

Finance and Public Administration Committee

Budget Scrutiny 2022-23

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy to the Convener of 9 December 2021

Dear Convener

I am delighted to publish our 2021 Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Resource Spending Review Framework alongside the Scottish Budget today.

Both documents can be found on the Scottish Government website.

Resource Spending Review Framework:
<https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781802017564>

Medium Term Financial Strategy: <https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781802017557>

The Resource Spending Review Framework launches a national conversation about how we deliver effective public services and maintain sustainable public finances. The MTFS outlines the fiscal context for the decisions we will need to take as we set our spending plans for the remainder of the parliamentary term.

This is a real opportunity for our stakeholders to make their views heard and influence how we use our available resources to create the conditions for citizens, businesses and the third sector to thrive. The formal consultation period will remain open to 27th March, but is just one stage of a fiscal conversation which will continue.

I noted with interest the Committee's recommendations in your pre-Budget scrutiny report and your support for multi-year budgets to provide greater financial certainty for the Scottish public sector and create space for a focus on preventative spend. I look forward to working with you as we build on the foundations set in today's budget and develop our multi-year spending plans.

Yours sincerely

Kate Forbes