



## PUBLIC AUDIT COMMITTEE

### AGENDA

7th Meeting, 2016 (Session 4)

Wednesday 9 March 2016

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in the Sir Alexander Fleming Room (CR3).

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 7 in private.
2. **Community Planning: An update:** The Committee will take evidence on the joint Auditor General for Scotland and Accounts Commission report entitled "Community Planning: An update" from—  
  
Caroline Gardner, Auditor General for Scotland;  
  
Douglas Sinclair, Chair, Accounts Commission;  
  
Antony Clark, Assistant Director, Audit Scotland.
3. **Section 23 report - NHS in Scotland 2015:** The Committee will consider a response from the Scottish Government on the Auditor General for Scotland report entitled "NHS in Scotland 2015".
4. **Section 23 report - Health and social care integration:** The Committee will consider a response from the Scottish Government on the Auditor General for Scotland report entitled "Health and social care integration".
5. **Section 23 report - Implementing the Scotland Act 2012: An update:** The Committee will consider a response from the Scottish Government on the Auditor General for Scotland report entitled "Implementing the Scotland Act 2012: An update".
6. **Annual report:** The Committee will consider a draft annual report for the parliamentary year from 11 May 2015 to 23 March 2016.
7. **Community Planning: An update:** The Committee will consider the evidence received at agenda item 2 and take evidence from—

Caroline Gardner, Auditor General for Scotland;

Antony Clark, Assistant Director, Audit Scotland.

Anne Peat  
Clerk to the Public Audit Committee  
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The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
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The papers for this meeting are as follows—

**Agenda Item 2**

[Auditor General for Scotland Report](#)

PA/S4/16/7/1

Auditor General for Scotland briefing paper

PA/S4/16/7/2

**Agenda Item 3**

Letter from the Scottish Government

PA/S4/16/7/3

**Agenda Item 4**

Letter from the Scottish Government

PA/S4/16/7/4

**Agenda Item 5**

Letter from the Scottish Government

PA/S4/16/7/5

**Agenda Item 6**

DRAFT Annual Report 2015-16

PA/S4/16/7/6

**Circulated for information**

Member's Bulletin

PA/S4/16/7/7

**SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT PUBLIC AUDIT COMMITTEE****WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH 2016****REPORT BY THE AUDITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND AND THE  
ACCOUNTS COMMISSION****COMMUNITY PLANNING: AN UPDATE**

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The joint report by the Auditor General and the Accounts Commission, *Community planning: An update*, was published on 3 March 2016. It provides a national update on community planning since the publication of *Community planning: turning ambition into action* in November 2014. It assesses progress locally and nationally and identifies opportunities for further improvement.

Key messages from the report are:

- The Scottish Government and COSLA have ambitious expectations for community planning. Since the publication of their joint Statement of Ambition in 2012 they have continued to promote community planning as central to effective public service reform. Progress on community planning is being made both locally and nationally. But it is not yet delivering the ambitious changes in the way public services are organised and delivered, with and for communities, that were envisaged in the Statement of Ambition. This is at a time when the role of Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) becomes increasingly important as public bodies work together to address the growing challenges identified by the Christie Commission.
- Overall, CPPs continue to build on the positive progress we reported in 2014. In particular, they are improving leadership and scrutiny and are using data to set clearer priorities. CPPs also continue to implement a range of projects targeted at specific groups or communities. But we have yet to see CPP partners sharing, aligning, or redeploying their resources in significantly different ways and on a larger scale to deliver the CPPs' priorities. The Statement of Ambition was clear that communities have a key role to play in shaping local public services, but involving communities fully in planning and delivering local services still remains at an early stage in many CPPs.
- The Scottish Government is improving its understanding of how individual CPPs are performing and has identified priorities for improvement. It has not yet used this to develop, with COSLA, a well-coordinated national programme of support that reflects known good practice and is tailored to meet individual CPP's improvement and development needs.
- The Scottish Government is strengthening its focus on outcomes in some policy areas. But the way in which public bodies report

performance, and are held to account, does not always reflect the Scottish Government's policy of promoting outcomes, prevention and reducing inequalities. In particular, some short-term national performance targets are making it difficult to reform services to deliver more preventative service models. It is difficult to see how CPPs can meet the expectations of the Statement of Ambition without changes being made to how public sector partners and CPPs are held to account for their performance.

