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Clare Adamson MSP
Convener of the Constitution, Europe, External
Affairs and Culture Committee

19th February 2024

Budget 2024/2025

Dear Clare,

Thank you for your letter of 29 January 2024 following my evidence to the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee on 18 January.

I share your and the sector's desire for long term clarity and confidence in relation to funding. As I said in my opening remarks the additional £15.8m in 2024/2025 will not rectify the years of standstill funding. However, this commitment to additional funding despite the challenging budget situation signals our confidence in the Scottish culture sector. The £15.8m is intended to be followed by a further £25m in 2025/2026, with culture budgets £40.8m higher than now. The budget will increase cumulatively until it is £100m per annum higher by 2028/9. This additional resource allows us to move beyond simply sustaining the sector, to developing it in innovative ways to support Scotland's creative sector and its contribution to our own well-being economy and international reputation.

My officials are undertaking initial work to identify priority areas and activities for future investment. I will keep you and the CEEAC updated on this work.

Yours sincerely,

Angus Robertson

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