

MEETING: 9 JUNE 2022

REPORT BY: INTERIM CONTROLLER OF AUDIT

INTERIM CONTROLLER OF AUDIT UPDATE REPORT

Purpose

1. This report provides an update on my engagement activity during May 2022.

Engagement

2. Please note below my engagements in May:

- **2 May** – Quarterly engagement meeting with Andrew Kerr, Chair, Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE).
- **4 May** – Quarterly engagement meeting with Sally Loudon, Chief Executive, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA).
- **5 May** – Shetland Best Value Assurance Report (BVAR) emerging messages discussion with the team.
- **6 May** – Monthly engagement meeting with Paul Reilly, Secretary to the Commission.
- **6 May** – Bi-monthly engagement meeting with Communications Advisor.
- **10 May** – Angus BVAR final report meeting with the team.
- **12 May** – Accounts Commission meeting.
- **12 May** – Northern Ireland Audit Office (NIAO) extraordinary audit of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council. Virtual attendance at an update meeting following previous meetings to discuss the draft audit report.
- **16 May** – Scotland's financial response to Covid-19 post clearance meeting with the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS) and sponsors (Sophie Flemig and Sheila Gunn).
- **16 May** – Quarterly United Kingdom and Ireland (UK&I) Public Audit Forum meeting: topics discussed were embedding 'user voice' and user/client/citizen experiences and outcomes in audit work and audit arrangements for UK levelling up funds.
- **18 May** – Monthly catch up with the Correspondence team.
- **18 May** – Regular six-monthly engagement meeting with Catriona MacLean, Deputy Director, Public Service Reform, Scottish Government.
- **19 May** – Meeting with Paul Reilly to discuss the Best Value (BV) approach and future reporting to the BV Working Group.

- **23 May** – Child poverty draft output discussion with the AGS and sponsors (Andrew Burns and Sophie Flemig).
- **24 May** – Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (CnES) BVAR emerging messages discussion with the team.
- **25 May** – Moray BVAR post project review meeting.
- **26 May** – Financial Audit and Assurance Committee (FAAC) and Performance Audit Committee (PAC) meetings.
- **26 May** – Sistema Scotland Evaluation Advisory Board meeting – first meeting with newly formed Advisory Board.

Forthcoming activities

3. My upcoming engagements in June include:

- **2 June** – Further meeting with Paul Reilly to discuss the BV approach and future reporting to the BV Working Group (follow up to 19 May 2022 meeting).
- **6 June** – Monthly catch up with Bill Moyes, Chair of the Commission, and Paul Reilly.
- **8 June** – Bi-monthly engagement meeting with Tim McKay as Chair, FAAC.
- **8 June** – Regular catch up meeting with Audit Scotland colleagues leading on the BV approach to councils and Integration Joint Boards (IJBs) with Fiona Mitchell-Knight, Audit Director, Carol Calder, Senior Manager, and Leigh Johnston, Senior Manager, Performance Audit and Best Value (PABV).
- **8 June** – Preparatory session with Bill Moyes, Local Government Overview (LGO) teams and Communications Advisor for the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee evidence session on the LGO/Financial LGO reports on 21 June 2022.
- **9 June** – Accounts Commission meeting.
- **10 June** – Shetland BVAR draft report discussion with the team.
- **20 June** – Additional preparatory session with Bill Moyes, LGO teams and Communications Advisor for the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee evidence session on the LGO/Financial LGO reports on 21 June 2022.
- **20 June** – Joint Work Programme update meeting with AGS, Accounts Commission Chair, Interim Deputy Chair and Secretary and the team.
- **21 June** – Attending the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee evidence session on the LGO/Financial LGO reports alongside Bill Moyes and the LGO teams.
- **22 June** – Quarterly engagement meeting with Sarah Gadsden, Chief Executive, Improvement Service.
- **23 June** – Monthly catch up with the Correspondence team.

- **27 June** – Adult Mental Health scope/ issues and investigations (I&I) discussion with AGS, Commission sponsors (Bill Moyes and Christine Lester) and the team.
- **28 June** – Meeting with BV Working Group.

Antony Clark
Interim Controller of Audit
25 May 2022