Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government Shona Robison MSP



F/T: 0300 244 4000 E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

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

By email: FPA.committee@parliament.scot

3 October 2024

Dear Kenneth,

I wrote to the Committee on 15 July with regards to HMRC's publication of 2022-23 outturn for Scottish and UK Income Tax. This publication allowed officials to calculate the reconciliation for 2022-23 income tax which will apply to the 2025-26 Scottish Budget. My letter to the Committee set out that the Scottish Government's calculation of the reconciliation, which amounted to positive £447 million.

Since then, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) have updated their population estimate for England in 2022-23, which details a slight increase of around six thousand people. As the comparable growth rate between Scotland and the rest of the UK is a component of block grant adjustment (BGA) calculations, this impacts the 2022-23 outturn BGAs and reconciliation.

The outturn BGA has moved from £14,912 to £14,911 million as a result of this population change, which moved the reconciliation from positive £447 million to positive £449 million. This is reflected in the joint statement between SG and HM Treasury, which has now been <u>published</u>. The impact of the population change is outlined in Annex A.

My officials will be happy to answer any questions you have on this.

Yours sincerely,

ANNEX A

Table 1 - 2022-23 reconciliation applying to the 2025-26 Budget, pre-ONS update

| 2022-23 Income Tax | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------|----------------------|--|
| | Revenues (£m) | BGA (£m) | Net Position (£m) | |
| Forecast at Budget 2022-23 | 13,671 | -13,861 | -190 | |
| Outturn 2022-23 | 15,169 | -14,912 | 257 | |
| Change | 1,498 | -1,051 | 447 | |

Table 2 - 2022-23 reconciliation applying to the 2025-26 Budget, post-ONS update

| 2022-23 Income Tax | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------|----------------------|--|
| | Revenues (£m) | BGA (£m) | Net Position (£m) | |
| Forecast at Budget 2022-23 | 13,671 | -13,861 | -190 | |
| Outturn 2022-23 | 15,169 | -14,911 | 259 | |
| Change | 1,498 | -1,050 | 449 | |