

Scottish Canals

Annual Audit Plan 2023/24



 AUDIT SCOTLAND

Prepared for Scottish Canals

July 2024

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Introduction

Summary of planned audit work

1. This document summarises the work plan for our 2023/24 audit of Scottish Canals. The main elements of the audit include:

- an audit of the financial statements and an opinion on whether they give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement
- an audit opinion on regularity and other statutory information published with the financial statements in the annual report and accounts, including the Performance Report, Governance Statement, and the Remuneration and Staff Report
- consideration of arrangements in relation to wider scope areas: financial management; financial sustainability; vision, leadership and governance; and use of resources to improve outcomes
- providing assurance on the Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) return
- provision of an Independent Auditor's Report expressing opinions on the different elements of the annual report and accounts and an Annual Audit Report setting out conclusions on the wider scope areas.

Respective responsibilities of the auditor and Audited Body

2. The [Code of Audit Practice](#) sets out in detail the respective responsibilities of the auditor and Scottish Canals. Key responsibilities are summarised below.

Auditor responsibilities

3. Our responsibilities as independent auditors are established by the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000 and the Code of Audit Practice (including [supplementary guidance](#)) and guided by the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard.

4. Auditors in the public sector give an independent opinion on the financial statements and other information within the annual report and accounts. We also review and report on the wider scope arrangements in place at Scottish Canals. In doing this, we aim to support improvement and accountability.

Scottish Canals' responsibilities

5. Scottish Canals is responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records and internal controls and preparing financial statements for audit that give a true and fair view. They are also required to produce other reports in the annual report and accounts in accordance with applicable requirements.

6. Scottish Canals has the primary responsibility for ensuring the proper financial stewardship of public funds, compliance with relevant legislation, and establishing effective arrangements for governance, propriety, and regularity that enable them to deliver their objectives.

Communication of fraud or suspected fraud

7. In line with auditing standards, in presenting this plan to the Audit and Risk Committee we seek confirmation from those charged with governance of any instances of actual, suspected, or alleged fraud that should be brought to our attention. Should members of the committee have any such knowledge or concerns relating to the risk of fraud within Scottish Canals, we invite them to communicate this to the appointed auditor for consideration.

Adding Value

8. We aim to add value to Scottish Canals by tailoring audit work to Scottish Canals' circumstances and the audit risks identified, by being constructive and forward looking, by attending meetings of the Audit and Risk Committee and by recommending and encouraging good practice. In so doing, we will help Scottish Canals promote improved standards of governance, better management and decision making, and more effective use of resources.

Annual report and accounts

Introduction

9. The annual report and accounts are an essential part of demonstrating Scottish Canals' stewardship of resources and its performance in the use of those resources.

10. As part of our audit we perform an audit of the financial statements, consider other information within the annual report and accounts, and express a number of audit opinions in an Independent Auditor's Report in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) in the UK, Practice Note 10 from the Public Audit Forum which interprets the ISAs for the public sector, and guidance from Audit Scotland.

11. We focus our work on the areas of highest risk. As part of our planning process, we perform a risk assessment highlighting the audit risks relating to each of the main financial systems relevant to the production of the financial statements.

Materiality

12. The concept of materiality is applied by auditors in planning and performing the audit, and in evaluating the effect of any uncorrected misstatements on the financial statements. I am required to plan my audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. The assessment of what is material is a matter of professional judgement over both the amount and the nature of the misstatement.

Materiality levels for the 2023/24 audit

13. We assess materiality at different levels as described in [Exhibit 1](#). The materiality values for Scottish Canals are set out in [Exhibit 1](#).

Exhibit 1

2023/24 Materiality levels for Scottish Canals

Materiality	Amount
Planning materiality – This is the figure we calculate to assess the overall impact of audit adjustments on the financial statements. Materiality has been set based on our assessment of the needs of the users of the financial statements and the nature of Scottish Canals' operations. For the year ended 31 March 2024, we have set our materiality at 2% of non-current assets excluding investments, based on the audited financial statements for 2022/23.	£9.8 million
Performance materiality – This acts as a trigger point. If the aggregate of errors identified during the financial statements audit exceeds performance materiality,	£5.4 million

this could indicate that further audit procedures are required. Using our professional judgement, we have assessed performance materiality at 55% of planning materiality.

