Diane McGiffen

Chief Operating Officer

Audit Scotland

102 West Port

Edinburgh

EH3 9DN

16th December 2019

Dear Diane McGiffen,

I am writing to you on behalf of members of the Cross Party Group for Culture at the Scottish Parliament (to which I am co-convener).

The group recently held a meeting in Edinburgh discuss the various ways that the cultural sector contributes to person-centred healthcare in Scotland. As part of the discussion the group considered the cultural spend across all government portfolios. It was suggested that Audit Scotland may have this information.

I write now to ask if you would be able to provide the figures for the investment in culture across all government portfolios, and if not; can you please advise us on how we may be able to source this.

Furthermore the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee (to which I am Convener) at the Scottish Parliament has recently published a report <u>Putting Artists in the Picture</u> which recommends that 1% of the Scottish Government budget be invested in the arts. In order for the cross party group to consider the report; it is now vital that we understand what the current spend is across portfolios.

Your assistance in this matter is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Joan McAlpine MSP

Co-convener

Cross Party Group on Culture