

Health, Care and Sport Committee
Wednesday 4 November 2026
9th Meeting, 2026 (Session 7)

Pre-budget scrutiny 2027-28: Preparing for future challenges in the health, care and sport sectors

Introduction

1. At today's meeting, the Committee will take evidence from the Scottish Government as part of its pre-budget scrutiny for 2027-28.
2. Pre-budget scrutiny aims to influence the formulation of spending proposals while they are still in development. The Scottish Budget is due to be published on Thursday 3 December.
3. As part of its pre-budget scrutiny for the financial year 2027-28, the Committee agreed to explore how the Scottish Government is preparing for future challenges in the health, care and sport sectors.
4. This is the Committee's final evidence session on pre-budget scrutiny. The first evidence session, held on [7 October](#), focused specifically on health. This was followed by two sessions held on [28 October](#), focusing on social care and sport.
5. The Committee also requested written evidence from a number of key stakeholders. The submissions received, as well as a summary of those, are available on the Committee's [webpage](#).
6. Following today's session, the Committee will consider the evidence received as part of its pre-budget scrutiny. The Committee will then write to the Scottish Government with its conclusions and recommendations ahead of the Scottish Budget on 3 December 2026.
7. A separate SPICe briefing paper (**Paper 2**) is available to inform this session.

Today's meeting

8. The Committee will take evidence from Angela Constance MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Care, supported by the following Scottish Government officials:
 - Christine McLaughlin, Director General for Health and Social Care
 - Richard Foggo, Director of Population Health
 - Fiona Bennett, Chief Finance Officer, Health and Social Care Finance.
9. Members will have up to 2 hours for this evidence session.

Action

10. Members are invited to question the Cabinet Secretary on how the Scottish Government should prepare now for future challenges in the care and sport sectors, and on the issues raised by witnesses in written and oral evidence.

Clerks to the Committee
October 2026