



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Kate Forbes MSP

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet  
Secretary for Economy and Gaelic

By email only

**Net Zero, Energy and Transport  
Committee**

c/o Clerk to the Committee  
Room T3.40

The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

[netzero.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:netzero.committee@parliament.scot)

Friday 5 July 2024

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

**SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT BUDGET 2025/2026**

The Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee has decided to focus our scrutiny of the Scottish Government's budget for 2025/26 on the Scottish Government's strategic spending to achieve the Climate Change Committee's "balanced pathway" to a net-zero Scotland by 2045.

I am therefore writing to ask you for details of how—

- The need to ensure spending decisions are focused on the emission reduction target of net zero by 2045 will influence your approach to prioritising spending of your portfolio budget;
- How you will prioritise areas of the economy contributing most to emissions (transport and agriculture) within your portfolio;
- Examples of progress you hope to make on last year's budget;
- Which budget lines you intend to move from negative/neutral to positive in the detailed breakdown of the carbon assessment of the Budget.

On behalf of the Committee, I request a response by 2 August 2024.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Mountain MSP  
Convener

**Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee**