



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Professor Susan Deacon  
Chair  
Scottish Police Authority

Cc Margaret Mitchell MSP, Convener,  
Justice Committee and  
John Finnie MSP, Convener, Justice  
Sub-Committee on Policing

By email only  
John.McCroskie@spa.pnn.police.uk

Dear Susan

#### **THE 2016/17 AUDIT OF THE SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY**

I write with reference to my letter of 23 February 2018 to Dr Nicola Marchant. I note that Dr Marchant has now resigned from the SPA board but that her reply to my letter which we requested by 23 March is outstanding.

I thought it would be helpful to advise you that I am still keen to receive a response to the issues raised in my letter to Dr Marchant which are not covered by my separate letter to you. If you have the appropriate information I would be happy to receive one response from you incorporating the issues raised in both letters.

The letter to Dr Marchant asked about the issue of legal advice and asks "*Why did the board consider it was a good use of public money to seek legal advice concerning the provision of information to Ms Ali?*". I would be keen to see as full a reply on this as your information allows.

Finally, as you know, my committee is very concerned about poor governance in the SPA that the 2016/17 Audit highlighted. I note Dr Marchant's resignation and wish to enquire, in the interests of better governance in the future, whether other board members who presided over mistakes in the past are similarly considering their positions.

Yours sincerely,

#### **Public Audit and Post-legislative Scrutiny Committee**

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21 March 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jenny Marra', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Jenny Marra MSP**  
**Convener**