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Audrey Nicoll MSP
Convener
Criminal Justice Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SPI

1 May 2024

Dear Convener

Thank you for your letter of 25 April. I am writing to set out the information requested.

In regard to the Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service (SCTS) revised cost of £3,000, the Scottish Government accepts the SCTS justification set out in their evidence to the Finance and Public Administration Committee (FPAC) which confirms the Financial Memorandum as being accurate apart from an initial £3,000 set up costs. SCTS states:

“Based on the current provisions of the Bill, the SCTS will incur set up costs, including making relevant I.T. changes to support these new appeals. It is estimated these costs will be in the region of £3,000.”

There are no new additional costs for the other relevant bodies. However, at the point of revising the Financial Memorandum at stage 2 the Scottish Government will have regard to any pay settlements since the FM’s original publication and ensure any increased staffing costs are reflected.

The table provided as Annex A to this letter, originally included in the letter to Finance and Public Administration Committee (FPAC) on 22 April, shows the revisions in one document. As noted in the table, the costs to ‘other bodies’ is unchanged and estimated at £801,134. The overall cost of the Bill is estimated at £5,800,069 (as opposed to £1,414,474 in the FM), of which £2,356,134 is one-off costs and £3,443,935 is recurring.

I hope this information is of use.

Yours sincerely,



ANGELA CONSTANCE

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Annex A: Table provided to the FPAC

In total, the new information in comparison to the original FM is as follows:

	Financial Memorandum	Revised PS	Revised SCTS	Increase	Overall total revised costs
One off costs					
Courts	£0		£3,000	£3,000	
Other bodies	£801,134			£0	
Training	£0	£1,552,000		£1,552,000	
Total One-off	£801,134	£1,552,000	£3,000	£1,555,000	£2,356,134
Recurring Costs					
Legal expenses for individual.	£392,000	£1,390,000		£998,000	
Staff costs for PS	£211,000	£1,250,095		£1,039,095	
Training		£793,500		£793,500	
Courts	£10,340			£0	
Total Recurring	£613,340	£3,433,595	£0	£2,830,595	£3,443,935
Total	£1,414,474	£4,985,595	£3,000	£4,385,595	
Overall total revised costs					£5,800,069

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