

I am responding to the consultation on the Draft Public Audit (Amendment) (Wales) Bill on behalf of the Members of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

Question 1 - Do you agree that the Wales Audit Office should be given flexibility in how it charges and administers its fees by allowing it to broadly breakeven, taking one year with another?

The Commission has no objection to the proposed change unless it results in a significant increase in audit fees.

Question 24 - Do you feel the Draft Bill should include provisions relating to:

- the lack of a value for money conclusion duty on the Auditor General for Wales and central government bodies;
- the absence of explicit provisions in statute for regularity opinions among many central government bodies;

The Commission has no objection to the proposed changes to include provision within the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 for a regularity opinion and to a duty to be satisfied as to the arrangements for securing value for money.