

**CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PUBLIC AUDIT COMMITTEE TO THE  
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT, DATED 13 OCTOBER 2014**

**AUDITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (AGS) REPORT “[ACCIDENT AND  
EMERGENCY – PERFORMANCE UPDATE](#)”**

Thank you for giving evidence to the Committee regarding the above report on 8 October 2014. The Official Report of the meeting is available on the Committee’s webpage here:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9574#.VDvev5RdVhY>

In response to questions regarding Exhibit 5 of the AGS report (Attendances at A&E departments by source of referral 2012/13) you confirmed that the data presented may not be comparable as there may be inconsistencies in the way that the data is coded by NHS Board. You informed the Committee that you would be meeting with NHS Board Chief Executives to discuss the issue of inconsistencies in data collection.

Following your evidence and your discussions with NHS Board Chief Executives, the Committee would welcome an update from you on the measures that the Scottish Government and NHS Boards propose to take to ensure that data is collected consistently.

More generally the Committee would also welcome further information from you on the extent to which, in light of the Audit Scotland report on A&E, you would propose to review the range of data collected on A&E (such as attendances at A&E by source of referral) to ensure that it provides for a meaningful understanding of the pressures on the health service.

I would be grateful if you could provide this information by **7 November 2014**. Should you have any questions, please contact the Assistant Clerk, Jason Nairn, on the contact details provided above.

Kind Regards

**Hugh Henry MSP**  
**Convener of the Public Audit Committee**