

Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill Financial Memorandum

Letter from the Scottish Government to the Committee of 29 February 2024

Good morning,

I am the policy lead for the Judicial Factors Bill. The Committee has called for views on the Financial Memorandum and the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service have been in touch with me to ask if I can pass on the following:

The Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service (SCTS) have suggested some clarification may be required on information provided within the Financial Memorandum under the section headed "Costs on SCTS". A number of the costs provided illustrate potential costs to parties of certain procedural steps in the progress of managing a judicial factor that involve the SCTS/ Accountant of Court and were based on figures supplied by the Law Society of Scotland. These are therefore not costs that will be incurred by the SCTS. Should any additional information on this aspect be required as part of the scrutiny of the Financial Memorandum, the Law Society may be able to provide that information. I am happy to put you in touch with the Law Society should members have any questions.

At paragraph 14 of the Financial Memorandum the Scottish Government provided estimated staffing costs of the SCTS based on figures from 2019. The SCTS would wish to clarify that it was not aware that these costs previously supplied would be reflected in the Financial Memorandum and have taken the opportunity to provide updated costs which are as follows:

- **For an Inner House case = £1,218**
- **For an Outer House case = £384**
- **For a Sheriff court case = £291**

Kind regards,

Michael

Michael Papparakis
Private Law Unit