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20 June 2025

Dear Kenneth,

Thank you for inviting me to provide evidence to the Committee on 20 May. As part of that session I committed to writing to you to confirm the planned date for the next Scottish Spending Review. I am pleased to update that, following the outcome of the UK Spending Review, the conditions are in place for the Scottish Government to publish a multi-year spending review alongside the 2026-27 Scottish Budget. Once the date of the UK Autumn Budget is known, I will engage with the Committee to agree a date for the new Scottish Budget. I anticipate this being in December.

The next Scottish Spending Review will cover both resource and capital funding for a multi-year period. My current intention is to follow the time period for the UK Spending Review of three future years for resource (2026-27, 2027-28 and 2028-29) and four for capital (to 2029-30). I will confirm that formally in due course.

In line with the Written Agreement, I intend to set out a framework for the Scottish Spending Review on 25 June as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). The framework will provide an overview of the approach we are taking to the exercise while the MTFS will set out the strategic, economic and fiscal context.

I also intend to publish a new Infrastructure Pipeline and draft Infrastructure Investment Plan alongside the 2026-27 Scottish Budget and the Scottish Spending Review. The pipeline will set out the Government's plans for investment in Scotland's social, economic and natural infrastructure over the period covered by the spending review, providing clarity for industry and stakeholders on the projects and programmes we will deliver.

This package of public finance products will provide Parliament, our stakeholders and our citizens with a comprehensive view of the Scottish Government's spending plans over the medium-term.

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I look forward to engaging with you and the Committee on this in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

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