



## Drinking Quality Regulator for Scotland Public Services Reform Report 2023-2024

The Drinking Water Quality Regulator for Scotland is required by Section 31 of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010, to publish as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year, a statement of any expenditure that it has incurred in connection with the matters listed below.

### 1. Statement of expenditure for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Expenditure incurred	Amount (£)
(a) Public Relations	0
(b) Overseas Travel	2,222
(c) Hospitality and Entertainment	920
(d) External Consultancy	6,600

2 Payments made with values in excess of £25,000:

Amount	Date	Payee	Subject matter
£117,050	Apr 2023	Exception Limited	Data Management System Development
£24,571	Jul 2023	Exception Limited	Data System - Support
£50,837	Nov 2023	Exception Limited	Data System - Hosting

3. Members or employees receiving remuneration in excess of £150,000:

No employees received in excess of £150,000 during this period.

Name of member/employee	Position held	Remuneration
N/A	N/A	Nil

4. Information on exercise of the public functions for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

*Steps taken to promote and increase sustainable growth through the exercise of our functions.*

- The Drinking Water Quality Regulator for Scotland (DWQR) contributes to the success of Scotland and increasing sustainable economic growth by ensuring that drinking water in Scotland is safe to drink. This is done by ensuring that everything Scottish Water does safeguards the quality of the public supply, through a process of inspections and monitoring. DWQR enforces the requirements of The Public Water Supplies (Scotland) Regulations 2014 (as amended) and takes action where these requirements are not met. The

activities of the DWQR during the year are set out in the DWQR Annual Report, available at [dwqr.scot](http://dwqr.scot) .

- Additionally, DWQR has a role to ensure drinking water is not only safe, but pleasant to drink and has the trust of consumers. Working with the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman, DWQR assists consumers who have concerns about the quality of their water supply where they feel Scottish Water has not adequately addressed them.
- About 3% of the population receive their drinking water from private water supplies. While these are regulated by local authorities, the DWQR has a duty to supervise this while collecting and interpreting data on these supplies.

*Steps taken to improve efficiency, effectiveness and economy in the exercise of our functions.*

DWQR is a Ministerial appointment, and staffing, facilities, procurement and expenditure fall wholly within the core processes administered by the Scottish Government. Our budget forms part of Scottish Government’s central budget allocation, enabling the DWQR to use economies of scale to maximise value for money, Specifically:

- Use of the Scottish Government SEAS central finance system for expenditure recording and reporting
- Use of SG HR services for staffing
- Procuring goods and services using centrally negotiated competitive tender contracts
- Utilising accommodation and IT services located within Scottish Government estate

5. Information on remuneration to special advisers for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

No special advisers were used during this period.

Name of special adviser	Reason utilised	Remuneration
N/A	N/A	Nil