Reporting threshold (i.e. clearly trivial) – We are required to report to those charged with governance on all unadjusted misstatements more than the 'reporting threshold' amount.	£0.5 million
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Source: Audit Scotland

Lower specific materiality levels for the 2023/24 audit

14. In addition to overall materiality, we can set lower, specific materiality levels for certain classes of transaction, account balances or disclosures where lesser amounts could influence the decisions of the users of the financial statements.

15. The asset position of Scottish Canals is a significantly higher value than the annual operating expenditure. We recognise that income and expenditure streams of Scottish Canals are likely to be of interest to the users of the financial statements and we set specific materiality levels as shown in [Exhibit 2](#).

Exhibit 2

Lower specific account area materiality levels for Scottish Canals

Materiality	Amount
Specific materiality – This has been set at 2% of total operating expenditure based on the audited financial statements for 2022/23	£668 thousand
Specific performance materiality - Using our professional judgement, we have assessed specific performance materiality at 55% of specific materiality	£367 thousand

Significant risks of material misstatement to the financial statements

16. Our risk assessment draws on our cumulative knowledge of Scottish Canals, its major transaction streams, key systems of internal control, and risk management processes. It is informed by our discussions with management, meetings with internal audit, attendance at committees, and a review of supporting information.

17. Audit risk assessment is an iterative and dynamic process. Our assessment of risks set out in this plan may change as more information and evidence becomes available during the progress of the audit. Where such changes occur, we will advise management, and where relevant, report them to those charged with governance.

18. Based on our risk assessment process, we identified the following significant risks of material misstatement to the financial statements. These are risks which have the greatest impact on our planned audit procedures. [Exhibit 3](#) summarises

the nature of the risks, management's sources of assurance over these risks, and the further audit procedures we plan to perform to gain assurance over the risks.

Exhibit 3

2023/24 Significant risks of material misstatement to the financial statements

Significant risk of material misstatement	Management's sources of assurance	Planned audit response
<p>1. Risk of material misstatement due to fraud caused by management override of controls</p> <p>As stated in ISA (UK) 240, management is in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of management's ability to override controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively.</p>	<p>Owing to the nature of this risk, assurances from management are not applicable in this instance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the design and implementation of controls over journal entry processing. • Make inquiries of individuals involved in the financial reporting process about inappropriate or unusual activity relating to the processing of journal entries and other adjustments. • Test journals at the year-end and post-closing entries and focus on significant risk areas. • Consider the need to test journal entries and other adjustments throughout the year. • Evaluate significant transactions outside the normal course of business. • Assess the adequacy of controls in place for identifying and disclosing related party relationship and transactions in the financial statements. • Assess any changes to the methods and underlying assumptions used to prepare accounting estimates compared to the prior year. • Substantive testing of income and expenditure transactions around the year-end to confirm they are accounted for in the correct financial year. • Focussed testing of accounting accruals and prepayments.
<p>2. Estimation in the valuation of canal infrastructure</p> <p>There is a significant degree of subjectivity in the valuation of the canal infrastructure (non-current</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External audit recommendations from the prior year are being taken forward, with Indexation sources remaining the same as the prior year. Additional reconciliations will 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the competence, capabilities, and objectivity of the professional valuers. • Review any changes to the contracts or to the scope of work for the valuers. • Review the information provided to the valuers to assess for completeness. • Critically assess the application of indices and review the revaluation accounting

