Committee of Public Accounts

1 1 MAR 2019

Received



6 March 2019

Mi. Eilis Fallon Committee Secretariat Committee of Public Accounts Leinster House Dublin 2

Dear Ms Fallon

I refer to your letter dated 27 February 2019 regarding the internal audit function in CDETB.

Traditionally CDETB had its own Internal Auditor. However, the incumbent retired in December 2016. Prior to his retirement, CDETB requested permission from the DES to advertise the position and was involved in discussions with them from September 2016 as they wished to include CDETB in the Internal Audit Unit (IAU) of the ETBs. In December 2016 CDETB was given formal sanction to advertise the position internally on a temporary basis to 31 August 2017 "on condition that the internal audit function for City of Dublin ETB will be carried out by the Internal Audit Unit for the ETB sector (IAU-ETBs) with effect from 1 September 2017". Agreement was reached between the DES and CDETB that CDETB would still have a full time Internal Auditor.

The CDETB Internal Auditor had been remunerated at APO level and the new approval letter sanctioned recruitment at Grade 7 level. CDETB requested that it be allowed recruit at APO level and on 24 January was told that it had to be on the lower scale. CDETB advertised the post and no applicant had the required competencies or qualifications. In March 2017 it was agreed with the DES that the permanent post would be advertised through the IAU. The post was advertised in April 2017 and it was not filled. The IAU re-advertised in late 2017 and again the auditor post was not filled. The DES then approved the upgrading of the post to Deputy Director level and the IAU advertised once more and the post was not filled. Following recent advertising of the post in January 2019, shortlisted candidates are due to be interviewed on 14th March.

In the period September- December 2017 the IAU carried out one audit in CDETB. This was an audit of Specialist Training Providers. Subsequent audits have been carried out in the areas of Youthreach and ICT.

I hope that this clarifies the issue for the committee.

Yours sincerely

Laud Hanney
Carol Hanney
Chief Executive

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