



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

Angus Robertson MSP  
Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture  
Scottish Government

**10 September 2024**

Dear Angus

### **Pre-Budget Scrutiny 2025-26 and the Programme for Government**

#### **Review of Creative Scotland**

Thank you for your letter of 4 September in relation to the Programme for Government commitment to “review the way the culture sector is supported, including a review of Creative Scotland”.<sup>1</sup>

We note that the review will “examine Creative Scotland’s remit and functions as a funding body” and “examine how the overall impact of planned increases in levels of public funding can be maximised to support sustainability in the sector and in participation in the arts”.<sup>2</sup>

It would be helpful if you could provide further information regarding the scope of this review, as well as the timescales to completion, and the process which will be followed.

#### **Release of funding allocated in 2024-25 Budget**

We also note the update that “following a period of necessary due diligence, Creative Scotland had now received funding previously allocated to it in the 2024/25 Scottish budget, including £1.8 million for youth music, and £6.6 million that will allow its Open Fund to be re-opened.”<sup>3</sup>

The Committee would appreciate further clarity from the Scottish Government regarding the series of events which led Creative Scotland to close the Open Fund for Individuals to new applications.

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<sup>1</sup> [Creative Scotland Review | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Review of Creative Scotland - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Review of Creative Scotland - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

Contact: Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.

Email [ceeac.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:ceeac.committee@parliament.scot). We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

We will take evidence from Creative Scotland on Thursday 19 September as part of our pre-budget scrutiny of culture funding, and it would be helpful to have a response before then.

The Committee looks forward to discussing these issues with you further at the evidence session scheduled for Thursday 3 October.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clare Adamson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Clare Adamson MSP**  
**Convener**