

T: 0300 244 4000  
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Kenneth Gibson MSP  
Convener  
Finance and Public Administration Committee  
Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

12 February 2024

Dear Kenneth

Thank you for providing me with sight of your report to the Net Zero Energy and Transport (NZET) Committee on the financial memorandum for the Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill.

As noted during my evidence to the NZET Committee of 5 December 2023, I welcome the Committee's report and am committed to addressing the specific concerns raised. My officials are now considering the evidence that the Committee heard, particularly the concerns raised around some of the assumptions that were made in the financial memorandum, and I will provide updated figures where necessary. Since then I have also published the draft Circular Economy and Waste Route Map which sets out more detail on future timetables for measures in the Bill: [Circular economy and waste route map to 2030: consultation - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/consultation-collections/circular-economy-and-waste-route-map-to-2030-consultation/).

As I set out in my letter of 20 November 2023, we are already engaging with local authorities on how we will work together to co-design the detail of secondary regulations relating to household waste and to develop the associated Code of Practice. I continue to discuss this with Councillor Macgregor, the Cosla spokesperson for Environment and Economy, and we have agreed an approach for moving forward, in line with the Verity House Agreement, based on inclusive working informed by the best available evidence. We are utilising key partnership mechanisms, such as the Joint Scottish Government/Local Government Strategic Steering Group on Circular Economy and Waste to oversee and jointly drive this work. I also continue to engage with businesses, representative bodies and wider stakeholders, including productive discussion on provisions relating to unsold goods and reporting on waste and surplus.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](https://www.lobbying.scot)

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG  
[www.gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot)

I will provide a more detailed response to the Finance and Public Administration Committee's report at least a week ahead of the Stage 1 debate, in line with your original request.

Kind regards

**LORNA SLATER**

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG  
[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)

**INVESTORS IN PEOPLE**<sup>™</sup>  
We invest in people Silver



Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG  
[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)

**INVESTORS IN PEOPLE**<sup>™</sup>  
We invest in people Silver

