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By email

Dear Convener,

REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

I am writing to acknowledge the comments made by the Deputy First Minister in last month's debate on the Finance and Public Administration Committee's (FPAC) report on the Review of National Outcomes.

Carnegie UK was grateful for the opportunity afforded us to submit both written and oral evidence on the Review. We were pleased to note that the Committee's November report reflected our views on the importance of attending to the implementation of the National Performance Framework as a whole and addressing the current weaknesses in the use of this strategic tool to guide policy and resourcing decisions.

We were therefore very glad when the Deputy First Minister indicated that she had reflected on the Committee's findings and announced a process of "rethinking and reforming" the NPF, and I am pleased to have been invited to continue in membership of the Scottish Government's Advisory Group for the Review.

While there is much work to be done in a relatively short period of time, we believe that this Review process has the potential to tackle some of the long-standing issues which have impeded effective implementation of the Framework to date, including accountabilities; budget alignment, and the adoption of an all-of-government approach.

Given the Parliamentary interest in the outcome of the Review, and the expertise in matters of public administration which FPAC has built up over recent years, I hope that there may be opportunities for the Committee to continue to engage in this process. It will be important that the reformed NPF continues to command cross-party backing as the vision for Scotland and key strategic tool for governing.

With all good wishes

Carnegie United Kingdom Trust

Chair
David Emerson CBE

Chief Executive
Sarah Davidson

Sarah Davidson
Chief Executive