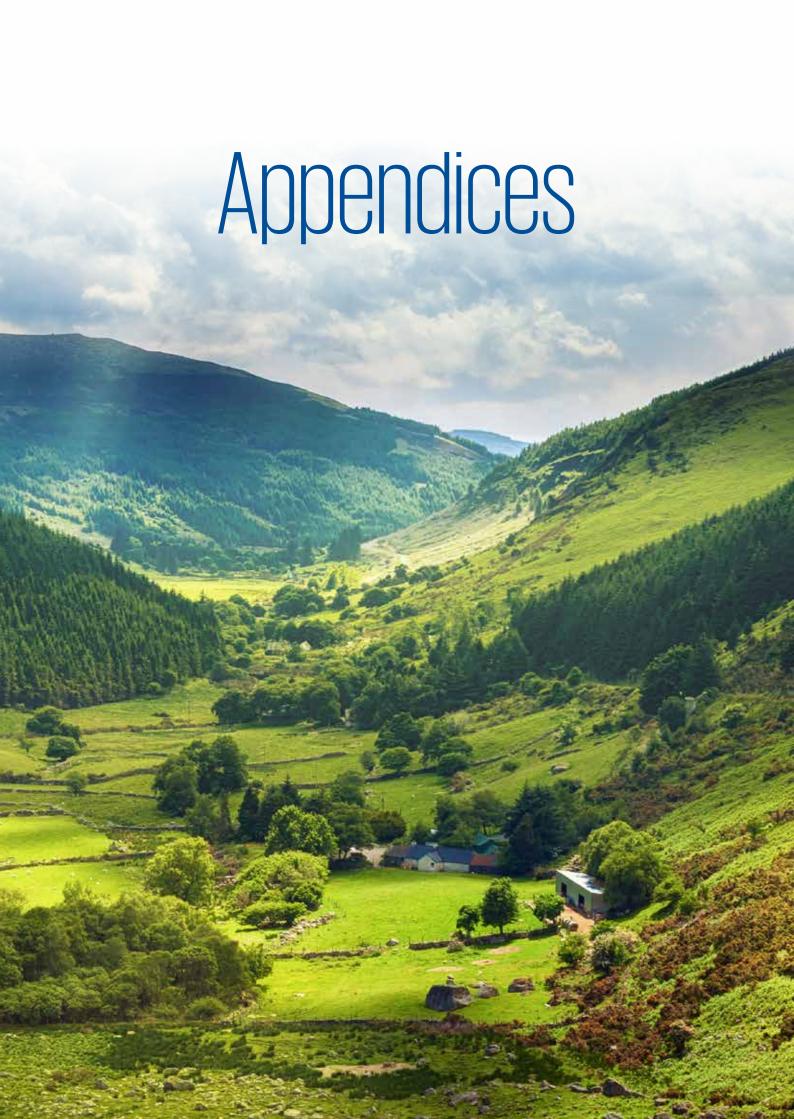
Taking all of this evidence together, the Policy Committee confirms with a reasonable level of assurance that the systems of quality control within our firm have operated effectively in the year to 31 December 2018.

Further, the Policy Committee confirms that an internal review of independence compliance within our firm has been conducted in the year to 31 December 2018.

### **Policy Committee** KPMG in Ireland

11 March 2019





### Appendix 1: Leadership roles



**Shaun Murphy** 

- Managing Partner
- Lead Director of Global Board
- Member of Global Council and EMA Board



**Darina Barrett** 

- Head of Markets: Financial Services
- Member of Global Markets Steering Group



Conall O'Halloran

- Head of Audit
- Member of EMA Audit Board



Kieran Wallace

- Head of Markets: Other Sectors
- Head of Private Enterprise



Conor O'Brien

- Head of Tax & Legal Services



**Paul Toner** 

- Head of Markets: Strategic Pursuits



**David Wilkinson** 

- Head of Advisory
- Member of the Global and EMA Advisory Boards



**Colm Gorman** 

- Head of People & Operations
- Member of Global HR Steering Group



**Paul Dobey** 

- Head of Risk Management
- Member of Global Quality & Risk Management Steering Group
- EMA Head of Risk, Quality and Regulatory



Mark Mulqueen

- Head of Finance & Administration

## Appendix 2: Public interest entities

This list includes those audit clients for whom KPMG Ireland issued an audit opinion between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2018 that were public interest entities as defined in the European Union (Statutory Audits) (Directive 2006/43/EC, as amended by Directive 2014/56/EU and Regulation (EU) No 537/2014) Regulations 2016 (S.I. No. 312 of 2016)

