

Minutes

Performance Audit Committee
Thursday 27 April 2023, 10.45am
Online via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Christine Lester
Andrew Burns
Sophie Flemig
Sheila Gunn

Other Commission members in attendance:

William Moyes
Tim McKay
Malcolm Bell
Jennifer Henderson
Ruth MacLeod

Apologies:

There were no apologies.

In attendance:

Antony Clark, Executive Director of Performance Audit and Best Value (PABV)
Blyth Deans, Interim Secretary
Helena Gray, Controller of Audit
David Love, Senior Auditor, PABV (item 5)
Jillian Matthew, Senior Manager, PABV (item 5)
Bernadette Milligan, Audit Manager, PABV (item 5)
Ciaran Morrison, Auditor, PABV (item 5)

1. Apologies for absence

It was noted that no apologies for absence had been received.

2. Declaration of connections or conflict

No declarations of connection or conflict were made.

3. Minutes of meeting of 24 February 2023

The minutes of the meeting of 24 February 2023 were noted, the Commission having previously approved them as a correct record and agreed the recommendations therein.

4. Risk assessment and implications for the work programme

This item was subject of a joint meeting with the Financial Audit and Assurance Committee and is contained in a separate minute.

5. Performance audit: Digital exclusion - scope

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director of PABV inviting the Committee to approve the scope of the joint performance audit on digital exclusion.

During discussion, the Committee:

- Noted and shared the audit teams enthusiasm team for this piece of work.
- Sheila Gunn highlighted the opportunity to learn lessons from the use of digital technology to deliver educational services during the pandemic.
- Sophie Flemig noted the adoption of a human rights approach and was keen to understand how lessons learnt here might apply to adopting a human rights approach in other performance audits. Sophie asked the team to consider both internal and external audiences in relation to sharing learning about taking a human rights based approach.
- Helena Gray highlighted that only 2 Council areas will form the basis of in-depth fieldwork.
- Christine Lester sought clarification on the audience for the proposed flyer, noting it spoke more to a stakeholder audience, than the wider public including those with lived experience and we mustn't lose sight of reaching out to the latter group.
- Jennifer Henderson highlighted links between the digital exclusion agenda and the wider public service reform agenda being pursued by the Scottish Government. The team agreed to amend the audit flyer to make reference to public service reform.

Action: Director of Performance Audit and Best Value

Following discussion, the Committee:

- Approved the proposed scope and approach to the performance audit on digital exclusion as set out in the audit flyer and issues and investigations matrix.
- Noted that involving people with lived experience of digital exclusion will be a key part of the audit methodology which may mean modifying the detailed scope in response.
- Approved the format and detail of the audit scope flyer.

6. Any other business

The Chair, having advised that there was no business for this item, closed the meeting.

Close of meeting

The meeting finished at 11.15 am.