NAO STRATEGY 2017-18 TO 2019-20





Our strategy reacts to the challenges that face the public sector:



Resource constraint

Government must meet public service needs with limited resources



Accountability

Clear lines of accountability must be maintained in new commercial delivery models, and as localism and devolution continue



Brexit

A large and uncertain impact to government and the work of the NAO



Digital transformation

Government must be able to use data and technology to deliver services better

To meet the challenges we will:

- develop our digital capability;
- produce more reports on local service delivery;
- deepen our expertise in the strategic issues that departments and local bodies face;
- build our expertise to comment on commercial delivery models;
- invest in our investigative capacity; and
- deepen and widen our influence.

Our work:

- Financial audit: our work provides assurance on public spending, helps strengthen financial management, and adds value by delivering our broader insights from our cross-government perspective.
- VFM: we are adding value through our insights and leveraging our cross-government perspective.
- Local work: we use our powers under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to provide an end-to-end view of policy implementation, informed by user experience and insight.
- Investigations: we produce timely and targeted reports to address priority issues.
- Supporting Parliament: we engage with PAC and Parliament more widely.

Our new work:

- BBC Financial Audit and VFM: Charter to take effect 1 January 2017.
- Bank of England: new VFM responsibilities.
- UK Asset Resolution Limited.
- Brexit & Machinery of Government Changes.

Our ability to influence is critical to our success



We are:

- increasing our types of outputs, tailored to the target audience;
- using digital communication, including social media, as a powerful tool;
- engaging more through external networks; and
- ensuring that we give a consistent message on the important issues.

We are organised to be effective



- · We are organised in clusters that group our people around departments facing similar strategic issues.
- This is crucial to our strategy and maximises the use of shared knowledge and expertise.
- By focusing our resources on the strategic issues shared between departments, we maximise our impact.
- This way of working also has the advantage that it provides autonomy at the right level of our business.

Our people remain our most valuable and important assets



Our skill-development priorities over the next three years are to:

- enhance the digital skills and expertise of NAO people;
- develop and extend the NAO's data analytic capability;
- widen our people's operational experience;
- deepen our expertise in the strategic issues that departments and local bodies face;
- enhance NAO people's influencing skills;
- support NAO people's personal development in leadership and management skills; and
- promote greater collaboration and team working through our Business Improvement Programme and 'way we work' training programme.

We are committed to a diverse and inclusive organisation.