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23 March

Dear Convener,

I write to you in respect of the recent announcement of funding for a Scotland-specific social impact programme relating to the 2027 Tour de France Grand Départ which, as you will be aware, Scotland will co-host alongside our partners in England and Wales.

At my evidence session before the Finance and Public Administrations Committee on 18 February 2025, I outlined what a tremendous opportunity this is for our country and sought the Committee's approval to commit funding for the event. This approval was granted and on Friday 12 December, the Scottish Government notified Parliament of the funding it has now committed to hosting the 2027 Tour de France Grand Départ.

The Scottish Government's overall investment in the event includes funding to boost its social impact. Parliament was notified via response to a Government Initiated Question, lodged on 26 February by Christine Grahame, where it was confirmed that the Scottish Government has chosen to allocate £1 million of its overall £9.25 million investment to deliver a social impact programme in Scotland.

Scottish Cycling, Scotland's national governing body for cycling, will lead on delivery of the programme, working closely with the Scottish Government, host local authorities, national agencies, community-based organisations and national cycling partners to co-design and deliver activity. The programme in Scotland will be aligned to the cross-national 'Joy' social impact programme being led by British Cycling which is funded separately.

This funding will help Scotland realise the full potential of the benefits the Tour de France will bring and aims to deliver positive and long-lasting change for our country.

The question and answer can be found here:  
[Written question and answer: S6W-43941 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

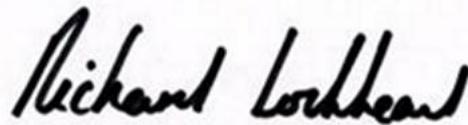
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I would also like to take this opportunity to update the Committee on the time-limited contingent liability that was agreed as part of my evidence session last February. This related to the liability for the totality of the budgets for the Scottish local authorities that would be featured on the Grand Départ route.

At the session, I outlined that, upon the Scottish Government signing its long form agreement, it would be committing to this time-limited contingent liability until all local authority agreements were concluded. I can now confirm that all local authorities have signed their respective hosting agreements and the liability for the Scottish Government no longer exists for their costs. It is important to note however that the Scottish Government remains underwriter of last resort for the event in Scotland, as agreed by this committee.

I hope that the Committee finds this helpful and I will be sure to keep it updated as planning for the event develops.

Yours sincerely,



**RICHARD LOCHHEAD**

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