

MEETING: 8 SEPTEMBER 2022

REPORT BY: CHAIR OF ACCOUNTS COMMISSION

CHAIR'S UPDATE REPORT

Purpose

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

Engagement and Audit Scotland business

2. The engagements and work in the period of 1 August to 31 August have been as follows:

Audit Scotland Board and Committee meetings

- 18 August – Audit Scotland Board strategic session.

Audit Scotland engagement

- 3 August – Monthly catch up with Stephen Boyle, Auditor General for Scotland and Accountable Officer, Audit Scotland.
- 10 August – Monthly catch up with Alan Alexander, Audit Scotland Board Chair.
- 10 August – Partnership Working discussion with Gayle Fitzpatrick, Corporate Governance Manager.

External engagement

- 2 August – Meeting to discuss Covid recovery with Andrew Connal and Simon Mair of the Scottish Government and Paul Reilly, Secretary to the Commission.
- 22 August – Meeting with Ariane Burgess MSP, Local Government Spokesperson for the Green Party, accompanied by Paul Reilly.
- 23 August – Catch up with Sally Loudon, Chief Executive, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and Paul Reilly.
- 30 August – Scottish Commission for Public Audit (SCPA) informal business planning day with Audit Scotland Board members.

3. Commission business has been as follows:

- Regular catch ups with Paul Reilly and Jillian Elgin, Executive Assistant to the Commission.
- 1 August – Meeting to discuss Controller of Audit recruitment with Gatenby Sanderson.
- 2 August – Accounts Commission shortlisting meeting for member recruitment.

- 10 August – Strategic Scrutiny Group discussion with Tim McKay, Interim Deputy Chair, Paul Reilly and Carol Calder, Audit Director, Performance Audit and Best Value.
- 11 August – Accounts Commission meeting.
- 16 August – Communications Group catch up with Simon Ebbett, Communications Manager, Joanna Mansell, Communication Adviser, Paul Reilly, and Jillian Elgin.
- 17 August – Controller of Audit Interviews with Andy Cowie and Geraldine Wooley, Commission members.
- 23 August – Shetland media preparation with Joanna Mansell, Mark MacPherson, Audit Director and Zoe McGuire, Audit Manager, Performance Audit and Best Value.
- 24 August – Shetland media interviews.
- 25 August – Financial Audit and Assurance Committee (FAAC) meeting.
- 25 August – Performance Audit Committee (PAC) meeting.
- 26, 29 and 30 August – Accounts Commission member interviews.

4. Other areas of work have included:

- The Commission Change Programme
- Reviewing National Care Service Call for Views consultation response.
- Preparation for Controller of Audit and Commission member interviews.

Forthcoming activities

5. My forthcoming engagement activities include:

- 1 September – Accounts Commission member interviews.
- 5 September – Adult mental health team catch up.
- 6 September – Communications group meeting.
- 6 September – Forward planning meeting.
- 6 September – Catch up with Tim McKay
- 6 September – Introductory meeting with Vicki Bibby, new Chief Operating Officer, Audit Scotland.
- 7 September – Introductory meeting with Gillian Martin, Convener, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee.
- 7 September – Introductory meeting with Kenneth Gibson, Convener, Finance and Public Administration Committee.
- 8 September – Accounts Commission meeting.

Conclusion

6. The Commission is invited to:
 - a) note this report and enquire about any areas of interest
 - b) consider whether there are any changes that they would wish to see to the format and content of the report for the future.

William Moyes
Chair
31 August 2022