

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS Chair of the Finance Committee Senedd Cymru

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Dear Peredur

Audit Wales Fee Scheme 2022-23

Thank you for your letter of 31 January 2022 confirming that the Committee considered and approved the Fee Scheme 2022-23 and requesting further clarification on the reason for our draft Fee Scheme for 2022-23 not being appended to our Estimate for the year as has been the case in other years. Although there is no requirement for Audit Wales to include a draft Fee Scheme alongside our Estimate, we realise that there are strong links between the two

alongside our Estimate, we realise that there are strong links between the two documents, and so we have endeavoured to include the draft Fee Scheme alongside the Estimate for your consideration in recent years.

For 2022-23, the Board undertook a fundamental review of our overall funding strategy, as part of the preparation for the 2022-23 Estimate. In particular, this considered the relative balance in funding secured from fees and the WCF. The timing of this review meant that it was not possible to conduct the necessary Fee Scales consultation in time for this to be reflected in the Estimate document.

There are no plans to repeat this exercise for 2023-24 and hence we plan to consult on our proposals to switch some of our fee funded work to WCF (and the resulting impact on our fee scales) this summer. We will reflect the outcome of this consultation in our Estimate and draft Fee Scheme for 2023-24 which we plan to provide to you simultaneously for your consideration.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is any further clarification we can provide.

Yours sincerely

LINDSAY FOYSTER

Chair, Wales Audit Office

ADRIAN CROMPTON
Auditor General for Wales