

Questions arising from presentation “Measuring Efficiency”

Q.10 “Jonathan Sharma mentioned that feedback to Audit Scotland would be an aggregate form composed by COSLA and not individual Local Authorities. Does the Diagnostic Tool reflect this?”

“This is more project focused. We await detail from Audit Scotland.”

“Audit Scotland don’t have a formulated approach. It will be high level, covering the whole of the public sector not just local authorities. This is a project case study example-based approach. This is what we mean by diagnostic. It is not a formal approach.”

Q.11 “Will COSLA be looking for evidence from Local Authorities to complete the aggregate report?”

“Local Authorities should provide an efficiency statement to COSLA who will develop an aggregate statement.”

Q.12 “Would it be more effective to have a facilitated Community of Practice or an Aspiren User Group? There could be an argument for the latter.”

“An Aspiren User Group stream could be incorporated into the Community of Practice.”

Q.13 “I’d like to discuss the previously mentioned issue around politician engagement and the value placed on this process by the current and future government administrations. I’m concerned the Government may become carried away. While this works for some Local Authorities, it may not work for all. Despite this, it may become compulsory for everyone if we over-engage with politicians.”

“The re-engagement of politicians is a much broader issue. Concerns about this becoming compulsory in future will be taken on board.”

“Re-engagement from a COSLA point of view relates to the aggregate return and efficiency targets – which leaders will be kept informed of. We will report to the executive group on today’s workshop and findings, so politicians will be kept within the sphere. It is important to have a sense of ownership and responsibility.”