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Finance and Public Administration Committee
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12 November 2025

Dear Convener,

I write to you in respect of the UEFA European Football Championship which will be co-hosted by the United Kingdom and Ireland in 2028.

This evening, 12 November, I will attend the 'Tournament Launch' which will take place in London at 20:28 hours, with a strict UEFA embargo on the media content, including the tournament brand reveal, match schedule, qualifying draw location and updated socio-economic benefits figures.

Government partners have agreed that the budget for the tournament should also be announced at the same time in order to meaningfully show how investment leads to these benefits. However, UEFA's embargo of 20:28 hours, means each of the Scottish Government, UK Government, Welsh Government and Government of Ireland will disclose funding commitments to their respective parliamentary authorities on the morning of 13 November.

Therefore, via response to a Government Initiated Question, it will be confirmed that the Scottish Government has committed funding of (up to) £73 million, including contingency, to support the delivery of EURO 2028 in Scotland. The GIQ response will also acknowledge that the UK & Ireland is expected to realise £3.6 billion in socio-economic benefits from EURO 2028, with Scotland's share up to £270 million.

The Finance and Public Administration Committee is aware of these projected costs and benefits – in strict confidence – following the Deputy First Minister's evidence session on 4 November on the associated contingent liability for Scottish Government.

Once again, given the strict commercial sensitivities and complexity of the EURO 2028 partnership, I would be grateful if the Committee can please treat this correspondence in strict confidence until the embargo of the official launch has been lifted at 20:28 hours this

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evening, 12 November. This UEFA-led launch is a major milestone in the lead up to delivering the tournament.

EURO 2028 has cross-party support throughout the UK and Ireland and it is the first time the UK and Ireland have co-hosted an event of this scale. I welcome the Committee's continued support in ensuring Scotland can support delivery of a safe and successful EURO 2028.

Sincerely

RICHARD LOCHHEAD

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