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

27 September 2019

Sent via email

Dear Convener,

The Scottish Fiscal Commission Act requires the Scottish Fiscal Commission and the Scottish Government to agree a protocol for their engagement relating to the forecasting and assessment process. As defined in the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016 ('SFCA'), the forecasting and assessment process refers to all of the Commission's duties on the production of forecasts and forecast evaluation.

The production and publication of the protocol is intended to ensure there is transparency in the interactions between the Commission and Scottish Government. It therefore covers the interactions between the Commission and the Scottish Government both during the formal periods of engagement around fiscal events, and engagement outwith fiscal events.

The Commission and the Scottish Government have agreed an updated version of the protocol which will be published on the Commission's website. The updates to the protocol reflect our experiences over the first two and a half years of statutory operation and largely clarify the timings and arrangements during the 10 week process for each fiscal event. I have attached a copy for your information.

I have copied this letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work.

Yours sincerely

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

Susan Rice DBE