

Chair's update

Item 7

Chair of the Accounts Commission

Meeting date:
6 November 2025

Purpose

1. This report provides an update on the engagements and work of the Chair of the Accounts Commission since the Commission met last in October.

Engagement and Commission business

Audit Scotland engagement

- 30 October: 2025 Annual Audit Planning Conference (including with firms)
- Regular meetings with Vicki Bibby (Chief Operating Officer), Helena Gray (Controller of Audit); Alison Cumming (Executive Director of Performance Audit and Best Value)

Commission business

- 22 October: Local Government Overview – Culture and leisure spotlight report media day
- 27 October: North Ayrshire Council Best Value report media day
- 05 November: Members' training – Support for committee appearances
- Regular meetings with Sarah Watters (Director for the Commission) and Lee Ovens (Executive Assistant)
- Six-monthly 'check-in' meetings with Commission members

External engagement

- 15 October: introductory meeting with Joe Griffin (Permanent Secretary, Scottish Government)

Forthcoming activities

2. My forthcoming engagement activities include:

- 10 November: Audit Scotland Risk Deep Dive session on data analytics and AI

- 11 November: Audit Scotland Audit Committee and Remuneration and Human Resources Committee (Remco) meetings
- 18 November: bi-monthly catch up with Catriona MacKean (Deputy Director for Local Government, Scottish Government)
- 25 November: Audit Scotland Board meeting
- 25 November: Future Public Audit Model 'Sounding Board' meeting
- 26 November: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar section 102 report media day
- Regular catch ups with Helena Gray, Sarah Watters, Lee Ovens, Vicki Bibby, Alison Cumming, and Stephen Boyle (Auditor General)

Conclusion

3. The Commission is invited to:

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