



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Finance and Public Administration Committee

Jenny Gilruth MSP
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government
Scottish Government

20 July 2026

Dear Cabinet Secretary

Thank you for your letter of 24 June 2026 setting out the Scottish Government's intention not to publish a Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) in 2026.

The Committee will have an opportunity to consider the letter, including any possible implications for scrutiny of the Scottish Government's budgetary plans, when the Scottish Parliament returns from recess.

To further inform the Committee's consideration, it would be helpful to receive additional information regarding the Scottish Government's decision not to publish the MTFS in 2026, including whether a December publication date was considered, given there is precedent for this happening following the Scottish Parliament elections in 2021.

I also understand that usual practice is for the Scottish Government to consult with finance committees regarding publication dates for the MTFS, where it is not possible to follow the usual timetable of May/June. It would also therefore be useful to understand the Cabinet Secretary's intentions regarding this practice for future iterations of the MTFS.

I look forward to receiving a response by 24 August 2026.

Yours sincerely

Clare Haughey

Convener