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Margaret Mitchell MSP  
Convener  
Justice Committee  
Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
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Dear Convener

I refer to my letter of 23 February 2017, and your subsequent enquiry of 28 February 2017, and would advise as follows:

The Scottish Government's draft budget of £15.8m for 2017-18 is inclusive of funding to deliver the final year of the First Minister's commitment to spend £20m over three years to support violence against women priorities. It will also support work relating to improving the experience of children and vulnerable witnesses in the justice system and continuing provision of grant funding to various victim support organisations. Whilst certain funds are committed, as set out in the response to PQS5W-06036, other allocations will be determined in due course to benefit victims and witnesses.

I hope that this is helpful.

Yours sincerely



**Willie Cowan**  
Deputy Director