



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Public Audit Committee

Neil Rennick
Director-General Education and Justice
Scottish Government

27 September 2024

Dear Mr Rennick

Investing in Scotland's infrastructure

Thank you for your letter of 26 July 2024 providing further information about the police training centre at Jackton following the oral evidence session on 6 June, focussed on expiring private finance initiative (PFI) contracts within your remit.

As you know, the PFI contract for the training centre is due to end in 2026. During the evidence session, you indicated that Police Scotland would be required to make a payment if the centre was returned to the public sector. You further committed to providing clarity on whether this figure, which you referred to as being “in the low millions”, was in the public domain.

The Committee considered your correspondence on 12 September 2024. It noted that work is currently underway to assess the options for the centre and that you state the final cost of exiting the PFI arrangement will be “subject to negotiations with the PFI company”. The Committee further noted that you cite these reasons as to why information on the cost of exiting the PFI is unable to be provided at this time.

The Committee is disappointed that no further information about the potential financial impact of exiting the contract can be shared with the Committee. It therefore asks you consider what more information can be provided at this stage, including further clarity on the work the Scottish Government is progressing with Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority on the future plans for the training centre.

The Committee requests a response by **25 October 2024**.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Leonard MSP, Convener

Contact: Public Audit Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.
Email: publicaudit.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.