



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Finance and Public Administration Committee

Shona Robison MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government
The Scottish Government
(by email only)

1 October 2025

Dear Shona

Scottish Budget 2026-27

Thank you for your letter of 19 September 2025 setting out a proposed publication date of 15 January 2026 for the Scottish Budget 2026-27 and associated documents.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity to discuss this issue with you further during our evidence session on responding to long-term fiscal pressures on 30 September 2025, as well as your willingness to consider a slightly earlier publication date than that proposed.

While the Committee understands the challenges arising for the Scottish Government and Scottish Fiscal Commission from the UK Government's scheduling of its Autumn Budget 2025 for 26 November 2025, our priority must always be to protect as much time as possible for parliamentary scrutiny of the Scottish Budget.

The Committee therefore suggests that the Scottish Budget documentation be published by Tuesday 13 January 2025 at the latest to allow the necessary preparatory work to take place to inform future evidence-gathering. We have also asked the Committee Clerks to liaise with your officials regarding the Budget Bill timetable in more detail to ensure we maximise the overall length of time available for Parliament to examine these important documents.

We look forward to hearing from you.

I am copying this letter to Professor Graeme Roy, Chair of the SFC.

Yours sincerely

Kenneth Gibson MSP
Convener

Contact: Finance and Public Administration Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email: fpa.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.