

Shona Robison, MSP
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet
Secretary for Finance
The Scottish Government

Via email only

Equalities Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee The Scottish Parliament T2.60 Edinburgh EH99 1SP

EHRCJ.committee@parliament.scot

4 July 2023

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

BUDGET 2024-25: PRE-BUDGET SCRUTINY

I am pleased to advise that the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee has now agreed its approach to pre-budget scrutiny for the forthcoming Scottish Government's draft budget 2024-25 and has today launched its Call for Views.

This year, in line with the previous two years, the Committee's focus will be on human rights budgeting with the Committee focusing, in turn, on each of the three core principles of human rights budgeting (participation, transparency and accountability) for the remainder of the Session 6 session.

The Committee will run its call for views over recess with a view to taking evidence in September and October. It also plans to hold participative sessions to complement its formal evidence taking. Once its scrutiny is concluded, the Committee will write to the Scottish Government as usual with its findings.

In addition to the above, as part of its approach, the Committee also agreed it would be helpful to request an update from the Scottish Government on its equalities data mainstreaming work.

Accordingly, I should be grateful if the Scottish Government is able to provide an update on its

- Equality Data Improvement Programme
- Equality Evidence Strategy

to enable the Committee to have the most up to date information available ahead of its budget scrutiny process.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Clerk to the Committee at EHRCJ.committee@parliament.scot.

Yours sincerely,

Kaukab Stewart, MSP Convener Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee