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27 February 2025

Richard Leonard MSP Convenor Public Audit Committee Scottish Parliament

By email

Dear Richard

On 27 February 2024 Audit Scotland published the Additional Support for Learning Briefing (found here).

It covers how well the Scottish Government and councils are addressing the demand for ASL in publicly funded primary, secondary and special schools.

The Scottish Government and councils both have responsibilities to ensure that pupils receive ASL. The briefing considers how they:

- allocate and use resources to meet additional support needs
- monitor the provision of ASL and its impact on pupils, and
- are addressing the challenges around ASL.

The briefing recommends that both the Scottish Government and councils should fundamentally evaluate, nationally and locally, how education is funded, staffed and assessed as a core part of school education so that it supports all pupils to reach their full potential.

Under section 6.7.1(c) of the Parliament's Standing Orders, I refer this briefing to the Public Audit Committee. The Committee may wish to consider this briefing as part of their work programme.

With best wishes

Stephen Boyle Auditor General for Scotland