- Stronger national leadership is needed to enable community planning to meet its full potential. The National Community Planning Group (NCPG) has not met since December 2014 and the Scottish Government is proposing to disband it. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 sets out new statutory duties for CPPs and statutory guidance provides an opportunity to clarify the Scottish Government's expectations for community planning. But this is not enough to deliver the ambitious changes that were envisaged in the Statement of Ambition. To meet these expectations, fundamental changes must be made to the way public services are planned and delivered.
- There is a need to streamline national performance management frameworks and create a better balance between measures of service performance and local outcomes, prevention and the performance of partnerships. This should involve placing the views of local communities at the heart of measuring success in public service delivery. The Scottish Government also needs to work with others to create a climate and culture where local public service leaders feel confident that they have autonomy and authorisation to decide how to respond to the specific needs of their communities. Local public service leaders also need to play their part by showing strong local leadership of change.

**Public Audit Committee**

**7th Meeting, 2016 (Session 4), Wednesday 9 March 2016**

**NHS in Scotland 2015 – Note from the Clerk**

**Background**

1. At its meeting on 2 December 2015, the Committee took evidence from Audit Scotland on the AGS report entitled *NHS in Scotland 2015*. At this meeting, the Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government on issues raised in discussion.
2. At its meeting on 20 January 2016, the Committee considered a response from the Scottish Government. The Committee agreed to write back to the Scottish Government to follow up on issues raised in discussion.
3. The response from the Scottish Government to the information requested at the Committee's meeting on 20 January 2016 is attached at Annexe A. Any future correspondence would be for the successor Committee to take forward.

**Conclusion**

4. **The Committee is invited to agree whether to:**
  - **note the response; or**
  - **request further written or oral evidence from stakeholders on any issues raised.**

**Gary Cocker**  
**Assistant Clerk to the Public Audit Committee**

**RESPONSE FROM THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT TO THE PUBLIC AUDIT  
COMMITTEE, DATED 12 FEBRUARY 2016**

Dear Mr Martin

**AUDITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (AGS) SECTION 23 REPORT “NHS IN  
SCOTLAND 2015”**

Following the meeting of the Public Audit Committee on 20 January, you wrote to me asking for confirmation of the target for addressing high risk backlog maintenance.

Our Annual State of NHS Scotland Assets and Facilities Reports report against targets on two performance indicators with respect to backlog maintenance. The first target is to reduce the backlog maintained balance across the NHS Scotland estate to £100 per square metre by 2020. The second target is to reduce the percentage of backlog that is categorised as high or significant risk to 10% of the total or below, again by 2020.

Current performance against these indicators was reported in our March 2015 Assets and Facilities report. We reported a backlog balance of £181 per square metre, and said that 47% of the backlog was categorised as high or significant risk. The report also presented Health Boards’ forecasts that all high risk backlog identified in the first Assets and Facilities Report (for 2011) would be eliminated in 2016-17. Our next Assets and Facilities Report is due for publication in spring this year, and will provide a further update on progress towards these goals, as well as reporting the current backlog and forecasting future progress in eliminating it.

I will be happy to provide further details if the Committee would find that helpful.

Yours sincerely

**PAUL GRAY**

**LETTER FROM THE PUBLIC AUDIT COMMITTEE TO THE SCOTTISH  
GOVERNMENT, DATED 25 JANUARY 2016**

Dear Mr Gray

**AUDITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (AGS) SECTION 23 REPORT “[NHS IN SCOTLAND 2015](#)”**

At its meeting on 20 January 2016, the Public Audit Committee considered your response regarding the AGS Section 23 Report entitled *NHS in Scotland 2015*. The Official Report of the meeting is available on the Committee’s webpage at: <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/publicaudit>

Following this evidence, the Committee agreed to write to you to confirm, in relation to NHS backlog maintenance, what the target currently is for dealing with issues categorised as “high risk” and when this target is likely to be met.

I would be grateful for a response to this letter by **Monday 22 February 2016**. Should you have any queries, please contact the clerk to the committee on 0131 348 5390 or [pa.committee@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:pa.committee@scottish.parliament.uk) .

