

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Accountable Officer of the Department of Health

Scope

The financial statements

The financial statements include the consolidated financial statements of the economic entity comprising the Department of Health and the entities it controlled at the year's end or from time to time during the year. The financial statements consist of the statement of financial position, statement of financial performance, statement of cash flows, notes to and forming part of the financial statements and certificates given by the Accountable Officer and officer responsible for the financial administration of the Department of Health, for the year ended 30 June 2004.

Accountable Officer's responsibility

The Accountable Officer is responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial statements, the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial statements.

Audit approach

As required by law, an independent audit was conducted in accordance with *QAO Auditing Standards* to enable me to provide an independent opinion whether in all material respects the financial statements present fairly, in accordance with the prescribed requirements, including any mandatory financial reporting requirements as approved by the Treasurer for application in Queensland.

Audit procedures included -

- examining information on a test/sample basis to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements,
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Accountable Officer,
- obtaining written confirmation regarding the material representations made in conjunction with the audit, and
- reviewing the overall presentation of information in the financial statements.

Independence

The *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977* promotes the independence of the Auditor-General and QAO authorised auditors.

The Auditor-General is the auditor of all public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament.

The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which powers are to be exercised.

The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

Audit Opinion

In accordance with section 40 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977* -

- (a) I have received all the information and explanations which I have required; and
- (b) in my opinion -
 - (i) the prescribed requirements in respect of the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
 - (ii) the Statements have been drawn up so as to present a true and fair view, in accordance with the prescribed accounting standards of the transactions of the Department of Health and the economic entity for the financial year 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 and of the financial position as at the end of that year.

L J SCANLAN, FCPA
Auditor-General of Queensland



Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane