

**Information requested from States parties in relation to achieving the commitments regarding corruption prevention from the UNGASS political declaration.**

The UK approach to preventing corruption includes building a strong legal framework to deter and punish corrupt practices, providing access to preventative tools, increasing transparency measures, and providing access to education and training. The UK does not require technical assistance in the implementation of paragraphs 1 to 22 of the UNGASS political declaration.

Examples of the implementation of paragraphs 1 to 22 of the UNGASS political declaration:

- Published in December 2017, the UK Strategy <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-anti-corruption-strategy-2017-to-2022> established an ambitious longer-term framework to guide UK government efforts to tackle corruption at home and abroad in the period to 2022. The UK is currently developing the successor to the Anti-Corruption Strategy.
- The UK publishes annual updates on the implementation of the Strategy. The Year three Update can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/anti-corruption-strategy-year-3-update>.
- Each central government entity, including departments, agencies, trading funds, non-departmental public bodies and arm's length bodies, has a strong and transparent corporate governance framework which includes a single accounting officer; internal and external audit processes; risk and audit an audit committee; and a management board including independent members.
- Central government entities must publish an audited combined Annual Report and accounts each financial year which presents a true and fair view of income, expenditure, assets, liabilities and asset management strategy.
- The Chancellor of the Exchequer presents the annual national Budget to parliament each year, covering the nation's finances, Government proposals for changes to taxation and forecasts for the economy by the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR). The Budget is published online and measures are contained in the annual Finance Bill which Parliament debates and scrutinises.
- Local authorities are required to publish the number of occasions that they use powers under the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud Regulations or similar powers, the total number of employees undergoing investigations and prosecutions of fraud, the total number of professionally accredited counter fraud specialists, the total amount spent by the authority on the investigation and prosecution of fraud, and the total number of fraud cases investigated. This requirement is within the Local Government Transparency Code enforced by the Local Government Regulations 2015. Here is an example: <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/finance-and-budget/spending/fraud-prevention>.
- The Nolan principles of Public Life <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-7-principles-of-public-life> define the ethical standards expected of public office holders. Published codes of conduct set out the standards expected of Ministers, special advisers and civil servants, and they are also subject to extensive transparency requirements.

- The Civil Service Commission, Committee on Standards in Public Life, Ombudsmen, the Advisory Committee on Business Appointments, and the Cabinet Office all play a role in ensuring the UK government maintains the highest standards of integrity in all areas.
- UK organisations have strong systems which facilitate effective management and control. For the private sector this includes the UK Corporate Governance Code <https://www.frc.org.uk/getattachment/88bd8c45-50ea-4841-95b0-d2f4f48069a2/2018-UK-Corporate-Governance-Code-FINAL.pdf> for the largest listed companies as well as high standards for corporate reporting and audit, which encourage companies to have strong financial controls and make it harder to disguise illicit activity.
- The UK has established a public central register of beneficial ownership information <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/people-with-significant-control-companies-house-register-goes-live>. • The UK is introducing a 'Register of Overseas Entities' to crack down on foreign criminals using UK property to launder money Fact sheet: The Register of Overseas Entities (web accessible) - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))
- The Criminal Finances Act which establishes anti-corruption tools and powers such as Unexplained Wealth Orders <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-finances-act-2017> and <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/22/contents/enacted> it builds on the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/29/> to create a strong legal framework to deter corruption.
- The National Audit Office scrutinises public spending for Parliament and is independent of government and the civil service. The NAO audits the financial accounts of departments and other public bodies, and examines and reports on value for money in public spending <https://www.nao.org.uk>.
- The NCA are participants of the International Anti-Corruption Coordination Centre (IACCC) <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/bribery-corruption-and-sanctions-evasion/international-anti-corruption-centre>
- The UK regularly publishes government transparency data and the 2002 Freedom of Information Act <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/> guarantees access to government data for citizens.