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Collette Stevenson MSP
Convener
Social Justice and Social Security Committee
The Scottish Parliament

By email

25 November 2025

Dear Collette,

I wrote to the Finance and Public Administration Committee in August to advise them that I had agreed with the Chief Secretary to the Treasury (CST) that preliminary work would begin to establish the scope for the next review of the Fiscal Framework. I have been clear with the CST that the Scottish Government's position is that the scope of the next review should be broader than the last.

When I met with the CST in a meeting of the Joint Exchequer Committee in October, I highlighted the particular interest of the Scottish Parliament and its committees in the next review of the Fiscal Framework and the importance of stakeholder engagement.

I would like to invite the Committee to share its views on the key areas that should be prioritised in the next review, and therefore included within its scope. In particular, I would be keen to hear the Committee's thoughts on:

- the potential for the review to consider devolution of new powers to Scotland;
- where additional or increased flexibilities should be sought to better mitigate against the risks facing the Scottish Budget, and;
- other areas in which you think the current arrangements could be improved.

I am also writing to the Convener of the Finance and Public Administration Committee with a similar request.

I am keen to make as much progress as possible towards reaching an agreement on scope in advance of the dissolution of Parliament. Therefore, I would welcome views in written form prior to the Christmas recess and would be happy to follow up on any issues raised in the new year.

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I look forward to working with the Committee on this matter in the coming months.

I am copying this letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Shirley-Anne Somerville.

Yours sincerely,

SHONA ROBISON

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