Yours sincerely

**PAUL MARTIN MSP**



**Public Audit Committee**

**7th Meeting, 2016 (Session 4), Wednesday 9 March 2016**

**Health and social care integration – Note from the Clerk**

**Background**

1. At its meeting on 13 January 2016, the Committee took evidence from Audit Scotland on the AGS report entitled *Health and social care integration*. At this meeting, the Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government on issues raised in discussion.
2. The response from the Scottish Government is attached at Annexe A. Any future correspondence would be for the successor Committee to take forward.

**Conclusion**

3. The Committee is invited to agree whether to:
  - note the response; or
  - request further written or oral evidence from stakeholders on any issues raised.

**Gary Cocker**  
**Assistant Clerk to the Public Audit Committee**

**LETTER FROM THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT TO THE PUBLIC AUDIT  
COMMITTEE, DATED 15 FEBRUARY 2016**

Dear Mr Martin,

**AUDITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (AGS) SECTION 23 REPORT: “HEALTH  
AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION”**

Thank you for your letter dated 25 January 2016, following the evidence from the Auditor General for Scotland to the Committee on 13 January 2016 about this report.

You asked four questions:

**a) information on what leadership training is given to the Chief Executives of the Integrated Joint Boards (IJBs)**

IJB Chief Officers have agreed to participate in leadership development and learning. We recognise the importance of this and will fund their leadership development programme, which will begin in March 2016. We are designing the programme in partnership with the Chief Officers to ensure it is appropriate to their needs and requirements and if the Committee would find it helpful, I will share more detailed information about the programme shortly, once it is agreed. In addition, the Chief Officers' network, which was established in 2015, meets every two months to consider national and shared priorities.

**b) information on what role is played by the voluntary sector in IJBs and how their involvement is encouraged**

The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014, which puts in place the legislative framework for integration, places a statutory duty on Integration Authorities to involve the third sector directly in service planning and design. Third Sector Interfaces (TSIs) provide the main mechanism for achieving this and their role is to support, promote, develop and advocate the interests and role of the third sector locally. We published guidance on the role of TSIs under integration in April 2015: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/04/2089/0>.

**c) confirmation of which integrated authorities have a) agreed their budgets and b) are operational**

Seven Integration Authorities became operational during 2015/16, with their budgets agreed, as follows:

- 1) East Ayrshire
- 2) North Ayrshire
- 3) South Ayrshire
- 4) East Dunbartonshire
- 5) West Dunbartonshire
- 6) East Renfrewshire
- 7) Highland

The remaining twenty four Integration Authorities will become operational on 1 April 2016 and are in the process of finalising their budgets for 2016/17.

- d) that the Scottish Government provides the Committee with the information obtained through the Health and Social Care Data Integration and Intelligence Project (HSCDIIP)**

HSCDIIP uses a computer database to provide a very wide range of information to Integration Authorities, based on specific requests for information relating (for example) to a particular area or clinical condition. A print-out of the data itself would run to many hundreds of pages and be impossible to decipher meaningfully. If the Committee would like some samples of the types of information available, in areas of particular interest, I am very happy to provide these. One such example would be the data currently available via the link below, in the publication called “IRF Health and Social Care Resource Use”, which provides an analysis of local health and social care expenditure:

<http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Health-and-Social-Community-Care/Publications/data-tables.asp?id=1353#1353>

However, I suggest that the Committee might find it more useful to have a briefing and demonstration from Health officials on HSCDIIP, which would show its scope and the type of insights it can provide.

We also have work in hand with NHS Boards, local authorities and NSS to improve access to linked health and social care data for local systems; should the Committee wish to take up our offer of a demonstration, we would be pleased to cover this at the same time.

Yours sincerely,

**PAUL GRAY**

LETTER FROM THE PUBLIC AUDIT COMMITTEE TO THE SCOTTISH  
GOVERNMENT, DATED 25 JANUARY 2016

Dear Mr Gray,

**AUDITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (AGS) SECTION 23 REPORT: “HEALTH  
AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION”**

At its meeting on 13 January 2016, the Public Audit Committee took oral evidence from the Auditor General for Scotland on the report *Health and social care integration*. The Official Report of the meeting is available on the Committee’s webpage at: <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/publicaudit>

Following this evidence, the Committee agreed to write to you on a number of issues. The Committee requests:

- a) information on what leadership training is given to the Chief Executives of the Integrated Joint Boards (IJBs);
- b) information on what role is played by the voluntary sector in IJBs and how their involvement is encouraged;
- c) confirmation of which integrated authorities have a) agreed their budgets and b) are operational, and
- d) that the Scottish Government provides the Committee with the information obtained through the Health and Social Care Data Integration and Intelligence Project (HSCDIIP).

