



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Public Audit Committee

Clare Adamson MSP
Convener
Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

17 December 2025

Dear Clare

The 2024/25 audit of Historic Environment Scotland

As you may be aware, the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS) [published a section 22 report](#) on the 2024/25 audit of Historic Environment Scotland (HES) on 16 December 2025.

In his report, the AGS draws the Parliament's attention to weaknesses in HES's governance and financial management arrangements and the impact of this on its culture and operation.

I understand that the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee also has a strong interest in these issues, and I thought it would be helpful to set out our plans for scrutiny of the report.

We will take evidence from the AGS at our meeting on 14 January 2026 and, following our usual precedent for considering the AGS's reports, I anticipate that we will then agree to hold an evidence session with the Accountable Officer from HES and the relevant Portfolio Accountable Officer from the Scottish Government.

To support effective parliamentary scrutiny, I would like to offer an invitation for a Member(s) of your Committee to attend our evidence session with the AGS on 14 January 2026. If you would like to take up this offer I would be grateful if you could notify the Clerks to the Public Audit Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Leonard MSP

Convener

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