

Finance and Public Administration Committee

Alison Johnstone MSP Presiding Officer Scottish Parliament

By email

All correspondence c/o:

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Dear Presiding Officer

As you are aware, in recent months, the Finance and Public Administration Committee has been undertaking scrutiny of the costs and delivery of the Scottish Parliament's website, as part of our broader scrutiny of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body's (SPCB) budget.

Following an initial exchange of correspondence, the Committee took evidence from the Corporate Body on 17 May 2022, during which it committed to respond to the Committee in writing to a number of issues that arose at the session. We considered this response from the Scottish Parliament's Deputy Chief Executive, Michelle Hegarty, dated 22 June, at our meeting yesterday.

The Committee noted the correspondence received, along with the statement from your previous letter of 27 April that "officials have ... recognised the need to provide increased detail on major multi-year project costs as part of the annual budgeting process to the SPCB and the Finance and Public Administration Committee". We welcome this commitment and look forward to receiving as part of each annual budget bid the total costs and details of significant projects, including those which span a number of financial years. We expect this information to include the overall number, duration, costs and cost profile of IT projects, as well as an update on progress.

We look forward to taking evidence from the SPCB again later this year, as part of our wider scrutiny of its budget.

Yours sincerely

Kenneth Gibson MSP Convener Finance and Public Administration Committee