



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Finance and Public Administration Committee

Professor Graeme Roy
Chair
Scottish Fiscal Commission

By email

All correspondence c/o:
Finance and Public
Administration Committee Clerks
Room T3.60
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 5219
Textphone: 0800 092 7100
FPA.committee@parliament.scot

3 May 2023

Dear Graeme

Thank you to you and your colleagues for giving evidence to the Committee on 28 March 2023 in relation to the Scottish Fiscal Commission's (SFC's) first Fiscal Sustainability Report.

In projecting Scotland's population and economic growth up to 2072-73, the Report is a valuable contribution to the debate around the adequacy and sustainability of current policies on tax, spend and public reform in the long term. The Committee anticipates that the report will inform many aspects of our work programme now and in the years to come, including pre-budget and Scottish Budget 2024-25 scrutiny. We have also written to the Minister for Parliamentary Business to ask that he proposes to the Parliamentary Bureau that a Government-led debate be scheduled to consider and discuss the Report in full before summer recess. We hope that, should the request be agreed to, this debate will attract participation from members across the political parties and committees.

The Committee notes the SFC's intention to publish full fiscal sustainability reports at least once every five years, however, we would be keen to see their publication frequency moved to a two or three year cycle. We also welcome the SFC's plans to publish supplementary reports, such as on climate change, health and child poverty, in the intervening years, and we look forward to considering them upon publication. Given these additional publications we recognise the importance of ensuring that,

going forward, the SFC continues to have sufficient resources to publish both types of reports within these timeframes.

We also look forward to taking evidence from you and your colleagues on the SFC's May 2023 Economic and Fiscal Forecasts in due course.

Yours sincerely

Kenneth Gibson MSP
Convener
Finance and Public Administration Committee