



Social Security Scotland
Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

Kenneth Gibson MSP
Convener
Finance and Public Administration Committee

Sent via e-mail

Social Security Scotland
Agnes Husband House
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16 February 2023

Dear Mr Gibson

Thank you for your letter about the Scottish Fiscal Commission's data requirements.

As I indicated in my letter of 7 October, we are working closely with the Scottish Fiscal Commission (SFC) to provide the data they have requested in time for their next round of forecasting. We are on track to meet their timescales.

As part of that data set, in March 2023 we will provide management information on caseload numbers by month and award level, covering the period up until December 2022 for both Child Disability Payment and Adult Disability Payment.

As you set out in your letter, the Scottish Fiscal Commission have also asked for information on sex and gender of the child for Child Disability Payment.

Up until 30 October 2022, sex of the child for Child Disability Payment was recorded on the main application and all other equalities data was collected and recorded separately using an equalities monitoring form. From 31 October onwards, sex of the child data is now collected on the equalities monitoring form, to be consistent with how all equalities data is gathered for all benefits.

We have agreed to share the data on sex of the child data covering the period up until 30 October 2022 with the SFC in March 2023 to inform their next round of forecasts and will make the statistics generally available in May 2023 as part of our statistical publication.

Social Security Scotland statisticians expect to receive sex of the child data, collected via the equalities monitoring form, for the first time in April 2023. We do not currently hold this information.

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We have agreed to share this new data with the SFC in Summer 2023 once the data has been received and validated. This will inform the forecasts that accompany the Scottish Government budget at the end of the year.

Separately, Social Security Scotland will also aim to publish a statistical report on equalities by the end of the summer.

I hope that the Committee will find this information helpful. I would be happy to write to the Committee in March with an update on progress.

I have copied this letter to the Scottish Fiscal Commission and the Convener of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee for their information.

Yours sincerely

David Wallace

Chief Executive
Social Security Scotland

Copy to:

Convener, Social Justice and Social Security Committee

Scottish Fiscal Commission

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