



15 November 2022

Kenneth Gibson MSP, Convener
Finance and Public Administration Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

by email: FPA.committee@parliament.scot

Dear Convener,

I am writing to provide some clarification regarding a point of discussion that featured in the committee's evidence session with Kevin Stewart MSP and Scottish Government officials on Tuesday 8 November. We hope this might be helpful to the committee in its ongoing considerations regarding the Financial Memorandum to the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill.

On a couple of occasions during the session, reference was made to a figure of £1.5 billion stated by COSLA as an estimate of future costs in relation to the National Care Service (NCS). However, this is not our estimate of the cost of implementing the NCS, but is an estimate we have previously made of the total costs of implementing all of the recommendations of the Independent Review of Adult Social Care (the 'Feeley review').

This figure is included in the Executive Summary of our response to the Call for Views on the NCS Bill, and also in answer to the Financial Memorandum questions, as follows:

“COSLA has estimated the total costs of implementing the recommendations of the Independent Review of Adult Social Care (IRASC) as being over £1.5 billion – far in excess of the “more than £840 million” stated by the Scottish Government in the Resource Spending Review as the value of its commitment to increase investment in social care by 25% during this Parliament.”

The committee may also wish to note that, to the best of our knowledge, we have not received any enquiries from the Scottish Government regarding the calculation of this figure, and that it has also been cited in previous submissions/publications by Social Work Scotland.

Yours sincerely,

Mirren Kelly
Chief Officer, Local Government Finance
COSLA