FINANCE COMMITTEE CALL FOR EVIDENCE
PRISONERS (CONTROL OF RELEASE) (SCOTLAND) BILL:
FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM FROM ANGUS COUNCIL

Consultation
Did you take part in any consultation exercise preceding the Bill, and if so, did you comment on the financial assumptions made?
1. No

If applicable, do you believe your comments on the financial assumptions have been accurately reflected in the FM?
2. n/a

Did you have sufficient time to contribute to the consultation exercise?
3. n/a

Costs
If the Bill has any financial implications for your organisation, do you believe that they have been accurately reflected in the FM? If not, please provide details?
4. There are no financial implications for Angus Council

Do you consider that the estimated costs and savings set out in the FM are reasonable and accurate?
5. The basis for calculating the costs appears valid and the costing is explained clearly; consequently the estimated costs and savings are reasonable and accurate. As ever it is important to note that they are estimates.

If applicable, are you content that your organisation can meet any financial costs that it might incur as a result of the Bill? If not, how do you think these costs should be met?
6. It is very unlikely that there will be any additional cost for Angus Council and it may be that some very small savings occur due to a delay in the need to provide community supervision/housing etc. This is likely to be negated if sentencers utilise extended sentences to ensure that offenders remain supervised in the community for a reasonable period following release. It is likely that Criminal Justice Social Work Report writers will recommend extended sentences so that offenders who serve a full term will still be subject to conditions on release. The risk of the bill is that offenders who serve a full term will be released without any obligation to co-operate with Criminal Justice Services.

Does the FM accurately reflect the margins of uncertainty associated with the Bill’s estimated costs and with the timescales over which they would be expected to arise?
7. The timescales are represented fairly however and the consideration of likely lower and upper limits of expenditure should be useful in allowing for concerned agencies to consider contingencies.

**Wider issues**

*Do you believe that the FM reasonably captures any costs associated with the Bill? If not, which other costs might be incurred and by whom?*

8. As noted above if there was to be an increased use of extended sentence this may have an impact on community supervision however this is likely to be mitigated by the relatively low numbers in each local authority and the delay in release.

*Do you believe that there may be future costs associated with the Bill, for example through subordinate legislation? If so, is it possible to quantify these costs?*

9. While it's not possible to rule out future costs via unintended consequences; the relatively low numbers involved and the limited scope of the legislation suggest future costs beyond those already identified are unlikely and there is no obvious need for subordinate legislation.