

MEETING: 10 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT BY: CONTROLLER OF AUDIT

CONTROLLER OF AUDIT'S UPDATE REPORT

Purpose

1. This report provides an update on the engagements of Controller of Audit.

Engagement

2. My engagements in the period from 13 to 31 August have been as follows:
 - **August** – Scottish Leaders Forum Strategic Leadership Group meetings.
 - **18 August** – Scottish Leaders Forum Engagement Group. Produce proposals for future engagement activities to engage with wider forum on renewal and leadership in the current Covid and post-Covid context, to bring senior leaders together, and guiding focus of the NPF.
 - **31 August** – Scottish Leaders Forum Accountability & Incentives Action Group. Meeting to discuss the focus and scope of what the Action Group's work should be now as we recover and renew following COVID.
 - **14 August** – The Promise Fund. Event to discuss the development approach to drive system change and service redesign aligned to the implementation of The Promise for Scotland's most vulnerable children and families, following initial investment by the Scottish Government of £4m.
 - **17 August** – Audit Firms Partner Meeting. Discussion around working practices, online and remote auditing and the Annual Planning Guidance.
 - **19 August** – Fiona Lees, Chief Executive East Ayrshire Council. Intention to retire in 2021.
 - **25 August** – Strategic Scrutiny Group.
 - **28 August** – Local Government & Communities Committee. Briefing on Local Government Overview.

Other matters

3. I have also been involved in a campaign of Audit Director recruitment for Audit Scotland.

Forthcoming engagement

4. My forthcoming engagement activities include:
 - **14 September** – The Corra Foundation, People in Place.
 - **01 October** – SOLACE Branch session. Update briefing to members with Elma Murray.
 - **05 October** – Community Planning Improvement Board meeting.

Conclusion

5. The Commission is invited to note this report.

Fraser McKinlay
Controller of Audit
27 August 2020