

Scottish Employment Injury Advisory Council Bill Financial Memorandum

Letter from Mark Griffin MSP to the Conveners of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee and Finance and Public Administration Committee of 20 September 2023

Dear Conveners,

Scottish Employment Injury Advisory Council – Financial Memorandum

As you are aware, the above Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament on 8 June 2023, and the Social Justice and Social Security Committee is the lead committee scrutinising the Bill at Stage 1. I am writing to inform you that I have identified an error in the Financial Memorandum that accompanies the Bill.

In paragraph 12 (Costs on the Scottish Administration), the Financial Memorandum states that the Council will be established in 2024-25 and that Table A reflects set up costs incurred in that financial year. However, it is my expectation that, should the Bill pass, 2025-26 would be the financial year that the body would most be most likely to be formally established and the one in which the set-up costs would be incurred. The correct financial year is reflected in paragraph 13 (Set-up costs), which confirms that Table A is based on costs for 2025-26.

For convenience, the paragraphs discussed are set out below, with the relevant years highlighted.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Griffin

Costs on the Scottish Administration

11. The estimated costs of the Council are based on costs incurred by other small comparator bodies, including the Scottish Commission on Social Security, the Ethical Standards Commissioner and Boundaries Scotland, to provide as informed an estimate as possible. It is assumed that VAT will not be reclaimable and is therefore added to the costs set out in this Financial Memorandum.

12. The costs are presented in two sections – the set-up costs and the annual running costs. For the purposes of this Financial Memorandum, it is assumed that the Council will be established in **2024-25** and that its staff will be recruited that year. Therefore, the set-up costs are expected to be incurred wholly in financial year **2024-25**. The cost is set out in Table A

Set-up costs

13. The figures set out in Table A, below, show the estimated set-up costs for the Council in **2025-26**, totalling £149,000.