

9 October 2018

Members Appointed to the Scottish Fiscal Commission

The Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work, Mr MacKay, today announced the appointment of Professor David Ulph and Professor Francis Breedon as Members of the Scottish Fiscal Commission

Dame Susan Rice, chair of the Scottish Fiscal Commission said:

‘David Ulph and Francis Breedon are both notable economists whose strengths complement those we already have on the Commission. I’m really delighted they’re able to join us as we begin to prepare for the next Budget forecast. I know they’ll make a significant contribution to the Commission’s work.’

APPOINTMENTS

Professor David Ulph, CBE, FRSE has been Professor of Economics at the University of St Andrews since 2006, and was Director of the Scottish Institute for Research in Economics (SIRE) from 2010-2017. His research covers a wide range of issues relating to public policy, including the design and performance of taxes and benefits. From 2001-2006 he was Chief Economist and Director of Analysis at HM Revenue and Customs (initially Inland Revenue) where, amongst other things, he was personally accountable for the forecasts of all UK tax revenues, and the measurement of UK National Income. From 2015 he has been a member of the NHS Pay Review Body. In 2017 he was appointed as a member of the Competition Appeal Tribunal.

Professor Francis Breedon is Professor of Economics and Finance at Queen Mary University of London where his research focuses mainly on financial markets and macro-economic policy. He has broad economic policy and forecasting experience including as a senior economist at the Bank of England. He has been involved in a number of policy reviews and is currently also a member of the Fiscal Policy Panel for the State of Jersey.

APPOINTMENT

This appointment will be for four years and will run from 8 October 2018 to 7 October 2022.

This appointment is regulated by the Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Public Life in Scotland.

REMUNERATION

These appointments are part time and attract a remuneration of £331 per day for a time commitment of 78 days per annum.

OTHER MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS

David Ulph and Francis Breedon do not hold any other ministerial public appointments.

POLITICAL ACTIVITY

All appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for appointees' political activity within the last five years (if there is any to be declared) to be made public.

David Ulph and Francis Breedon have not undertaken any political activity in the last five years.

BACKGROUND

The Scottish Fiscal Commission is a non-Ministerial Office. It produces the official and independent forecasts of Scotland's GDP, devolved tax revenues and social security expenditure to help inform the Scottish Government's Budget and its scrutiny by Parliament. It also comments on the Scottish Government's borrowing projections.