

Robert Black biographical notes

Robert Black was appointed by Her Majesty as first Auditor General for Scotland in February 2000. He is responsible for the statutory audit and reporting on all expenditure devolved to the Scottish Parliament, with the exception of expenditure by local authorities, under the Scotland Act 1998. The expenditure controlled by the Scottish Parliament is about £40 billion a year. The Auditor General is the accountable officer for Audit Scotland. Audit Scotland supplies audit services and support to the Auditor General and the Accounts Commission for Scotland, which oversees local government expenditure.

Between 1995 and 2000, Mr Black was Controller of Audit with the Accounts Commission with responsibility for the external auditing and reporting on all expenditure by local authorities and NHS bodies in Scotland. Between 1990 and 1995 he was chief executive of Tayside Regional Council, a large local authority with a budget of approximately £500 million per annum. Between 1985 and 1990, he was chief executive of Stirling District Council.

Between 1975 and 1985, he worked with Strathclyde Regional Council and for most of that time he was a senior executive in charge of policy planning and budget scrutiny. His earlier career was with Nottinghamshire County Council and the City of Glasgow Council.

Robert Black has an honours MA degree in economics, a Masters degree in planning, and a Masters degree in public policy. He is a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society. He does not hold an accountancy qualification but is an honorary member of CIPFA.