Significant risk of material misstatement	Management's sources of assurance	Planned audit response
<p>assets). Valuations are based on specialist and management assumptions, and changes in these can result in material changes to valuations.</p> <p>All non-current assets are revalued at least once every five years. (Network assets and investment properties are valued annually.) Values may also change year on year, and it is important that Scottish Canals ensures the financial statements accurately reflect the value of its assets.</p>	<p>occur between Financial Statements, TB and FAR, and additional internal reconciliations within FAR itself. There are updates to formulae which will also be checked internally by SC finance team members. More information on assets additions and disposals have been incorporated from the project management teams across the business to provide additional evidence which has improved since the previous year.</p>	<p>entries to ensure the figures provided by the external valuer are accurately recorded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the reconciliation between the financial statements, asset register and valuers' reports. Review the fixed asset register to confirm correct formulas have been applied and the fixed asset register has been updated in line with the findings reported in the 2022-23 Annual Audit Report. Review management's involvement in the valuation process to assess if appropriate oversight has occurred. Review management's assessment of the fair value of assets not revalued in 2023/24 and assess the appropriateness of any assumptions. Review management's approach to assessing asset impairment Critically assess the adequacy of disclosures regarding the assumptions in relation to the valuation of land and buildings.
<p>3. Presumed risk of fraud over income recognition</p> <p>As set out in International Standard on Auditing (UK) 240, there is a presumed risk of fraud over the recognition of revenue.</p> <p>Scottish Canals generates income from multiple commercial sources including retail, totalling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accrued income is based on detailed analysis of the ECR system, or relevant invoices. A reconciliation between the balance sheet and TB and financial statements will also be provided. Grant income has been reviewed to assess grant outstanding conditions, with grant details and agreements held within finance and values and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform a walkthrough of the controls in place over point-of-sale income. Review the accounting policies relevant to revenue recognition. Test income transactions at the year end with a focus on material income streams, to confirm completeness, accuracy and cut-off. Review the judgements and estimates made by management when recognising accrued and deferred income at the year end. Sample testing of deferred capital grants to supporting documentation and conditions to ensure there are significant conditions that have not been met.

Significant risk of material misstatement	Management's sources of assurance	Planned audit response
<p>approximately £10 million.</p> <p>Scottish Canals has also deferred significant capital grant income to be recognised in future years. This income should only be deferred if there are significant grant conditions that have not been met.</p> <p>Errors were identified in the accounting treatment for deferred capital grants last year.</p>	<p>conditions recorded in a register.</p>	
<p>4. VAT liability calculation</p> <p>In the previous year, Scottish Canals was concluding negotiations with HMRC on the calculation of its VAT liability. A £1.6m contingent liability for a potential penalty as at 31 March 2023 was disclosed in the financial statements.</p> <p>The VAT calculation method provided by KPMG has now been agreed with HMRC. The 2023/24 position, including any requirement to return funding to the Scottish</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The calculation of the VAT liability to 31 March 2023 has been reviewed by HMRC. This has included line by line analysis of VAT transactions from the system. • A walk-through of the detailed analysis can be provided together with email correspondence between Scottish Canals / VITA VAT consultants, and HMRC. • A meeting will be held on 26 July to finalise this review, and then the details of the year ended 31 March 2024 will be subject to HMRC review also over the course of August in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review correspondence between HMRC and Scottish Canals regarding the VAT liability. • Assess the completeness and accuracy of the provision/creditor balances as at 31 March 2024. • Our wider scope work on financial management will consider the impact of changes in VAT accounting on future financial projections and planning.

Significant risk of material misstatement	Management's sources of assurance	Planned audit response
<p>Government, is still to be calculated and included in the financial statements.</p>	<p>order to determine its accuracy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of Board papers will also support this assessment. 	
<p>5. Corporation tax calculations</p> <p>We established last year that corporation tax calculations had incorrectly included expenditure funded from government grant in aid, which is out of the scope of corporation tax. Accumulated tax losses brought forward meant that there was no liability for Corporation Tax in 2022/23.</p> <p>An agreement with HMRC is needed on the required treatment for 2023/24 and future years. The 2023/24 position is still to be calculated and included in the financial statements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An agreement on Corporation Tax has not yet been made, however will be proposed in July 2024. There is a risk this work will not be completed before the audit. • Detailed profit and loss analysis has been prepared, with external consultancy support regarding the possible options for calculating Corporation Tax. • These will be able to be fully reviewed by audit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine management's consideration of calculation options and subsequent reflection in financial statements. • Review agreement between HMRC and Scottish Canals on the required treatment for 2023/24 • Our wider scope work on financial management will review Scottish Canals' financial projections, which should take account of the additional corporation tax payable once accumulated losses are extinguished or expired.

Source: Audit Scotland

19. In line with Practice Note 10: *Audit of financial statements and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom*, as most public-sector bodies are net spending bodies, the risk of material misstatement due to fraud related to expenditure recognition may in some cases be greater than the risk relating to revenue recognition.

20. We have rebutted this risk as we consider that Scottish Canals does not manage or administer significant grant or welfare payments and the majority of transactions are exchange contracts for goods and services. We believe that there is limited incentive and opportunity for fraud in expenditure and that this does not present a material risk. We have not, therefore, incorporated specific work into our audit plan in this area over and above our standard audit procedures. However, these standard procedures do recognise the risk of management override of controls.

