



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

# **SPCB Annual Report and Accounts 2022-23**

**21 September 2023**

**Reference: SPCB (2023) Paper 57**

## **Executive summary**

1. To request the SPCB approve the Annual Report and Accounts for 2022-23 and provide assurance to the Chief Executive in his role as Principal Accountable Officer.

## **Issues and options**

2. Audit Scotland has completed its 2022-23 audit and has advised that an unqualified audit opinion will be given on receipt of the signed Annual Report and Accounts. An Annual Audit Report, including the International Standards on Auditing (ISA) 260 letter confirming this was issued to the Advisory Audit Board (AAB) for its meeting on 20 September.
3. The main challenge this year was the approach to a pension surplus arising in the Scottish Parliamentary Pension Scheme as at 31 March 2023 and its treatment in the SPCB's accounts. We have consulted with the Government Actuary's Department, the Advisory Audit Board and Audit Scotland to agree to recognise the surplus of £5.7m in our figures.
4. The draft 2022-23 Annual Report and Accounts were recommended for approval by the AAB. The draft is attached at Annex A

## **Governance**

5. The SPCB Annual Report and Accounts are prepared in accordance with the Direction issued by Scottish Ministers under Section 19(4) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000. The Clerk/Chief Executive has responsibility as the Principal Accountable Officer to sign the Annual Report and Accounts at the end of the Performance Report,

the Accountability Report and on the Statement of Financial Position and then present the signed statements to the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS).

## **Resource implications**

6. There are no resource implications relating to this paper.

## **Publication Scheme**

7. Annex A to this paper should not be published, as the Annual Report and Accounts will be formally published before the October recess.

## **Next steps**

8. Signed copies of the Annual Report and Accounts must be provided to the AGS before 30 November 2023 to meet the statutory deadline for laying the Accounts before Parliament. Subject to the SPCB's approval, arrangements are in hand for the Principal Accountable Officer and the AGS to sign the final accounts on 21 September and for the accounts to be laid and published before the October recess.

## **Decision**

9. The SPCB is asked to note the feedback from the AAB meeting on 20 September and to approve the SPCB 2022-23 Annual Report and Accounts.

## **Financial Governance Group**

September 2023