

An Leas-phrìomh Mhinistear agus Ath-shlànachadh
Cobhid
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Covid
Recovery
John Swinney MSP



Scottish Government
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Kenneth Gibson MSP
Convener
Finance and Public Administration Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
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By email: fpa.committee@parliament.scot

24 February 2023

Dear Convener,

When I met with the Committee on 7 February 2023, I mentioned that the Finance: Inter-ministerial Standing Committee (F:ISC) would be taking place on Thursday 9 February. That meeting has now taken place, chaired by me, at St Andrew's House in Edinburgh.

As you will recall, the F:ISC forms part of the machinery of intergovernmental relations and discusses the impact of economic and finance matters. It meets quarterly and is attended by finance ministers from across the devolved governments and the UK Government's Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

For your information, annexed to this letter is the agreed communiqué from the meeting. This provides detail on the matters discussed. This is also published on the Scottish Government's website at: [Finance: Interministerial Standing Committee: 9 February 2023 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/publications/2023/02/2023-02-09-fisc-communicue/)

My officials will continue to liaise with the Committee clerks to ensure that the Committee has all the information it needs regarding the F:ISC and associated arrangements, and I will continue to engage the Committee on its on-going business.

JOHN SWINNEY

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Finance: Interministerial Standing Committee

9 February 2023

St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Communiqué

John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Covid Recovery (Scottish Government) chaired a meeting of the Finance: Interministerial Standing Committee (F:ISC) on 9 February 2023 in St Andrew's House, Edinburgh. The meeting was attended by The Rt Hon John Glen MP, Chief Secretary to the Treasury (UK Government), and Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Local Government (Welsh Government). Officials from the Northern Ireland Executive attended virtually in a listening capacity.

All Ministers welcomed the opportunity to meet in-person to discuss the current economic context and sought to build positive and constructive relationships across the governments.

Ministers discussed the UK Government's economic and fiscal plans with a focus on the on-going budget challenges and looking ahead to the UK Government Spring Budget and OBR forecasts on 15 March.

Ministers went on to discuss replacement EU funding and were joined virtually for this item by a senior official from the UK Government Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

The Welsh Government Finance and Local Government Minister then gave a brief overview of the Interim report by The Independent Commission on the Constitutional Future of Wales.

Ministers noted that the next meeting of the F:ISC would take place in June but welcomed interministerial engagement between the governments in the meantime.

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