

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA**

**14th Meeting, 2001 (Session 1)**

**Tuesday 2nd October 2001**

The Committee will meet at 1.30 pm in the Debating Chamber to consider the following agenda items:

1. **Governance and Financial Management at Moray College (in private):** The Committee will consider lines of questioning to be put to the witnesses.
2. **Committee Business:** The Committee will decide whether to take agenda item 6 in private.
3. **Mind the Gap: Management Information for Outpatient Services:** The Committee will receive a briefing from the Auditor General for Scotland on his report entitled 'Mind the Gap: Management Information for Outpatient Services' (AGS/2001/6).
4. **Long Term Work Programme for Audit Scotland:** The Committee will consider a paper from the Deputy Auditor General for Scotland on the long term work programme for Audit Scotland.
5. **Governance and Financial Management at Moray College:** The Committee will take evidence from –

Mr Eddie Frizzell, Head of Enterprise and Lifelong Learning Department, Scottish Executive;

Prof. John Sizer, Chief Executive, Scottish Further Education Funding Council;

Dr Jim Logan, Principal, Moray College;

on the report by the Auditor General for Scotland entitled 'Governance and Financial Management at Moray College' (AGS/2001/4).

6. **Governance and Financial Management at Moray College:** The Committee will consider the evidence taken and further arrangements for the inquiry.

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The papers for this meeting are as follows

**Agenda Item 1**

Briefing Paper.

PRIVATE PAPER

**Agenda Item 3**

Report by the Auditor General for Scotland entitled 'Mind the Gap: Management Information for Outpatient Services'.

AGS/2001/6

**Agenda Item 4**

Paper on Long Term Work Programme for Audit Scotland.

AU/01/14/1

**Agenda Item 5**

Report by the Auditor General for Scotland entitled 'Governance and Financial Management at Moray College' – members are reminded to bring their copy.

AGS/2001/4

## ***Audit Committee 2 October 2001***

### **Audit Scotland proposed future work programme**

#### **Report by Deputy Auditor General (Performance Audit)**

##### **Introduction**

This paper sets out proposals for the future Audit Scotland study programme. The proposals contained in the programme take account of views expressed by a range of stakeholders in the recent consultation exercise. The programme reflects the following considerations:

- **Spread of responsibility:** The programme includes a mix of studies reflecting the responsibilities of the Auditor General and the Accounts Commission, and a number of joint studies reflect their ability to act together to provide independent evidence on the operation of public sector policies which cut across traditional boundaries.
- **Mix of new and follow up work:** Although the consultation exercise concentrated on the potential for new studies, the proposed programme also reflects a commitment to follow up studies. Follow up reports will identify the performance of individual bodies in responding to recommendations.
- **Balance between effectiveness and efficiency studies:** The proposals also reflect the need to provide a balanced programme. Some of the topics are major studies examining the effectiveness of the implementation of policy (eg youth justice). These are balanced with more narrowly focused studies concentrating on the potential efficiencies to be gained from improved management (eg hospital catering).
- **Equal opportunities:** In line with our commitment to equal opportunities, all studies will be reviewed at the scoping stage to identify equalities issues, such as access to services, which should be addressed.

A proposed work programme covering performance audit work to be undertaken by Audit Scotland in the period to December 2002 is set out below. The programme includes work already underway, firm commitments for follow up work and new projects, and proposals to scope topics for potential future study. Final delivery dates for each of the studies will be confirmed after further business planning to match commitments with available resources.

##### **Conclusion**

Members of the Audit Committee are invited to comment on the proposed work programme.

## Proposed future work programme

Policy area	Ongoing work	Follow-up Studies	New Projects	Further Scoping
<b>Education and children</b>	Schools PFI contracts (see generic studies)		Special education needs (j)	Leisure services (or another non-inspected service) (AC)*
<b>Housing and environment</b>	Trading standards (AC)*, Trunk road maintenance (AGS)	Scottish Environment Protection Agency (AGS)		Voids (AC) Homelessness (j)
<b>Community Care</b>	Homecare for older people (AC)	Commissioning community care services for older people (AC)	Management of community equipment and adaptations (j)	
<b>Health – Clinical</b>	Out patients (AGS)  Ward nursing (AGS)	GP prescribing (AGS)	Hospital prescribing (AGS)	Child and adolescent mental health (j)
<b>Health – non-clinical</b>	Waste management (AGS)  Medical equipment (AGS)	Hospital cleaning (AGS)	Hospital catering (AGS)	
<b>Enterprise and Lifelong Learning</b>	Local Economic Forums (j)		SFEFC performance management (AGS)**	Scottish Enterprise (AGS)
<b>Justice</b>	Youth justice (j)			
<b>Generic management issues</b>	PFI contracts (AC)	Early retirement (AC)		IT procurement (j) Shared services (AC)

Key: (AGS) - Auditor General Study; (AC) - Accounts Commission Study; (j) -Joint Study covering cross-cutting issues  
 \* Combined study to incorporate PMP, Pls and VFM \*\* SEPA style study

## Other work

In addition to the programme of studies listed above Audit Scotland is also committed to producing the following:

- **Overview reports** on the results of audits of local government (for the Accounts Commission), health bodies, further education and the Scottish Executive (for the Auditor General).
- **Statutory reports** for the accounts Commission on specific issues arising from local government audits and **reports to Parliament** on behalf of the Auditor General on issues emerging in other areas (eg the Scottish Parliament and Tayside Health Bodies).
- **Statutory Performance Indicators** reports and reports on the **Performance Management and Planning** audit on behalf of the Accounts Commission.
- **Joint work** with Inspectorates (eg HMIE, HMIC and HMIFS) to promote performance improvement in bodies subject to inspection.
- Advice requested by the **Scottish Executive and Parliament** (eg on organ retention and asylum seekers).