

Title of report	Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair of Audit and Assurance Committee
Summary/purpose of report	For approval
Recommendations	The Council is asked to approve the appointment of Peter Murray as Chair and Lindsay MacDonald as Vice Chair of the Audit and Assurance Committee from 1 September 2024
Author	Anne Stewart Head of Legal and Corporate Governance
Responsible Officer	Maree Allison, Acting Chief Executive
Link to Strategic Plan	<p>The information in this report links to:</p> <p>Outcome 1: Trusted People who use services are protected by a workforce that is fit to practise.</p> <p>Outcome 2: Skilled Our work supports the workforce to deliver high standards of professional practice.</p> <p>Outcome 3: Confident Our work enhances the confidence, competence and wellbeing of the workforce.</p> <p>Outcome 4: Valued The social work, social care and children and young people workforce is valued for the difference it makes to people's lives.</p>
Link to Risk Register	<p>Risk 3: We fail to meet corporate governance, external scrutiny and legal obligations.</p> <p>Risk 4: We fail to provide value to stakeholders and demonstrate our impact.</p> <p>Risk 5: We fail to develop and support SSSC staff appropriately to ensure we have a motivated and skilled workforce or have insufficient staff resources to achieve our strategic outcomes.</p> <p>Risk 6: The SSSC fails to secure sufficient budget resources required to deliver the strategic plan.</p>

Impact assessments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) was not required. 2. A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) was not required. 3. A Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) was not required.
Documents attached	None
Background papers	None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Executive Framework between the Scottish Government and the SSSC requires us to have an Audit Committee chaired by a non-executive Member to provide independent advice and assurance on the effectiveness of our internal control and risk management systems.
2. The SSSC Code of Corporate Governance dated 27 February 2023 provides for our Audit and Assurance Committee.
3. Section 71 of the Code of Corporate Governance Standing Orders states:

"The Council appoints the Committee chairs".
4. This report asks Council to approve the appointment of a new Chair and Vice Chair to the Audit and Assurance Committee.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

5. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Audit and Assurance Committee, Alan Baird and Theresa Allison, will be leaving the SSSC at the end of August 2024. This will result in a significant disruption to this Committee as they have been in their roles since 2019. The Chair has suggested that a new Chair and Vice Chair should be appointed now to allow an opportunity for a period of shadowing and a proper handover to take place.
6. The Convener is proposing that the following people are appointed:
 - Peter Murray as Chair
 - Lindsay MacDonald as Vice Chair
7. Peter Murray is Vice Chair of NHS Lothian, Chair of NHS Lothian Remuneration Committee, Chair of East Lothian Integrated Joint Board, Chair of Integrated Joint Board Chairs and Vice Chairs Executive and Chair of Bon Accord Care. He has been a member of the SSSC and Audit and Assurance Committee since 2019.
8. Lindsay MacDonald is a non-executive director of the Clyde Valley Housing Group and sits on its Audit and Risk Committee. He has been a member of the SSSC and Audit and Assurance Committee since his appointment earlier this year.
9. Alan Baird and Theresa Allison will continue in their roles with their replacements shadowing them until 31 August 2024 when they retire from the SSSC.

CONSULTATION

10. This is an internal governance matter and no consultation was carried out.

RISKS

11. We have an averse risk appetite towards governance matters. There are no direct risks arising from this report.

IMPLICATIONS

Resourcing

12. There are no financial, staffing, sustainability or legal resourcing issues arising from this report.

Compliance

13. This report complies with governance requirements.

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Equalities

14. An EIA is not necessary as this report concerns internal governance matters and has no impact on the protected characteristics of individuals.

CONCLUSION

15. This report asks Council to approve the appointment of Peter Murray as Chair and Lindsay MacDonald as Vice Chair of the Audit and Assurance Committee.