ACCOUNTS COMMISSION

Chair's update

Item 7

Chair of the Accounts Commission

Meeting date:
05 November 2026

Purpose

1. This report provides an update on the engagements and work of the Chair of the Accounts Commission since the Commission met last and upcoming engagement before the next meeting.

Recommendations

2. The Commission is invited to note this report and enquire about any areas of interest.

Engagement and Commission business

Commission business

- Regular meetings with Sarah Watters (Director for the Commission), Helena Gray (Controller of Audit) and Lee Ovens (Executive Assistant)
- 08 October – Audit Scotland and Accounts Commission budget 2027/28 engagement with Commission budget sub-group
- 28 October – Local Government Financial Bulletin and Councils at a Glance sponsors discussion with Derek Yule (Commission member), Helena Gray and Performance Audit and Best Value (PABV) colleagues
- 29 October – Annual Audit Planning Conference
- 02 November – Accounts Commission preparatory session with Andrew Burns (Deputy Chair) and Commission support team

Audit Scotland engagement

- Regular meeting with Stephen Boyle (Auditor General)

Forthcoming activities

- Regular meetings with Sarah Watters, Helena Gray and Lee Ovens, and with Stephen Boyle, Vicki Bibby (Chief Operating Officer) and Alison Cumming (Executive Director of PABV)
- 10 November – Audit Scotland Audit Committee and Remuneration and Human Resources Committee meetings

- 23 November – East Dunbartonshire Council section 102 report media day
- 23 November – Audit Scotland Board preparatory meeting with Sarah Watters and Helena Gray
- 24 November – Regular (two-monthly) meeting with Catriona MacKean (Deputy Director for Local Government at Scottish Government)
- 25 November – Accounts Commission members' forum with Kevin Rush (Executive Director of Economic Growth for Glasgow City Region)
- 25 November – Midlothian Council Best Value report media day (TBC)
- 26 November – Audit Scotland Board meetings
- 08 December – Best Value follow up visit to West Dunbartonshire Council
- 09 December (TBC) – Integration Joint Board roundtable discussion (as financial reporting sponsor) alongside Derek Yule, Helena Gray and PABV colleagues

Conclusion

The Commission is invited to:

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