

18 December 2025

Richard Leonard MSP
Convener
Public Audit Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Dear Convener

I am writing to advise you of the 2024/25 annual report and accounts that will not be laid before Parliament by the statutory deadline of 31 December 2025. I also provide the Committee with an update on progress against matters in previous section 22 reports.

The auditor of Scottish Canals has confirmed that further work is needed by the body to address issues identified with the accounting requirements for non-current assets. This is a similar position to previous years, and I have asked the auditor to keep me informed as the audit progresses.

Further, I am producing a section 22 report on the 2024/25 audit of the Scottish Public Pension Agency. This means that its annual report and accounts, along with those of the pension schemes it administers for the NHS and teachers, will not be laid before Parliament until early in 2026.

I also wanted to confirm that, for 2024/25, I will not be producing further section 22 reports for the Water Industry Commission Scotland or Ferguson Marine Port Glasgow (Holdings) Ltd.

I have considered the auditors conclusions on the Water Industry Commission for Scotland, and I am pleased to note that all audit opinions are unmodified. The auditor confirms that action has been taken to strengthen the leadership, governance and financial management of the organisation. This progress has enabled the auditor to conclude that there is now an appropriate focus on the achievement of Best Value.

The auditor of Ferguson Marine Port Glasgow (Holdings) Ltd continues to highlight a material risk and uncertainty around the future financial sustainability of the yard with no contracted work beyond the completion of MV Glen Rosa. The Scottish Government has confirmed continued support for at least 12 months from the date of signing of the 2024/25 annual report and accounts. As you are aware I will be reporting further to Parliament following the delivery of MV Glen Rosa.

Your sincerely

Stephen Boyle
Auditor General for Scotland