



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

Angus Robertson MSP
Cabinet Secretary, Constitution, External Affairs and Culture
Scottish Government

10 September 2024

Dear Angus

Pre-Budget Scrutiny 2025-26 and the Programme for Government

Thank you for your letter of 4 September in relation to the Programme for Government commitment to “review the way the culture sector is supported, including a review of Creative Scotland”.¹

We note that the review will “examine Creative Scotland’s remit and functions as a funding body” and “examine how the overall impact of planned increases in levels of public funding can be maximised to support sustainability in the sector and in participation in the arts”.²

It would be helpful if you could provide further information regarding the scope of this review, as well as the timescales to completion, and the process which will be followed.

Although any one individual change in EU tertiary law is unlikely to have a visible impact, the cumulative effect of multiple changes of this nature over time is likely to result in evident divergence, assuming no corresponding changes are made to Scots law. Additionally, where there are corresponding but separate developments in domestic law – Scotland specific or UK-wide – the effect of technical changes in EU law become more significant. Notably, this assessment supports the Scottish Government position “that all EU legislation (tertiary or otherwise) has potential relevance to the commitment to align and is considered in the same way as regulations and directives for relevance to Scotland”.

1

[Creative Scotland Review | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

2

[Review of Creative Scotland -gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

Contact: Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email ceeac.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

Release of funding allocated in 2024-25 Budget

We also note the update that “following a period of necessary due diligence, Creative Scotland had now received funding previously allocated to it in the 2024/25 Scottish budget, including £1.8million for youth music, and £6.6 million that will allow its Open Fund to be re-opened.”³

We will take evidence from Creative Scotland on Thursday 19 September as part of our pre-budget scrutiny of culture funding, and it would be helpful to have a response before then.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clare Adamson". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Clare Adamson MSP
Convener