Regularity

21. Auditors are required by the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000 to report on whether expenditure and income were incurred or applied, in all material respects, in accordance with applicable enactments and guidance issued by the Scottish Ministers (generally referred to as the regularity opinion).

22. We will adopt an integrated audit approach to meeting this responsibility and use work on the audit of the financial statements supplemented by additional testing for any irregular transactions, where necessary.

Wider Scope and Best Value

Introduction

23. Reflecting the fact that public money is involved, public audit is planned and undertaken from a wider perspective than in the private sector. The Code of Audit Practice sets out the four areas that frame the wider scope of public sector audit and requires auditors to consider and conclude on the effectiveness and appropriateness of the arrangements in place for each wider scope area in audited bodies.

24. In summary, the four wider scope areas are:

- **Financial management** – this means having sound budgetary processes. We will consider the arrangements to secure sound financial management, including the strength of the financial management culture, accountability, and arrangements to prevent and detect fraud, error, and other irregularities.
- **Financial sustainability** – we will look ahead to consider whether the body is planning effectively to continue to deliver services, also comment on financial sustainability in the medium (two to five years) to longer term (longer than five years).
- **Vision, leadership, and governance** – we conclude on the clarity of plans in place to deliver the vision, strategy, and priorities adopted by Scottish Canals. We also consider the effectiveness of the governance arrangements to support delivery.
- **Use of resources to improve outcomes** – we will consider how Scottish Canals demonstrates economy, efficiency, and effectiveness through the use of financial and other resources.

Wider scope risks

25. We have identified significant risks in the wider scope areas set out in [Exhibit 4](#). This exhibit sets out the risks, management's sources of assurance for the risks, and the further audit procedures we plan to perform to gain assurances over the risks.

Exhibit 4**2023/24 wider scope risks**

Description of risk	Management's sources of assurance	Planned audit response
<p>1. Financial sustainability: medium term financial planning required</p> <p>Scottish Canals' Corporate Plan 2023-28 sets out its vision, priorities and future plans. There are further strategies to support delivery of the Corporate Plan but some are still in draft (e.g. Investment Strategy waiting for Scottish Government approval) and there is not a medium-term financial plan to demonstrate how the organisation will deliver its priorities and remain within its resource constraints.</p> <p>Scottish Canals' risk register highlights a very high residual risk regarding the affordability of maintenance and repair of the canals network.</p> <p>It is critical that Scottish Canals has robust medium term financial planning that underpins the delivery of the organisation's priorities and ensures its financial sustainability.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning is still in development. A six-year high-level projection will be prepared in August for review, however additional workforce planning will not be completed until after the audit, and full VAT and Corporation Tax scenarios have not, as yet been prepared. A high level investment strategy, supported by the investment committee, is in operation, however resources to take forward future revenue development are limited, and Transport Scotland has not supported this investment strategy, nor supported any freedom to spend investment funds in the new draft Framework Document as yet. 	<p>We will review Scottish Canals' medium to longer-term financial planning, including any scenario planning to demonstrate how the organisation will operate in the context of uncertain future funding.</p> <p>We will continue to develop our understanding of Scottish Canals' forward planning arrangement including workforce plans, financial plans, asset management plans and how these align to support delivery of the Corporate Plan.</p>
<p>Financial management: non-current assets valuation programme</p> <p>The Government Financial Reporting Manual (FRm) requires that non-current assets are revalued at least once every 5 years. The most recent valuation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been no substantial changes to the methodology, apart from a review of lives and review of indexation. Ernst & Young are supporting the internal valuation update as a one-off exercise to ensure the processes and procedures that Scottish 	<p>We will review the asset valuation methodology and review Scottish Canals' arrangements for ensuring that staff will be adequately trained to apply the methodology in-house for future years' valuations.</p>

Description of risk	Management's sources of assurance	Planned audit response
<p>of non-current assets was undertaken as at 31 March 2022, with indexation applied in 2022/23. This was the first time that Scottish Canals had to implement a FReM-compliant asset valuation. Scottish Canals is still in the process of developing a methodology with EY for future asset valuations. This was due in March 2024; now expected August 2024.</p> <p>Without a robust methodology in place, financial management arrangements are not adequate to ensure FReM compliance and appropriate asset values in future years' financial statements.</p>	<p>Canals follow are consistent with the overall valuation model set up during the 2022/23 financial year. Training has been provided by RICS valuers on the indexation method by multiple members of finance staff to ensure there is no single point of expertise.</p>	

Source: Audit Scotland

26. Our planned work on the wider scope areas is risk based and proportionate, and in addition to local risks, we may be asked by the Auditor General for Scotland to consider specific risk areas which are impacting the public sector as a whole. We have not been asked to consider specific risks for 2023/24 audits, but we will remain cognisant of challenges identified in prior years such as climate change and cyber security.

