

Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government
Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Ionmhas agus Riaghaltas
Ionadail

Shona Robison MSP
Seòna Robastan BPA



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Kenneth Gibson MSP
Convener
Finance and Public Administration Committee
The Scottish Parliament
By email to: fpa.committee@parliament.scot

Cc: Richard Leonard MSP,
Convener of the Public Audit Committee
By email to: publicaudit.committee@parliament.scot

4 June 2024

Dear Convener,

I wrote to you on 28 May to confirm that the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) would not be published before Summer Recess in line with the pre-election guidance.

Subsequently I have considered the scheduled update to Finance and Public Administration Committee on Public Service Reform (PSR), following onto the fulsome update in December 2023. As part of that December publication we committed to delivering portfolio reform plans, which will form the core of our next update. These reform plans set out the approach each portfolio will take to PSR in the medium term. In line with pre-election guidance we will need to delay publication because of this wide-ranging and medium-term content.

I appreciate the Committee will be disappointed with this outcome given my commitment to six-monthly updates. I remain committed to providing the Committee with those regular updates to ensure scrutiny of progress. Given the close connection between MTFS and PSR I will consider a revised publication date in light of conclusions on the publication date for the MTFS.

I am also pleased to confirm that Ivan McKee MSP, as Minister for Public Finance, will be taking a key role in PSR – accelerating our collective work to improve outcomes, reduce inequalities and ensure financial sustainability of public services.

I look forward to continuing our productive relationship on PSR and would like to thank the Committee for their continued support and engagement with this agenda.

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I have copied this note to Richard Leonard MSP given the commitment, made by the Permanent Secretary, to ensure the Public Audit Committee receive copies of the PSR programme updates.

Yours Sincerely,

SHONA ROBISON

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