



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Michael Matheson MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Justice

By email only

**Public Audit and Post-legislative
Scrutiny Committee**

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7 June 2017

Dear Michael,

I wrote to you on 12 May 2017 to set out the committee's very serious concerns about governance standards at the SPA.

Subsequently, on 25 May, we received a letter¹ from three members of the SPA board who had investigated claims made by Moi Ali at our committee meeting on 11 May 2017. As you will see from column 30 onwards of the [Official Report](#), Ms Ali had discussed her previous requests for information from the SPA.

Ms Ali has now written to the Committee to express her dissatisfaction at the way in which the three SPA board members conducted their investigation².

I am forwarding all relevant correspondence to you, and invite you to take the issues raised into account in replying to our original letter of 12 May (on which we anticipate a response next week). You will recall that the letter stated—
“We consider that there is a clear need for a culture shift within the organisation so that there are far fewer private meetings and so that more effective procedures are

¹ http://www.parliament.scot/S5_Public_Audit/2017_05_25_SPA-PAPLS_follow_up_info.pdf

² [http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S5_Public_Audit/General%20Documents/2017_06_06_Letter_from_Moi_Ali\(2\).pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S5_Public_Audit/General%20Documents/2017_06_06_Letter_from_Moi_Ali(2).pdf)

established to ensure that information is recorded, stored and, where appropriate, made publicly available.”

I have copied this letter to the Justice Sub-Committee and HMICS for information.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on 0131 348 5390 or by email at papls.committee@parliament.scot

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Baillie', written over a thin horizontal line.

Jackie Baillie MSP
Acting Convener of the Committee