I would be grateful for a response to this letter by **Monday 22 February 2016**. Should you have any queries, please contact the clerk to the committee on 0131 348 5390 or [pa.committee@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:pa.committee@scottish.parliament.uk) .

Yours sincerely,

**PAUL MARTIN MSP**

**Public Audit Committee**

**7th Meeting, 2016 (Session 4), Wednesday 9 March 2016**

**Implementing the Scotland Act 2012: An update – Note from the Clerk**

**Background**

1. At its meeting on 27 January 2016, the Committee took evidence from Audit Scotland on the AGS report entitled *Implementing the Scotland Act 2012: An update*. At this meeting, the Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government on issues raised in discussion.
2. The response from the Scottish Government is attached at Annexe A. Any future correspondence would be for the successor Committee to take forward.

**Conclusion**

3. The Committee is invited to agree whether to:
  - note the response; or
  - request further written or oral evidence from stakeholders on any issues raised.

**Gary Cocker**  
**Assistant Clerk to the Public Audit Committee**

**LETTER FROM THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT TO THE PUBLIC AUDIT  
COMMITTEE, DATED 1 MARCH 2016**

Dear Mr Martin,

**AUDITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND SECTION 23 REPORT –  
“IMPLEMENTING THE SCOTLAND ACT 2012: AN UPDATE”**

Thank you for your letter of 2 February 2016 regarding the above report which sought confirmation from the Scottish Government that it accepts the report's findings and recommendations. I apologise for the delay in replying to you.

The Scottish Government welcomes the Audit Scotland report and its findings that good progress has been made with implementing Scotland's new devolved financial power, and that the Scottish Government and HMRC are working well together in preparing for the introduction of the Scottish rate of income tax in April 2016.

The report contained two recommendations for the Scottish Government. These related to a strategy for capital borrowing and financial reporting arrangements for devolved tax receipts and capital borrowing. I can confirm that the Scottish Government accepts these recommendations and is taking action to meet them.

A number of the findings in the report note that the Scottish Government's position is dependent on the outcome of the fiscal framework negotiations with the UK Government. The Committee will be aware that agreement was reached last week with HM Treasury on a fiscal framework for Scotland which delivers the recommendations made by the Smith Commission in its report of November 2014. The Finance and Devolution (Further Powers) Committees are currently scrutinising the fiscal framework and the Scotland Bill, prior to the Scottish Parliament being asked to give legislative consent to the Bill and the Deputy First Minister is attending both Committees later this week to provide oral evidence.

Yours sincerely,

**ALYSON STAFFORD**

**LETTER FROM THE PUBLIC AUDIT COMMITTEE TO THE SCOTTISH  
GOVERNMENT, DATED 2 FEBRUARY 2016**

Dear Ms Stafford,

**AUDITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (AGS) SECTION 23 REPORT –  
“IMPLEMENTING THE SCOTLAND ACT 2012: AN UPDATE”**

At its meeting on 27 January 2016, the Public Audit Committee took evidence from Audit Scotland on the above report. The Official Report of the meeting is available on the Committee’s webpage at: <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/publicaudit>

The Committee agreed to write to you to confirm that the Scottish Government accepts the report’s findings and recommendations.

I would be grateful for a response by **Tuesday 1 March 2016**. Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk, Anne Peat on 0131 348 5390 or by email at [pa.committee@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:pa.committee@scottish.parliament.uk).

Yours sincerely,

**PAUL MARTIN MSP**

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# Introduction

1. This report covers the work of the Public Audit Committee during the parliamentary year from 11 May 2015 to 23 March 2016.
2. The Public Audit Committee's work is mainly focussed on the scrutiny of reports produced by the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS). The AGS is responsible for scrutinising the expenditure and performance of directorates of the Scottish Government and most other public spending bodies (with the exception of local authorities). Through our scrutiny we help to ensure that public funds are spent wisely and hold those who are charged with spending taxpayers' money to account.

## Inquiries

3. We considered 14 new reports from the AGS, 8 of which were Section 23 Reports which examined the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of the public sector. 6 were Section 22 Reports which concern the audit of accounts of individual public bodies. We received oral evidence from the AGS and/or Audit Scotland officials for each report.

