



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

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

13 February 2025

Dear Kenneth,

INVITATION TO FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

1. Thank you for your letter of 22nd of October to the Chancellor inviting her to give evidence to the Finance and Public Administration Committee. The Chancellor has asked me to respond as the Minister responsible for public spending and devolved government funding. I am sorry for the delayed response.
2. As I set out in my letter to the Interparliamentary Finance Committee Forum, I am keen to support your work, whilst also recognising the importance of Parliamentary accountabilities and that the UK Government is accountable to the UK Parliament for its tax and spending decisions.
3. In line with my response to the Interparliamentary Finance Committee Forum, I will consider invitations from the Finance and Public Administration Committee on a case-by-case basis.
4. Bearing in mind the accountabilities of the UK and Scottish Governments, I am unable to accept this invitation to give evidence to the committee. However, I would be happy to meet with committee members on a future visit to Scotland and have asked my officials to work with your officials to identify an opportunity to meet.



5. I will continue to regularly engage with my devolved government counterparts through the Finance: Interministerial Standing Committee, as well as on an individual basis.

6. I am copying this letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Yours sincerely,

**RT HON DARREN JONES MP
CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY**