Consultation
Did you take part in any consultation exercise preceding the Bill and, if so, did you comment on the financial assumptions made?
1. GCC Response: Yes, the council did respond to a previous consultation.

If applicable, do you believe your comments on the financial assumptions have been accurately reflected in the FM?
2. GCC Response: In the consultation referred to above the council commented on Section 1 of the bill. The Bill sets an obligation for local authorities to have a fund however the risk is that if funding is not provided by Scottish Ministers then it will fall to local authorities to provide funding from within their overall settlement.

It is noted that the wording in this section still raises a risk for local authorities finances.

Did you have sufficient time to contribute to the consultation exercise?
3. GCC Response: Yes.

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. GCC Response: The FM reflects that local authorities will incur administration costs.

Do you consider that the estimated costs and savings set out in the FM are reasonable and accurate?
5. GCC Response: Glasgow City Council administers the Scottish Welfare Fund within its Customer and Business Services division and as such has found that the current level of administration costs are sufficient. However currently only applications with a priority level of high are being approved in order to remain within programme funding.

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. GCC Response: Please see response above.

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. GCC Response: The FM does not reference the risk of an increase in applications to the Fund resulting from welfare reform changes that are still to take effect eg. Personal Independence Payment and also the conditionality for working
households that is expected to come with Universal Credit. This would have pressures for both the programme funding and also administration funding if local authorities were faced with increased applications.

**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. GCC Response: None identified.

*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. GCC Response: None identified.