## Section 23 Reports

4. Of the Section 23 AGS reports considered in 2015/16 we sought further oral evidence on the following:

### [Scotland's colleges 2015](#)

5. This report commented on reforms in the colleges sector and how they have been managed and delivered. After taking evidence from the Scottish Government, the EIS, Colleges, College Regional Boards and the Scottish Funding Council (SFC), we published [our own report](#) setting out our observations, recommendations and conclusions. The Scottish Government and SFC provided further information on student support and the operation of regional boards as well as committing to provide further detailed information on merger savings and their future approach to severance arrangements.

### [Scottish Fire and Rescue Service](#)

6. This report assessed the progress the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) had made in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of fire and rescue services in Scotland. We took evidence from the Chief Fire Officer of the SFRS and the Chair of the Board of the SFRS at the same session as taking evidence from Audit Scotland. We then wrote to the Scottish Government to confirm how, in the absence of a full business case, they had reviewed the costs of the merger and that the SFRS was undertaking a post-implementation review.

### Managing ICT contracts in central government: An update

7. This report reviewed the progress that the Scottish Government and central government bodies had made against recommendations made in [a previous report](#). After taking evidence from the Scottish Government, we wrote to the Scottish Government regarding staffing and governance issues and then followed this up during our work on the Section 22 report on NHS 24. We have since written again to the Scottish Government about the costs of external consultants and lawyers to ICT projects.

### NHS in Scotland 2015

8. This annual report analysed the performance of the NHS during 2014/15 and comments on its future plans. We wrote to the Scottish Government regarding the use of assessment units, Accident & Emergency waiting times targets and high risk backlog maintenance.

## **Section 22 Reports**

9. Of the Section 22 AGS reports considered in 2015/16 we sought further oral evidence on the following:

### The 2013/14 audit of Coatbridge College: Governance of severance arrangements

10. This report highlighted serious weaknesses in governance relating to the severance arrangements for senior managers and another member of staff at Coatbridge College. We took evidence across a number of meetings from the Scottish Government, SFC, Coatbridge College Remuneration Committee members, OSCR, internal and external auditors, the College's solicitors and the College's Principal and Board Chair. We recalled two witnesses – the Principal and the Board Chair – as part of our inquiry. Our report called on the Principal to repay his severance package and for the Government to consider what further powers OSCR and the SFC should have to prevent similar situations in the future.

### The 2014/15 audit of the Scottish Government Consolidated Accounts

11. We took evidence from the Permanent Secretary before writing to the Scottish Government on issues relating to IT projects, Major Capital Projects and financial reporting.

### The 2014/15 audit of NHS 24: Update on management of an IT contract

12. This report provided an update on the significant financial issues arising from the procurement of a new call handling system for NHS 24. We took oral evidence from NHS 24 and the Scottish Government and sought further detail on the over-spend and concerns surrounding governance.

### [The 2014/15 audit of the Scottish Police Authority](#)

13. The auditor issued a modified opinion on the accounts as a result of inaccurate and incomplete accounting records, and the SPA's rate of progress in developing a long-term financial strategy. We took evidence from Police Scotland, the Scottish Police Authority and the Scottish Government and followed this up in writing with the Scottish Government.
14. The following Committee reports were published in 2015/16 following evidence sessions the previous year.

### [Report on NHS Highland 2013-14: Financial Management](#)

15. In this report we commented on the weak financial management at NHS Highland which led to a request for brokerage from the Scottish Government. This report was followed up by an update from the AGS.

### [Report on the 2012/13 audit of North Glasgow College: Governance and financial stewardship](#)

16. In this report we commented on the lack of transparency and poor governance surrounding the severance arrangements at North Glasgow College.

