

Public Accounts Committee

Meeting Venue: **Committee Room 3 – Senedd**

Meeting date: **Tuesday, 27 September 2011**

Meeting time: **09:00 – 10:30**

This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:
<http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf>

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

Darren Millar (Chair)
Mohammad Asghar
Mike Hedges
Ken Skates
Gwyn Price
David Rees
Aled Roberts
Leanne Wood

Witnesses:

Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales, Wales Audit Office
Frith, Assistant Auditor General, Audit Scotland
Mark Taylor, Assistant Director, Audit Scotland
Terry Jones, Technical Manager, Wales Audit Office
Kevin Thomas, Assistant Auditor General, Wales Audit Office

Committee Staff:

Bethan Webber (Clerk)
Daniel Collier (Deputy Clerk)
Joanest Jackson (Legal Advisor)

1. Audit Scotland report on the accounts of the Auditor General for Wales

1.1 The Committee discussed the findings of the report by Audit Scotland on the accounts of the Auditor General for Wales.

2. Apologies and substitutions

2.1 The Chair welcomed Committee Members and members of the public to the meeting.

2.2 Apologies had been received from Jenny Rathbone and Julie Morgan, for whom David Rees and Ken Skates were substituting.

3. Auditor General for Wales's Annual Report and Accounts 2010–2011

3.1 The Auditor General for Wales presented his annual report and accounts for 2010–11 to the Committee.

Action points:

The Auditor General agreed to provide:

- A note explaining whether the achieved reduction in premises costs as a result of the 2005 merger of the Audit Commission in Wales and the National Audit Office (to create the Wales Audit Office) met the projected efficiency savings.
- Further details on the increase in long-term sickness absences at the Wales Audit Office during the last year.

4. Consideration of the Estimate of Income and Expenditure of the WAO for the year ending 31 March 2012

4.1 The Auditor General for Wales presented his supplementary estimate for 2011–12 to the Committee.

Action point:

The Auditor General for Wales agreed to provide:

- Details of the Wales Audit Offices three year IT strategy.

5. Issues of governance and accountability in relation to the Auditor general for Wales

5.1 The Committee agreed to establish a Task and Finish Group to consider issues of governance and accountability in relation to the Auditor General for Wales.

5.2 The Committee would formally agree the membership of the Task and Finish Group at its meeting on 4 October 2011.

5.3 The Committee agreed that the first meeting of the Task and Finish Group will take place on 11 October 2011.

Transcript

View the [meeting transcript](#).