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LEGACY 2014  
XX COMMONWEALTH GAMES  
SCOTLAND

**By email**

23 March 2016

Dear Mr Martin

**AUDITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (AGS) SECTION 22 REPORT “[THE 2014/15 AUDIT OF NHS 24: UPDATE ON MANAGEMENT OF AN IT CONTRACT](#)”**

Following my attendance at the Public Audit Committee on 24 February 2016 and your letter of 1 March 2016 you asked for:

**“a list of all the costs of external consultants, including lawyers, engaged on ICT projects since the start of this Parliamentary session”**

I am grateful to the Committee for providing further clarification on the scope of this request and for recognising the scale of the exercise required to produce accurate figures. Accordingly, the focus of this response is to provide figures for Scottish Government central contracts and for NHS work commissioned by our e-Health Division and I include a table at Annex A containing a breakdown of the figures we are able to provide at this time.

As the footnotes to the table make clear, these include the costs of contractors working on the actual delivery of projects and programmes, (for example, the large team delivering the CAP Futures Programme). Given the diverse nature of the activity covered, caution is needed in drawing conclusions from the overall figures.

I will be happy to provide further information should the Committee require it.

Yours sincerely

**Sarah Davidson**

Director General Communities

The Scottish Government

## THE COSTS OF EXTERNAL CONTRACTORS INCLUDING LAWYERS.

	2011 - 12	2012 - 13	2013 - 14	2014 - 15	2015 - 16*
<b>Scottish Government</b> (excluding CAP and Health)	£4,047,130	£2,074,808	£3,636,279	£5,085,637	£4,500,000
<b>Scottish Government</b> CAP Futures Programme		£900,000	£16,500,00	£39,660,000	£31,680,000
<b>Scottish Government</b> eHealth				£168,690	

1. In some cases, these figures include use of contractors as the most cost effective way of sourcing specialist skills such as system integration for business as usual, and support for specific IT enabled business change projects. These comprise
  - specialist temporary workers brought in through a specific procurement exercise for a discrete piece of work often engaged as a team rather than on an individual time hire basis; or
  - temporary workers, typically brought in under an ICT service contract which has been let to an external organisation to supply a specific product or service.
2. The CAP Futures Programme 2015-16 cost details expenditure up to period 11.
3. The Scottish Government 2015-16 cost details expenditure up to period 10 on centrally managed contracts.
4. eHealth spend in FY14-15 was for 3 specific pieces of work:
  - support to SG eHealth around the development of the eHealth Strategy published in March 2015.
  - commission of an independent review of ICT resilience in the Health Boards following the service outage in NHS GG&C.
  - commission an independent review of the NHS24 Futures Programme