

17 June 2022

Dean Lockhart MSP Convener Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee Scottish Parliament

Via email only

Dear Mr Lockhart,

I am writing to acknowledge and thank you for your letter dated 8 June 2022 on the Committee's inquiry into the role of local government and its cross-sectoral partners in financing and delivering a net-zero Scotland.

I welcome this continued and proactive engagement between the Committee and COSLA that will be necessary to achieve our ambitions. We are delighted to work together with yourself, the Committee and the wider Scottish Parliament to meet our shared objective of a Net Zero society by 2045.

We have noted the information requested in the letter and the deadline for a response. In parts, this is fairly complex information to pull together but we will endeavour to provide as full a response as we can that shows a fair picture. We are in the process of determining how best to answer your requests in coordination with our networks and the 32 Local Authorities.

It is worth noting to the Committee the current political stage of COSLA and Local Authorities. The recent elections mean that new administrations and structures are still forming across Scotland. This is also true at COSLA where our office bearers, be that new or returning, will be confirmed on 17 June. It is our hope that this will not lead to a delay in supplying you with the requested information.

We will be back in touch shortly.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Steven Heddle COSLA Environment and Economy Spokesperson