



# Log of Contact December 2018

1. This document contains a log of forecast round meetings that took place following notification of the date of the Scottish Budget. The Commission received official notification from the Scottish Government on 3 October 2018. The meetings took place as the Commission developed its forecasts which were published on 12 December 2018. It also records any contact between Commissioners and Ministers or Special Advisors since our forecasts in May 2018.
2. The Commission held a number of meetings with officials from across the public sector. These meetings were designed to ensure we were challenged on our judgments, and that we were using the best available information to inform our forecasts. These took the form of several rounds, which started in October 2018.
3. The log aids understanding of the process the Commission went through in constructing our forecasts. It is provided in accordance with paragraphs 51 to 55 of the Protocol agreed between the Commission and the Scottish Government.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Protocol for engagement between the Scottish Fiscal Commission and the Scottish Government Version 2.0 (2018) ([link](#))

## Log of Meetings with Officials

Meeting Title	Dates	Attendees
Round 1 Meetings	22 October 2018	Commissioners Commission staff Scottish Government officials Revenue Scotland
Round 2 Meetings	5 November 2018	Commissioners Commission staff Scottish Government officials
Round 3 Meetings	20 and 22 November 2018	Commissioners Commission staff Scottish Government officials Revenue Scotland Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR)
Round 4 Meetings	3 December 2018	Commissioners Commission staff Scottish Government officials

## Log of Contact with Ministers or Special Advisors

Contact	Date	Further information
Provision of pre-release copy of Forecast Evaluation Report, Statement of Data Needs and Occasional Paper on VAT	4 September 2018	Report provided electronically to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work, Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People and Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy by Commission staff.
Provision of pre-release copy of Supplementary Costing for Best Start Grant	7 September 2018	Report provided electronically to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work, Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People and Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy by Commission staff.
Provision of pre-release copy of Occasional Paper on Social Security	18 September 2018	Report provided electronically to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work, Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People and Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy by Commission staff.
Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018	19 September 2018	Letter sent by email from Dame Susan Rice to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work with an electronic copy of the report.

Contact	Date	Further information
Notification of Budget date	3 October 2018	Letter from Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work to Dame Susan Rice. <sup>2</sup>
Provision of draft report	7 December 2018	Report provided electronically to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work by Commission staff.
Phone call	11 December 2018	Phone call between Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work and Dame Susan Rice. This meeting was scheduled as per paragraph 55 of the Protocol.
Copy of letter to Finance and Constitution Committee	11 December 2018	Copy of letter provided electronically to Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work by Commission staff. <sup>3</sup>
Provision of final publication-ready report	11 December 2018	Report provided electronically to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work by Commission staff.

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<sup>2</sup> Letter from Cabinet Secretary to Dame Susan Rice – Confirmation of Budget date 3 October 2018 ([link](#))

<sup>3</sup> Letter from Dame Susan Rice and Robert Chote to the Finance and Constitution Committee responding to Pre-Budget Scrutiny Report 2019-20 - 11 December 2018 ([link](#))