Duty of Best Value

27. [Ministerial Guidance to Accountable Officers](#) for public bodies and the [Scottish Public Finance Manual](#) (SPFM) explain that Accountable Officers have a specific responsibility to ensure that arrangements have been made to secure Best Value. We will be carrying out a high-level review to confirm that such arrangements are in place within Scottish Canals.

Reporting arrangements, timetable, and audit fee

Reporting arrangements

28. Matters arising from our audit will be reported on a timely basis and will include agreed action plans. Draft reports will be shared with the relevant officers to confirm factual accuracy.

29. We will provide:

- an Independent Auditor's Report to Scottish Canals the Scottish Parliament, and the Auditor General for Scotland setting out our opinions on the annual report and accounts
- Scottish Canals and the Auditor General for Scotland with an Annual Audit Report containing observations and recommendations on significant matters which have arisen during the audit and conclusions on wider scope areas.

30. The Auditor General for Scotland sets a target reporting date of 31 October for the audit of Non-Departmental Public Bodies, with due regard to the statutory deadline of 31 December 2024 for laying the accounts. The 2022/23 audit was concluded in March 2024 due to the extensive audit work required to resolve the identified risks, including the previous auditor's disclaimer of opinion, and support unmodified audit opinions on the financial statements. We will therefore not meet the October target for the 2023/24 audit. [Exhibit 5](#) outlines our expected target dates for the 2023/24 audit.

Exhibit 5 2023/24 Audit outputs

Audit Output	Target date	Audit and Risk Committee Date
Annual Audit Plan	18 July 2024	25 July 2024
Independent Auditor's Report	TBC	TBC
Annual Audit Report	TBC	TBC

Source: Audit Scotland



31. All Annual Audit Plans and the outputs detailed in [Exhibit 5](#), and any other outputs on matters of public interest, will be published on our website: www.audit-scotland.gov.uk.

Timetable

32. To support an efficient audit, it is critical that the timetable for producing the annual report and accounts for audit is achieved. We have included a proposed timetable for the audit at [Exhibit 6](#) that has been discussed with management.

33. We will continue to work closely with management to identify the most efficient approach as appropriate and will keep timeframes and logistics for the completion of the audit under review. Progress will be discussed with management and finance officers over the course of the audit.

Exhibit 6 Proposed annual report and accounts timetable

 Key stage	 Provisional Date
Consideration of the unaudited annual report narrative by those charged with governance	25 July 2024
Latest submission date for the receipt of the unaudited annual report and accounts with complete working papers package.	30 September 2024
Latest date for final clearance meeting with the Finance & Business Services Director	TBC
Issue of draft Letter of Representation and proposed Independent Auditor's Report	TBC
Agreement of audited and unsigned annual report and accounts	TBC
Issue of Annual Audit Report to those charged with governance.	TBC
Signed Independent Auditor's Report	TBC
Latest date for WGA assurance	To be confirmed

Source: Audit Scotland

Audit fee

34. In determining the audit fee, we have taken account of the risk exposure of Scottish Canals and the planned management assurances in place. Fee levels are also impacted by inflation which increases the cost of audit delivery. The proposed audit fee for 2023/24 is £100,700 (£95,000 2022/23). The fee reflects the extent of audit work required to address the identified risks, including

ensuring that misstatements identified in the 2022/23 audit are fully addressed and do not recur in the 2023/24 financial statements.

35. In setting the fee for 2023/24, we have assumed that Scottish Canals has effective governance arrangements and will prepare a comprehensive and accurate set of annual report and accounts for audit in line with the agreed timetable for the audit. The audit fee assumes there will be no major change in respect of the scope of the audit during the year and where our audit cannot proceed as planned, a supplementary fee may be levied.

