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Bruce Crawford MSP
Convener
Finance and Constitution Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

18th June 2018,

Dear Bruce,

I am writing to follow up on the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution's letter to you about the Commission.

With David Wilson's resignation as a Commissioner we will now be operating for a period with only two Commissioners in place, Professor Alasdair Smith and me as Chair.

Section 24 (a) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016 makes clear that the validity of the Commission is not affected.

I am working closely with the Cabinet Secretary's officials to recruit an additional two Commissioners in advance of the start of our work on the Budget forecast. Indeed, we have already met to start the process. In the meantime, the Commission will be publishing its forecast evaluation report in September as originally planned.

Our Business Plan for 2018-9 flagged our intention to publish a number of other documents in the autumn as well as hold a number of events. At this stage I anticipate that the Commission will still be well placed to deliver on these plans.

I have copied this letter to the Cabinet Secretary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Rice".

Dame Susan Rice DBE