Acorn Life Designated Activity Company

Adidas International Re Designated Activity Company

Aetna Health Insurance Company of Europe Designated Activity Company

Allianz Global Life Designated Activity Company

Allianz Public Limited Company

Allianz Re Dublin Designated Activity Company

AMG Funds plc

Aminex plc

Amtrust International Underwriters Designated Activity Company

Arkema Insurance Designated Activity Company

Barclays Bank Ireland Public Limited Company

BBVA RE Designated Activity Company

Beazley Insurance Designated Activity Company

Belfast Gas Transmission Financing Plc

Brandes Investment Funds plc

Cairn Homes plc

Carador Income Fund PLC

Castellana Finance. Designated Activity Company

Catalina Insurance Ireland Designated Activity Company

Citibank Europe Public Limited Company

Citizen Irish Auto Receivables Trust 2017 Designated Activity Company

Codeve Insurance Company Designated Activity Company

Continuum Global Finance Public Limited Company

Cork Street CLO Designated Activity Company

Corsair Finance (Ireland) Designated Activity Company

Dalata Hotel Group plc

Darta Saving Life Assurance Designated Activity Company

DCC Group Insurances Designated Activity Company

DCC plc

Delta Spark Designated Activity Company

Depfa ACS Bank Designated Activity Company

Depfa Bank Public Limited Company

Dilosk RMBS No.1 Designated Activity Company

Diversification Strategy Fund plc

E.I. Sturdza Funds plc

Epsilon

Euro Insurances Designated Activity Company

Eurocredit CDO V Plc

Euromax V ABS Plc

Euromax VI ABS Designated Activity Company

Fabien Pictet & Partners Global Funds Plc

Fresenius Finance Ireland Public Limited Company

GE Capital European Funding Unlimited Company

German Postal Pensions Securitisation 2 Plc

Glenveagh Properties PLC

Global Insurance Settlements Funds plc

Green Effects Investments plc

Greencore Group plc

Grenke Finance Public Limited Company

GTLK Europe Designated Activity Company

Guggenheim Global Investments Plc

Guggenheim Qualifying Investor Fund plc

Hannover Re (Ireland) Designated Activity Company

HSBC ETFs PLC

HSBC Global Liquidity Funds plc Iberdrola Finance Ireland DAC

Ignis Strategic Solutions Funds Plc Independent News & Media PLC

ING Captive Re Designated Activity Company International Financial Services Growth Fund

