



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**Economy Jobs and Fair Work Committee  
Call for views  
Scotland's Economic Performance: trends, challenges and future  
developments**

This month marks ten years since the beginning of the financial crash and the subsequent 'Great Recession'. It is also ten years since the Scottish Government introduced its National Performance Framework (NPF) which measures performance and progress towards the Scottish Government's economic priorities. Through the prism of the NPF, the Scottish Parliament's Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee will be examining Scotland's economic performance since 2007, as well as exploring future challenges and opportunities for Scotland's businesses and households.

The Committee invites all interested individuals and organisations to submit written views on its inquiry.

The remit of the inquiry is:

***“To examine Scotland's economic performance since 2007 and understand the reasons for recent trends and divergences in performance between Scotland and the UK as a whole, other regions/nations in the UK, and other countries in the EU. The inquiry will also identify challenges and opportunities facing the Scottish economy over the next ten years and understand what action is required to make Scotland's economy more inclusive, innovative and international”.***

The Committee plans to focus the inquiry on three areas:

*GDP growth and productivity*

- Economic trends – Scottish and UK/regional performance;
- The structure of Scotland's economy and the contribution of SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises);
- Scotland's key sectors: drivers of growth and productivity?
- Innovation – case studies and government support;
- Internationalisation – Scotland's exports; Inward investment.

*Inequality and labour market issues*

- Inequality trends – Scotland, UK and international;
- Labour market trends and future workforce challenges;

- Debt, inflation and household income;
- Learning from abroad – inclusive growth in other countries.

*Inclusive growth – bringing it all together?*

To assist the Committee in its work, we are looking for responses to the questions below. Please feel free to answer all questions or focus your answer on areas of particular interest.

The Committee clerks are happy to discuss how to approach a submission: contact details are below.

### **Key questions**

#### *GDP growth and productivity*

- What have been the main drivers of growth in the Scottish economy since 2007?
- How have Scotland's key sectors performed over the past decade?
- How does Scotland growth rate compares with the UK as a whole, other regions/nations of the UK, and other countries in the EU?
- Where will we see future growth in our economy – exports, sectors, regions and innovations?
- What is Scotland's industrial composition and what are the barriers to diversification and growth?
- What role has Government support for innovation played in growing Scotland's economy and boosting productivity?

#### *Inequality and labour market issues*

- What are the main drivers of income and wealth inequality in Scotland?
- How does income and wealth inequality in Scotland compare to other countries/regions and what are the policy responses to income and wealth inequality in Scotland and abroad?
- What have the trends in debt, wages and household income been over the past decade?
- What are the reasons for regional differences in labour market participation?
- How has the labour market in Scotland changed over the past decade?
- What are the different models of business ownership in Scotland and what is their importance to Scotland's economy?

### **How to submit written evidence**

Before making a submission, please read our [Policy on Treatment of Written Evidence by Subject and Mandatory Committees](#).

**The deadline for written submissions is 13 November 2017.**

Responses should be sent, wherever possible, electronically and in MS Word format to: [economyjobsandfairwork@parliament.scot](mailto:economyjobsandfairwork@parliament.scot)

Ideally, responses should be **no more than four sides of A4 in length**.

If you prefer to post a hard copy, you can send it to: *Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee, Scottish Parliament, Holyrood, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP*

We welcome written evidence in any language.

**If you need to contact the Committee**

If you have any questions about the process, or wish to discuss the options for making a private or anonymous submission—

- You can email the Committee clerks at [EconomyJobsandFairWork@parliament.scot](mailto:EconomyJobsandFairWork@parliament.scot)
- You can call the Committee clerks on 0131 348 5214.
- We welcome calls using the Text Relay service or in BSL through [contactscotland-bsl.org/](http://contactscotland-bsl.org/)