



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Finance and Public Administration Committee

Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
UK Government

22 October 2024

Dear Rachel

The Finance and Public Administration Committee looks forward to working with you in your role as Chancellor of the Exchequer.

As you are aware, further devolution and the sharing of powers in recent years means that budgetary decisions in the UK and Scotland are closely linked. The Committee leads on the scrutiny of fiscal matters in the Scottish Parliament as well as broader impacts on Scottish Government decisions regarding public finances, including the wider UK context.

We therefore invite you to give evidence to the Committee following the UK Budget as part of our examination of the Scottish Government's taxation and spending plans for 2025-26. Areas for discussion might include:

- your plans for regular fiscal events, including spending reviews and multi-year funding and their relationship with the Scottish Budget cycle,
- the fiscal challenges you see the UK economy facing over the next few years, and your plans for supporting economic growth, innovation and productivity,
- your ambitions for how the UK Government will work with the Scottish Government particularly in relation to the operation of the fiscal framework, the timing of fiscal events and the impact of taxation and spending decisions,
- any views you have on information-sharing, transparency and certainty of budget decisions between the UK and Scottish Governments, and
- the extent to which the previous UK Government's commitments for Levelling Up Funding, the UK Shared Prosperity Funds and City Deals in Scotland will continue to be supported.

As you know, the Interparliamentary Finance Committee Forum, comprising members of this Committee and equivalent finance committees in Wales and Northern Ireland, wrote to you on 24 September 2024, welcoming your announcement that spending reviews will take place every two years, with a minimum planning horizon of three years, to avoid uncertainty for departments and to bring stability to the public finances. We also indicated our eagerness to reopen dialogue with HM Treasury after a disappointing period of minimal engagement from your predecessors.

Contact: Finance and Public Administration Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.

Email FPA.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

I would very much welcome an early indication that you would be willing to speak with us at a future Committee meeting, in November or December 2024, if possible. The Committee's clerks are available to speak with your officials regarding any queries and to discuss the meeting timing and arrangements. The Committee looks forward to welcoming you to the Scottish Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth Gibson MSP
Convener