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Gordon Lindhurst MSP
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The Scottish Parliament
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Dear Gordon

Thank you for your letter of 15 November concerning the scrutiny of infrastructure spending in the context of your committee's scrutiny of the Draft Budget 2018-19.

I welcome the Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee's interest in this and I am happy to consider how such scrutiny can be enhanced. As you are aware, infrastructure spending is of interest to other committees including individual subject committees as well as the Public Audit and Post Legislative Scrutiny Committee.

My officials gave evidence on 7 December to the Public Audit and Post Legislative Scrutiny Committee and further information was requested by the Committee. It was agreed that the Committee would work with officials to consider how its requests for additional information could be managed to ensure that future updates on the Scottish Government's major infrastructure projects and programmes continue to be both useful and manageable. I recognise that this will also be of interest to your committee and I would welcome your involvement in this process.

In taking this forward, my officials will ensure that the Economy, Jobs, and Fair Work Committee is engaged in the process to facilitate enhanced scrutiny on infrastructure spending.

KEITH BROWN