Intesa Sanpaolo Bank Ireland Public Limited Company

Intesa Sanpaolo Life Designated Activity Company

Inveralmond Insurance Designated Activity Company

Kingspan Group plc

LBB Finance (Ireland) Public Limited Company

Legal & General UCITS ETF plc

MAEXIM Secured Funding Designated Activity Company

Magna Umbrella Fund plc

Magnolia Finance IX Designated Activity Company

Magnolia Finance XVII Designated Activity Company

Mainstay Medical International plc

Marriott International Funds Plc

MBA Community Loans Public Limited Company

MBDA Insurance Designated Activity Company

Mercator CLO III Designated Activity Company

MMC Finance Designated Activity Company

Montag & Caldwell Funds PLC

Moyle Interconnector (Financing) plc

Natinium Financial Products Public Limited Company

NWK Multi-Strategy Funds Plc

Oak Hill European Credit Partners V Designated Activity Company

Company

Oaks Emerging Umbrella Fund plc

Old Mutual International Ireland Designated Activity Company

Ottam Mexican Capital Trust Designated Activity Company

Pan Insurance Designated Activity Company

Paris Bertrand Sturdza Investments plc

PB Domicile 2006-1 Public Limited Company

PB Domicilio 2007-1 Designated Activity Company

Phosagro Bond Funding Designated Activity Company

Premier Transmission Financing Plc

Prescient Global Funds plc

Prescient Global Qualified Investor Fund plc

Provide Blue 2005-1 Public Limited Company

Provide Blue 2005-2 Public Limited Company

Prudential International Assurance Public Limited Company

RSA Insurance Ireland Designated Activity Company

Ryanair Designated Activity Company

Ryanair Holdings plc

Santam Structured Reinsurance Designated Activity Company

Seamair Insurance Designated Activity Company

Slandia Finance (Ireland) Designated Activty Company

Sligo Card Finance 2015 Designated Activity Company

Sofinsod Insurance Designated Activity Company

Squadron Reinsurance Designated Activity Company

Standard Life International Designated Activity Company

Standard Life Investments Liquidity Fund plc

Star Compass Public Limited Company

Talanx Reinsurance (Ireland) SE

TCS Insurance Company of Ireland Designated Activity

Company

TransAlp 1 Securities Public Limited Company

Triple Enhanced Rated notes (TERN) Designated Activity

Company

VanEck Vectors UCITS ETFs plc

W&W Global Strategies Fund

Wagram Insurance Company Designated Activity Company

Wells Fargo Bank International Unlimited Company

Westwood Investment Funds plc

# Appendix 3: List of KPMG audit entities located in EU/EEA

This is a list of KPMG audit firms as defined in Article 2 (3) of EU Directive 2006/43/EC which are located in EU/EEA countries. It has been prepared solely for the purpose of compliance by KPMG member firms with Regulation (EU) No 537/2014 on specific requirements regarding statutory audit of public-interest entities and repealing Commission Decision 2005/909/EC. It is prepared by KPMG International Cooperative ('KPMGI'), a Swiss entity which provides no professional services to clients. To the best of our knowledge, the list is accurate as of 31 December 2018. However, we cannot and do not warrant its accuracy at any given time.

Location Firm Name

Austria KPMG Austria GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungs - und Steuerberatungsgesellschaft (Wien)

Austria KPMG Alpen-Treuhand GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungs - und Steuerberatungsgesellschaft (Wien)

Austria KPMG Austria GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungs - und Steuerberatungsgesellschaft (Linz)

Austria KPMG Niederösterreich GmbH, Wirtschaftsprüfungs - und Steuerberatungsgesellschaft

Austria Plan Treuhand GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungs - und Steuerberatungsgesellschaft (Wien)

Austria Securitas Revisions - und Treuhandgesellschaft m.b.H.

Austria T&A Wirtschaftsprufüngs - und Steuerberatungsgesellschaft m.b.H.

Belgium KPMG Bedrijfsrevisoren / KPMG Réviseurs d'Entreprises

Bulgaria KPMG Audit OOD

CEE KPMG CEE Holdings Limited
Croatia KPMG Croatia d.o.o. za reviziju

Cyprus KPMG

Cyprus KPMG Limited

Czech Republic KPMG Ceská republika Audit, s.r.o.

Denmark KPMG P/S

Estonia KPMG Baltics OÜ Finland KPMG Oy Ab

Finland KPMG Julkishallinnon Palvelut Oy

France KPMG Associés S.A.

France FUTIN Associés

France KPMG Audit DFA S.A.S.
France KPMG Audit Est S.A.S.
France KPMG Audit FS I S.A.S.

Location Firm Name

France KPMG Audit ID S.A.S.

France KPMG Audit IS S.A.S.

France KPMG Audit Nord S.A.S.

France KPMG Audit Normandie S.A.S.
France KPMG Audit Ouest S.A.S.

France KPMG Audit Paris et Centre S.A.S.

France KPMG Audit Rhône Alpes Auvergne S.A.S.

France KPMG Audit Sud-Est S.A.S.

France KPMG Audit Sud-Ouest S.A.S.

France KPMG Fiduciaire de France

France KPMG SA

France KPMGTartaroli

France SALUSTRO REYDEL S.A.

Germany KPMG AG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Germany ATH Allgemeine Treuhandgesellschaft mbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Germany EUREVISIO GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft Steuerberatungsgesellschaft

Germany KPMG Bayerische Treuhandgesellschaft Aktiengesellschaft Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Steuerberatungsgesellschaft

Germany KPMG Prüfungs-und Beratungsgesellschaft für den Öffentlichen Sektor Aktiengesellschaft

Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Gibraltar KPMG Limited

Greece KPMG Certified Auditors AE

Hungary KPMG Hungária Kft./KPMG Hungary Ltd.

Iceland KPMG ehf.
Ireland KPMG

Italy KPMG S.p.A.

Italy KPMG Audit S.p.A.
Latvia KPMG Baltics SIA

Liechtenstein KPMG (Liechtenstein) AG

Lithuania 'KPMG Baltics' UAB
Luxembourg KPMG Luxembourg

Malta KPMG

Netherlands KPMG Accountants N.V.

Norway KPMG Holding AS

Norway KPMG AS

Location Firm Name

Poland KPMG Audyt Sp. z.o.o.

Poland KPMG Audyt Sp. z ograniczona odpowiedzialnoscia

Poland KPMG Audyt Sp. z ograniczona odpowiedzialnoscia Spółka Komandytowa

Portugal KPMG & Associados - Sociedade de Revisores Oficiais de Contas, S.A.

Romania KPMG Audit SRL

Slovakia KPMG Slovensko spol. s r.o.

Slovenia KPMG Slovenija, podjetje za revidiranje, d.o.o.

Spain KPMG Auditores, S.L.

Sweden KPMG AB
UK KPMG LLP

UK KPMG Audit Holdings Limited

UK KPMG Audit Plc

UK KPMG Holdings Limited

UK KPMG Overseas Services Limited









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