Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
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Clare Haughey MSP
Convener
Finance and Public Administration Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

By email: FPA.committee@parliament.scot

4 November 2026

2027-28 SCOTTISH BUDGET: BILL TIMETABLE

Dear Clare,

I am writing to advise on the proposed timetable for the 2027-28 Scottish Budget Bill.

The proposed Bill timetable is set out at **Annex A**. I would be grateful for your agreement to the timetable, including indicating preferred timing for the Committee Conveners' Debate if the Committee wish for that to take place.

As you know, the timetable will remain provisional pending consideration by Parliamentary Bureau and agreement by Parliament after the Bill is introduced.

As with Budget Bills in Session 6, post-Stage 3 consideration by the Law Officers and the Secretary of State for Scotland will need to be expedited to secure Royal Assent by 31 March 2027. The proposed timetable, based on introduction of the Bill on 16 December 2026, depends on their agreement to an expedited period of post-Stage 3 consideration.

The Scottish Government will engage with the Law Officers and the Secretary of State for Scotland on this matter and I will keep you informed of progress.

I have copied this letter to the Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans for his information.

Yours sincerely,

JENNY GILRUTH

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Annex A: Proposed Timetable

Stage of Process	Proposed Date
Budget Bill submitted for pre-introduction consideration	Tuesday 24 November 2026
Budget publication and statement	Thursday 03 December 2026
Budget Bill introduced	Wednesday 16 December 2026
Budget Bill published	Thursday 17 December 2026
Christmas Parliamentary Recess	19 December 2026 – 3 January 2027
Stage 1 Debate	Thursday 21 January 2027
Stage 2 amendment lodging deadline	Friday 05 February 2027
Stage 2	Wednesday 10 February 2027
Scottish Rate Resolution	Thursday 11 February 2027
Stage 3 amendment lodging deadline	Friday 12 February 2027
February Parliamentary Recess (inclusive)	13 February 2027 – 21 February 2027
Stage 3 Debate	Tuesday 23 February 2027
Law Officers' & Secretary of State for Scotland's clearance for Royal Assent deadline	Tuesday 16 March 2027
Royal Assent deadline	Wednesday 31 March 2027
Act commencement	Thursday 01 April 2027

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