

# Deputy First Minister and Minister for Transport submission of 20 December 2023

## PE1936/N: Remove potholes from Scotland's roads

Thank you for your letters, both dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023 regarding Petition PE1936 which sought assurances regarding the budget for motorways and trunk roads.

The economic conditions are set to remain challenging as inflationary pressures continue on households, businesses and public services. The fiscal outlook for the Scottish Government is expected to remain similarly challenging with the medium-term funding outlook also being subject to considerable volatility with funding remaining uncertain. This means taking tough choices to ensure that our resources are focused on our three critical missions outlined in the Policy Prospectus, and driving reform to secure value for money for the taxpayer.

Budgets are allocated on an annual basis through the Scottish Budget process, where available funds will be prioritised and published in the draft budget. All Barnett consequentials, including consideration of their source are factored into that process. The 2024-25 draft budget will be published on 19 December 2023 and will set out spending plans for motorways and trunk roads.

I hope this is of assistance and clarifies the Government's position on this matter.

Yours sincerely

**SHONA ROBISON**

**FIONA HYSLOP**