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Dear John

The Work of Audit Wales

Congratulations on your appointment as Chair of the Local Government and Housing Committee. I wish you every success in your new role and at the start of a challenging five-year period for public services in Wales.

My remit as Auditor General for Wales means that I am the statutory external auditor of most of the Welsh public sector and responsible for the audit of most of the public money spent in Wales. In September, I am planning to publish a series of 'Picture of Public Services' outputs. These will provide our take on the key financial and wider challenges facing public services over the coming years and will set out some of the key areas of public service delivery where I will be expecting public services to demonstrate progress. I hope that the outputs from this work will be of interest to all Members of the Senedd and that they will provide a useful point of reference for their future work.

I am expecting that the work of Audit Wales will continue to play a key role supporting the work of the new Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee (PAPAC), with PAPAC remaining our primary audience. However, I am also keen that Audit Wales uses its unique perspective and expertise to support the work of other Senedd committees where we have relevant audit intelligence to bring to bear. We would therefore welcome the opportunity to be included on any wider consultations that

your Committee runs. I am also anticipating that there will continue to be occasions where committees other than PAPAC might take the lead in scrutinising issues raised by my reports, where these are relevant and timely in the context of their own scrutiny work.

We have just recently published our latest [Annual Report and Accounts](#), which tells the story of our work during 2020-21 and links to some of our major outputs. Our Annual Report also summarises work in progress or planned to start later this year and we will be sharing further details with committee clerking teams over the summer. Our audit coverage across local government is quite extensive. It includes our audit of accounts work, local performance audit work across the sector and national studies. Examples of national reports that we will be publishing over the next couple of months include local authority financial resilience and town centre regeneration.

If you or your Committee members would like to find out more about the work of Audit Wales, then please do not hesitate to get in touch. If Members have specific concerns about the use of public money, then we are always open to receiving correspondence. Members can either contact me directly or they can do so via our Audit Wales address info@audit.wales. Further details about how we handle such correspondence are available on our website: [Raising a concern | Audit Wales](#).

I very much look forward to working with you over the next five years.

Best wishes,



ADRIAN CROMPTON
Auditor General for Wales