## **Other reports**

17. The Committee also considered the following AGS reports:

- [Section 23 report – Efficiency of prosecuting criminal cases through the sheriff courts](#): This report examined how efficiently criminal cases are handled. The Scottish Government wrote to us to confirm it accepted all of the report's recommendations.
- [Section 23 report – Health and social care integration](#): This report, the first in a series of three focusing on health and social care integration, provided a progress report on the setting up, management and scrutiny of Integrated Authorities. We sought further detail from the Scottish Government on leadership training and the role of the voluntary sector.
- [Section 23 report – Implementing the Scotland Act 2012: An update](#): This report focused on the implementation of the financial powers in the Scotland Act 2012. We sought and received confirmation from the Scottish Government that they accepted the report's findings and recommendations.
- [Section 22 report – The 2014/15 audit of NHS Tayside: Financial management](#): This report highlighted that 2014/15 is the third consecutive year in which the Scottish Government provided brokerage to NHS Tayside. Audit Scotland wrote to us providing more details of the sale of Ashludie Hospital, which is an ongoing issue.
- [Section 22 report – The 2014/15 audit of NHS Highland: Update on 2013/14 financial management issues](#): This report commented on various actions being taken by NHS

Highland to strengthen its financial management arrangements. Audit Scotland wrote to us with further information on staffing issues.

- [Section 23 report – Community Planning Partnerships National Summary](#): This report provides a progress update against the recommendations made in a [previous AGS report](#) and examines developments in community planning since November 2014. We took evidence on this report at our final meeting prior to dissolution.
18. We also took oral evidence from the Scottish Government on its biannual Major Capital Projects progress updates and agreed that any future Scottish Government reports on settlement agreements should be reported to Parliament.

## **Engagement and innovation**

19. The Committee's Twitter account has over 600 followers, an increase of 38% since 2014-15. The account is used to highlight evidence sessions and was also used to promote our Chamber debate on 9 February on our reports on *Scotland's colleges 2015*, *North Glasgow College* and *Coatbridge College*.
20. Our report on Coatbridge College was subject to a formal press launch, where members of the press were able to question Members of the Committee on the content of the report which received widespread coverage.
21. In May 2015, two Members of the Committee undertook a fact-finding visit to the Isle of Mull in connection to the AGS report entitled [Superfast broadband for Scotland: A progress report](#). This visit informed our letter referring the report to the Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee.

## **Bills and UK Legislation**

22. In January 2016, we took evidence from the AGS, the Comptroller & Auditor General and HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) on an extract from HMRC's Annual Report entitled "The administration of the Scottish Rate of Income Tax 2014-15" which had been separately reported on by the AGS. We agreed to note the report.
23. In June 2015, we published our response to the Scotland Bill 2015, which examined the audit and accountability arrangements that we considered would be necessary for the new powers proposed in the Bill. This response was shared with both Scottish and UK Governments and national auditors.

## **Equalities**

24. Audit Scotland builds diversity and equality into its national performance audits. Audit Scotland's Audit Management Framework requires it to consider any potential equalities issues at the scoping stage of each of its performance audits. Audit Scotland briefings to the Committee reflect any particular impacts of policies on equalities groups, ensuring that any potential equalities issues can be picked

up by members in considering how to take forward the recommendations in AGS reports.

## **Meetings**

25. The Committee met 21 times in this Parliamentary year. All of these meetings were held in Edinburgh at the Scottish Parliament. 18 meetings were held partly in public and partly in private, 1 meeting was held wholly in public and 2 meetings were held wholly in private. The purpose of the majority of private items was to consider the approach to specific AGS reports (e.g. to consider which witnesses to request oral or written evidence from) or to consider draft Committee reports.

**Public Audit Committee Members Bulletin: 9 March 2016**

The following table details new documents laid or published which fall within the general remit of the Committee. Except in relation to reports from the Auditor General for Scotland, there is no requirement for the Committee to consider these documents, however Standing Orders provide for the Committee to consider any such documents, if it so decides.

<b>Date Laid (2015)</b>	<b>Ref</b>	<b>Document</b>
15/02/2016	SG/2016/12	Private Rented Housing Panel Annual Report 2014
22/02/2016	SPSO/2016/02	Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for February 2016
22/02/2016	SG/2016/15	Scottish Law Commission Annual Report 2015

**Forthcoming AGS report**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Anticipated publication date</b>
Changing models of health and social care <i>(j)</i>	March 2016
Maintaining Scotland's roads: a follow-up audit	June 2016
Audit of higher education in Scotland	June 2016
Supporting Scotland's economic growth: The role of the economic development agencies	Summer 2016
Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Futures Programme - a progress report	May 2016
Scotland's colleges 2016	Summer 2016

*(j) Joint AGS/Accounts Commission report*

**Forthcoming Accounts Commission reports (for information)**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Anticipated publication date</b>
Social work in Scotland	Summer 2016