

Jenny Marra MSP
Convener
Public Audit and Post-Legislative Scrutiny Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

2 April 2019

Dear Convener

The 2017/18 audit of the Scottish Social Services Council

I am writing to set out how we plan to follow up the findings from my recent report on the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) and further issues raised by the Committee during the evidence sessions on 7 February and 14 March 2019.

The appointed auditor has now planned the 2018/19 audit of SSSC and I can confirm the timescales and scope of this work:

- Scope
The auditor raised six actions for improvement for the SSSC in her [2017/18 annual audit report](#) (pages 18-19) and will report on progress against these. The actions all relate to governance and transparency issues in relation to digital transformation raised in my report, including the implications of these issues on shared service arrangements the SSSC has with the Care Inspectorate. The auditor has also identified a significant risk for the SSSC in relation to governance more generally and this will be a focus of the 2018/19 audit.
- Timescales
The auditor will carry out the 2018/19 audit over the summer and report her findings to the SSSC Audit Committee in September.

I will liaise with the auditor as she is finalising her report and consider whether to highlight these to Parliament through the statutory reporting process. Otherwise the 2018/19 annual audit report will be published on the Audit Scotland website in line with our normal practice.

Yours sincerely



Caroline Gardner
Auditor General for Scotland