

Audit Commission Act 1998

1998 CHAPTER 18

PART III

STUDIES, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND OTHER FUNCTIONS

Studies and related functions

34 Reports on impact of statutory provisions etc

- (1) In addition to the studies referred to in section 33(1), the Commission shall undertake or promote studies designed to enable it to prepare reports as to the impact—
 - (a) of the operation of any particular statutory provision or provisions, or
 - (b) of any directions or guidance given by a Minister of the Crown (whether pursuant to any such provision or otherwise),

on economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of local authority services and of other services provided by bodies subject to audit other than health service bodies, or on the financial management of such bodies.

- (2) The Commission shall publish or otherwise make available its report of the results of any study under this section, and shall send a copy of any such report to the Comptroller and Auditor General.
- (3) Where the Comptroller and Auditor General has received a copy of any such report he may, subject to subsection (4), require the Commission to provide him with any information obtained by it in connection with the preparation of the report, and for that purpose the Commission shall permit any person authorised by him to inspect and make copies of any documents containing such information.
- (4) No information shall be required by the Comptroller and Auditor General under this section in respect of any particular body.
- (5) The Comptroller and Auditor General shall from time to time lay before the House of Commons a report of any matters which, in his opinion, arise out of studies of the Commission under this section and ought to be drawn to the attention of that House.

- (6) Before undertaking or promoting any study under this section the Commission shall consult—
 - (a) the Comptroller and Auditor General;
 - (b) any Minister of the Crown who appears to it to be concerned;
 - (c) such associations of local authorities or other bodies subject to audit as appear to it to be concerned; and
 - (d) such associations of employees as appear to it to be appropriate.