

Correspondence from the Convener of the Public Audit Committee to the Director General Enterprise, Environment and Digital, Scottish Government, 4 October 2013

Dear Graeme

Renewable energy

At its meeting on 2 October, the Public Audit Committee took evidence from the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS) on her report entitled *Renewable energy*.

In that report the AGS makes a number of recommendations including that by the end of 2013 there should be clarification of:

- employment projections in a revised energy skills investment plan; and
- the role of renewable heat within the heat generation policy statement (page 6).

The Committee agreed therefore to request a response from the Scottish Government on the extent to which the report's recommendations will be acted on as well as the outcomes of those areas of Scottish Government activity due for completion by the end of this year.

The Committee was also interested in the Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) and noted that the Scottish Government had appointed a new organisation to deliver this scheme. In the report the AGS observes that this organisation is reviewing the delivery of CARES and will present its findings to the Scottish Government in late 2013. The Committee would therefore also welcome a response from the Scottish Government on the outcome of the review of the CARES scheme currently underway and, following the review's completion, the extent to which the Scottish Government will act on the findings of that review.

Given the above timescales, I would be grateful for a response to this letter by Friday 31 January 2014. Should you have any queries, please contact the clerk to the committee on 0131 348 5390 or pa.committee@scottish.parliament.uk.

Yours sincerely

Hugh Henry MSP
Convener