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Dear Kenneth

National Performance Framework – Extension of Consultation Period

Thank you for your letter of 09 February 2022, which proposed extending the 40 day statutory consultation period for the Scottish Parliament to consider the results of the National Performance Framework (NPF) review, including any proposals for revisions to the National Outcomes.

As indicated in my letter of 06 October 2021, external engagement on reviewing the National Outcomes will commence this year, with the aim of laying the statutory consultation document in Parliament during the third year of the Parliamentary term in 2023.

I appreciate the Committee's request to provide more time for consultation and I am open to exploring this further. I would like to ensure that Parliament has the opportunity to fully engage in the NPF review. I have therefore asked my officials to liaise with the Committee on how much additional time may be required, and how this fits with the programme for the review overall, for further consideration.

I also welcome the Committee's inquiry into the NPF that has recently been announced (Friday 25 February 2022) and note that my officials are already engaging with the Committee Clerks on the initial plans for the NPF review, including how these may fit with the inquiry's work.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN SWINNEY