

Purpose

1. This report provides an update on the engagements and work of the Chair of the Accounts Commission.

Engagement and Commission business

2. Details of my engagements and work since the start of December are as follows:

Audit Scotland engagement

- 17 December – Housing benefit audit discussion
- Regular meetings with Vicki Bibby, Chief Operating Officer.
- Regular meetings with Helena Gray, Controller of Audit
- Regular meetings with Alison Cummings, Executive Director of Performance Audit and Best Value

Commission business

- Regular meetings with Sarah Watters, Secretary to the Commission, Lee Ovens, Executive Assistant to the Commission and Joe Chapman, Policy Manager, Accounts Commission.
- 12 December – Accounts Commission meeting.
- 12 December – Accounts Commission and Audit Scotland Board joint session.

External Engagement

- 10 December – meeting with Ellen Leaver, Interim Director for Local Government

Forthcoming activities

3. My forthcoming engagement activities include:
 - 09 January – Commission members appraisals.
 - 10 January – Meeting with Stephen Boyle, Auditor General for Scotland
 - 10 January – Accounts Commission prep session with Andrew Burns, Accounts Commission, Sarah Watters, Secretary to the Commission, Joe Chapman, Policy Manager to Accounts Commission, and Lee Ovens, Executive Assistant to the Accounts Commission.
 - 15 January – Chief Operating Officer's keynote 'Empowering every voice - The path to diversity, equality and inclusion in the workplace'

- 16 January – Accounts Commission meeting
- 28 January – Audit Scotland Board meeting
- 30 January – COSLA Innovating, Developing and Transforming Special Interest Group
- Commission Member Appraisals – across February and March 2025

Conclusion

4. The Commission is invited to:

- Note this report and enquire about any areas of interest.