Other matters

Internal audit

36. It is the responsibility of Scottish Canals to establish adequate internal audit arrangements. Audit Glasgow provides the internal audit function at Scottish Canals. We have reviewed the internal audit plan as part of our planning process.

37. While we are not planning to place formal reliance on the work of internal audit in 2023/24, we will review internal audit reports and assess the impact of the findings on our financial statements and wider scope audit responsibilities.

External audit team

38. There has been a change in the engagement lead for the Scottish Canals audit this year following the retirement of Audit Director Brian Howarth. The engagement lead (i.e. the appointed auditor) from the 2023/24 audit is Rachel Browne, Audit Director. The incoming and outgoing engagement leads have held handover discussions to ensure a smooth transition. More information on the external audit team is given at [Appendix 1](#).

Independence and objectivity

39. We are independent of Scottish Canals in accordance with relevant ethical requirements, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard. This standard imposes stringent rules to ensure the independence and objectivity of auditors.

40. Audit Scotland has robust arrangements in place to ensure compliance with Ethical Standard including an annual *'fit and proper'* declaration for all members of staff. The arrangements are overseen by the Executive Director of Innovation and Quality, who serves as Audit Scotland's Ethics Partner.

41. The Ethical Standard requires auditors to communicate any relationships that may affect the independence and objectivity of the audit team. We are not aware of any such relationships pertaining to the audit of Scottish Canals.

Audit Quality

42. Audit Scotland is committed to the consistent delivery of high-quality public audit. Audit quality requires ongoing attention and improvement to keep pace with external and internal changes. A document explaining the arrangements for providing assurance on the delivery of high-quality audits is available from the [Audit Scotland website](#).

43. The International Standards on Quality Management (ISQM) applicable to Audit Scotland for 2023/24 audits are:

- ISQM (UK) 1 which deals with an audit organisation's responsibilities to design, implement and operate a system of quality management (SoQM) for audits. Our SoQM consists of a variety of components, such as: our governance arrangements and culture to support audit quality, compliance with ethical requirements, ensuring we are dedicated to high-quality audit through our engagement performance and resourcing arrangements, and ensuring we have robust quality monitoring arrangements in place. Audit Scotland carries out an annual evaluation of our SoQM and has concluded that we comply with this standard.
- ISQM (UK) 2 which sets out arrangements for conducting engagement quality reviews, which are performed by senior management not involved in the audit to review significant judgements and conclusions reached by the audit team, and the appropriateness of proposed audit opinions of high-risk audit engagements.

44. To monitor quality at an individual audit level, Audit Scotland also carries out internal quality reviews of a sample of audits. Additionally, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales (ICAEW) carries out independent quality reviews.

45. Actions to address deficiencies identified by internal and external quality reviews are included in a rolling Quality Improvement Action Plan which is used to support continuous improvement. Progress with implementing planned actions is regularly monitored by Audit Scotland's Quality and Ethics Committee.

46. Audit Scotland may periodically seek your views on the quality of our service provision. The team would also welcome feedback more informally at any time.

Appendix 1: Your audit team

47. The audit team involved in the audit of Scottish Canals have significant experience in public sector audit.

Rachel Browne CPFA
Audit Director
rbrowne@audit-scotland.gov.uk

Rachel has over 25 years of public sector auditing experience in central government, local government and NHS audits. She is a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

Stephen O'Hagan CPFA
Senior Audit Manager
sohagan@audit-scotland.gov.uk

Stephen has over 27 years of public sector auditing experience working for Audit Scotland and its predecessor organisation, covering central government, local government, NHS and further education college audits. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

Rosemarie Khan
Senior Auditor
rkhan@audit-scotland.gov.uk

Rosemarie is a member of the Association of Chartered Certificate Accountants. Prior to joining Audit Scotland, she worked for Audit Wales for 20 years and has audited central government, local authorities and NHS bodies. Rosemarie will continue to be the key point of contact for day-to-day audit work

48. The local audit team is supported by a specialist technical accounting team, all of whom have significant experience of public bodies and work with accounting regulatory bodies.

Scottish Canals

Annual Audit Plan 2023/24

Audit Scotland's published material is available for download on the website in a number of formats. For information on our accessibility principles, please visit:

www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/accessibility

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Audit Scotland, 4th Floor, 102 West Port, Edinburgh EH3 9DN
Phone: 0131 625 1500 Email: info@audit-scotland.gov.uk
www.audit-scotland.gov.uk