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Press release

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Accounts Commission asks for further audit work at The Highland Council

The Accounts Commission has requested more information on The Highland Council's Caithness Heat and Power project (CHAPs).

The Commission took the decision at its meeting on Thursday 17 June, when it considered a statutory report from the Controller of Audit that highlighted concerns with the project.

Chair of the Accounts Commission, John Baillie, said: "In light of the issues raised in the report, the Commission agreed to direct the Controller of Audit to carry out further investigations. Once this audit work has been completed the Controller of Audit will produce another statutory report, which will be considered by the Commission in due course."

For further information contact Anne McCubbin: 0131 625 1653 (amccubbin@audit-scotland.gov.uk).

Notes to Editors:

1. A statutory report is the means by which the Controller of Audit (Caroline Gardner), highlights audit issues to the Accounts Commission.
2. The statutory report from the Controller of Audit which was considered by the Accounts Commission on 17 June is a public document and is available at www.audit-scotland.gov.uk
3. The Accounts Commission for Scotland checks whether local authorities, fire and police boards spend public money properly and effectively.
4. Audit Scotland provides services to the Accounts Commission for Scotland and carries out work as directed by the Accounts Commission and the Controller of Audit.