

Kieran Donnelly
Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland

By email

25 March 2019

Dear Kieran

Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013

The **Finance Committee** of the National Assembly for Wales is conducting **post-legislative scrutiny** of the **Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013**, which was introduced in July 2012 and became law in Wales on 29 April 2013. The Act aimed to strengthen and improve the accountability and governance arrangements relating to the Auditor General for Wales (AGW) and the Wales Audit Office (WAO), whilst protecting the Auditor General's independence and objectivity.

Following its consultation on the WAO fee regime in June 2017, the AGW and WAO has invited the Committee to consider:

- **proposals for a bill to amend the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013**; and
- **a draft Public Audit (Amendment) (Wales) Bill**

The Finance Committee's post-legislative scrutiny will focus on two areas:

1. To explore issues raised by the AGW and WAO in relation to the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013; including:
 - Fee charging
 - Quorum arrangements of the Wales Audit Office board
 - Wales Audit Office reporting arrangements
 - Issues with laying and reporting accounts
2. To consider to what extent other aspects of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013 may benefit from revision.

The Committee would like to invite you to provide written evidence addressing the terms of reference above. In particular, the Committee would be interested in your views on how equivalent legislation in Northern Ireland operates in relation to the issues raised in point 1.



Should you require any clarification or further information, please contact: Georgina Owen, Committee Clerk, 0300 200 6387, SeneddFinance@assembly.wales. If you are able to assist the Committee with the inquiry, it would be helpful to receive your response by 3 May 2019.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Llyr', is centered within a light yellow rectangular box.

Llyr Gruffydd AM

Chair

