



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Richard Leonard MSP  
Convener  
Public Audit Committee

By email only

**Net Zero, Energy and Transport  
Committee**

c/o Clerk to the Committee  
Room T3.40  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
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06 June 2024

Dear Richard

**Auditor General for Scotland's draft work programme**

Thank you for your letter of 22 April, which sought our views on the Auditor General for Scotland's (AGS) draft work programme.

The draft work programme pipeline includes plans to:

- Complete a performance audit of sustainable transport by 2025; and
- Undertake a performance audit examining how the public sector is leading action to adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change.

The Committee welcomes the performance audits proposed in the work programme pipeline, which focus on important elements of climate change and transport policy.

In relation to sustainable transport, the AGS consultation highlights the Scottish Government's target to reduce car kilometres by 20 per cent by 2030. The AGS may wish to take account of our most recent scrutiny of these proposals and the Scottish Government's January 2022 "route map" for the target, when we took evidence from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport on [4 June](#). The Cabinet Secretary made a number of comments about the target and discussed the role of local government in developing the route map as well as the need to invest in alternative modes of transportation and active travel initiatives.

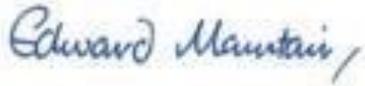
When developing the terms of the second audit on public sector action to adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change, the AGS might also like to consider the evidence we heard from the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy on [28 May](#).

In response to the Climate Change Committee's Scotland report, the Cabinet Secretary announced the intention to introduce 'expedited legislation' to reflect a

revised timetable for achieving net zero by 2045, with a revised approach based on five-yearly carbon budgeting. The Committee suggests the AGS consider, as part of the audit, how the public sector will adjust to these proposals.

We look forward to receiving further information on the outcomes of these audits and the findings will be considered as part of our broader work on climate change throughout the remainder of the session.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward Mountain". The signature is written in a cursive style with a trailing flourish at the end.

Edward Mountain MSP  
Convener

**Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee**